

Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is housing that rents for less than other properties in the area. It is usually restricted to people who have low or moderate income, though the amount of rent you pay typically does not change if your income does. Affordable housing options are offered by community organizations, YMCAs and YWCAs. Many affordable housing opportunities begin with lotteries. Rooming housing can also be a source of affordable housing. Some affordable housing is especially for older adults or people with disabilities, while other options are for anyone who meets income eligibility rules. Know that each affordable housing opportunity has its own application process.

[You can use the worksheet in our Finding Home guide to keep track of where you plan to search for housing and where you've applied.](#)

Where to look for affordable housing...

Housing Navigator website

www.housingnavigatorma.org

Housing Navigator helps connect renters to affordable housing throughout Massachusetts through its housing search tool. The Housing Navigator website lists many affordable housing options in Massachusetts, including lotteries and waitlists.

Other Options

MassHousing

www.masshousing.com/en/renters

MassHousing finances the construction and preservation of affordable rental housing throughout Massachusetts.

Metrolist

www.boston.gov/metrolist

The Metrolist is a clearinghouse for income-restricted and affordable housing opportunities in Boston and neighboring communities.

Your local Housing Consumer Education Center

www.masshousinginfo.org

Your local Housing Consumer Education Center can help you identify other affordable housing opportunities in their area.

