

### **What is Portability?**

“Portability” in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program refers to the process through which your family can transfer or “port” your housing rental subsidy when you move to a different city.

### **Who is eligible for portability?**

Any voucher holder that is in good standing with the housing authority and are not subject to any restrictions such as:

- Money owed to any other PHA must be paid in full before you can exercise your portability option.
- You must live within the jurisdiction of the housing authority in which you applied for rental assistance for a year in order to qualify.

### **What is “good standing”?**

“Good standing” means that you’re in compliance with your lease and any obligations you have in your current housing authority or initial housing authority (IHA). If the IHA has proposed to terminate you from the Section 8 program for something you or a household member has done, or if your landlord has started an eviction process saying you are at “fault,” the IHA may refuse to issue you a voucher to move because you are not considered to be in “good standing.” At “fault” could include not paying your rent, involvement in criminal activity, having unauthorized household members and others. However, you may be able to work things out with your landlord (for example, have an acceptable repayment plan, win the eviction case, or be evicted for “no fault” reasons).

### **Where can I transfer my Section 8 Voucher?**

Voucher holders may choose a unit anywhere in the United States that is administering Housing Choice Voucher program.

### **Will the programs work the same if I transfer under the portability provision?**

Yes and no. All the programs are governed according to the Federal Regulations, therefore, there are many similarities. However, housing authorities do have areas in which they can create their own rules and Voucher Payment Standards vary from one housing authority to another. Also, if you are a new Voucher holder you must meet the income guidelines for the area in which you want to transfer your voucher to.

### **What are the advantages of moving under portability provision?**

To give you more options without you sacrificing your rental assistance. If you live in a high poverty area, portability enables you to get away from those areas. Better living usually means lower crime rates, better public services and better schools.