

HUD Definition of Homelessness - 2011

The recently adopted Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act changed the HUD definition of homelessness. The definition affects who is eligible for various HUD-funded homeless assistance programs, including the Partners In Housing Homeless Self-Sufficiency program.

You meet the current definition of homelessness if you fall into one or more of the categories below:

- You are living in a place not meant for human habitation (abandoned building, car, on the streets, etc.).
- You are living in an emergency shelter, Safehouse, or transitional housing program.
- You are exiting an institution (prison, hospital, detox facility, etc.) where you temporarily resided for up to 90 days, and were homeless immediately prior to entering that institution.
- You are losing your primary nighttime residence, which may include a motel/hotel or a doubled-up situation, within 14 days and you lack the resources and support networks to remain in housing.
- You are a family with children that is unstably housed and likely to continue in that state. This category includes families that have not had a lease or ownership interest in a housing unit in the last 91 or more days, have had three or more moves in the last 90 days, and who are likely to continue to be unstably housed because of disability or multiple barriers to employment.
- You are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, have no other residence, and lack the resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.