

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF DANBURY (CT)  
MILL RIDGE ROAD  
DANBURY, CT 06811

ADMISSIONS AND CONTINUED  
OCCUPANCY POLICY

VI. LEASE

B. Community Service Requirement

1. The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 mandates the Housing Authority of the City of Danbury to require that all adults living within federal public housing contribute 8 hours of community service (not including political activities) per month; or perform/participate in 8 hours of economic self-sufficiency activities/programs; or 8 hours of combined community service and economic self-sufficiency activities/programs. Exempt from the community service requirement is any adult who:
  - a. Is 62 years of age or older;
  - b. Is an individual with a disability, as defined under Section 216[I][ii] or 1614 of the Social Security Act; and who is unable to comply with this Section, or is a primary caretaker of an individual and can certify that he or she cannot comply with the community service requirement;
  - c. Is an individual engaged in a work activity as defined in Section 407[d] of the Social Security Act;
  - d. Is an individual that is exempted from having to engage in a work activity under the State program funded under Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act, or under any other welfare program of the State of Connecticut, including a state-administered welfare-to-work program;
  - e. Members of a family receiving benefits from a State Welfare Program and are in compliance with the program requirements.
2. The Authority will identify all adult family members who are apparently not exempt from the community service requirement. The notification will provide the opportunity for family members to claim and explain an exempt status. HACD shall verify such claims.

The notification will advise family members that their community service

obligation will begin upon the effective date of their first annual reexamination on or after October 1, 2003. For families paying a flat rent, the obligation begins on the date their annual reexamination would have been effective had an annual reexamination taken place. It will also advise them that failure to comply with the community service requirement will result in ineligibility for continued occupancy at the time of any subsequent annual reexamination.

3. The following activities shall be considered as satisfying the community service requirement:
  - a. Community service includes performing work or duties in the public benefit that serve to improve the quality of life and/or enhance resident self-sufficiency, and/or increase the self-responsibility of the resident within the community.
  - b. An economic self-sufficiency program is one that is designed to encourage, assist, train or facilitate the economic independence of participants and their families or to provide work for participants. These programs may include programs for job training, work placement, basic skills training, education, English proficiency, work fare, financial or household management, apprenticeship, and any program necessary to ready a participant to work (such as substance abuse or mental health treatment).
  - c. Together with the resident advisory councils, HACD may create volunteer positions such as hall monitoring, litter patrols, and supervising and record keeping for volunteers.
4. It is the personal responsibility of all adult household members who are required to comply with the community service requirement to locate an agency or organization and to comply with the community service requirement. It shall be the responsibility of HACD to annually verify resident compliance with this community service requirement.

HACD shall ensure that all community service programs are accessible for persons with disability. HACD shall also ensure that the conditions under which the work is to be performed are not hazardous; the work is not labor that would be performed by HACD's employees responsible for essential maintenance and property services; or the work is not otherwise unacceptable.

HACD shall review resident compliance with the community service requirement 30 days before the expiration of each lease term. All activities undertaken by the resident to comply with the requirement shall require a certification letter from the organization/agency where the service/activity was performed.

If HACD determines that a household is not in compliance with the community service requirement, HACD may not renew or extend the household's lease upon

expiration of the lease term and shall initiate action to terminate the tenancy of the household, unless HACD enters into an agreement with the household, prior to the expiration of the lease term. The agreement shall provide an opportunity for a household to cure non-compliance with the community service requirement, by allowing the non-compliant resident to participate in economic self-sufficiency programs or by contributing hours of community service requirement over the 12-month term of the lease.

HACD shall not renew or extend a lease or provide any new lease for a dwelling unit to any household that includes an adult member subject to the community service requirement and who failed to comply with it.