



Accessible Units

How to Find an Affordable/Accessible
Apartment



The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA)

Our Mission: In order to make the Commonwealth a better place to live while fostering community and economic development, the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency provides capital for decent, safe and affordable homes and apartments for older adults, persons of modest means, and those with special housing needs.

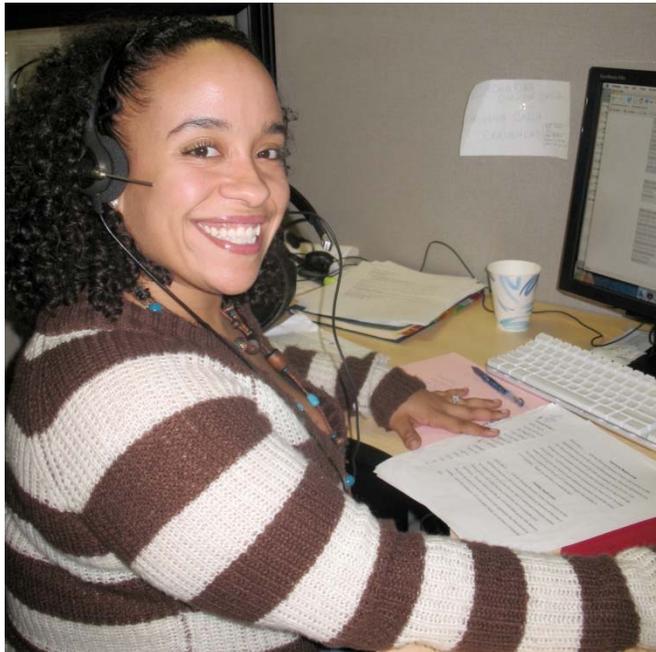


Getting Started

- The best tool for finding an apartment in your area is web-based: www.PAHousingSearch.com
- If you do not have internet access, feel free to call the toll-free Call Center at 1-877-428-8844.



Toll-Free Call Center



- Connecting tenants with housing
- Helping landlords add and update listings
- No limits on call times so callers receive as much assistance as they need
- Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. Eastern
- 1-877-428-8844



For Tenants

- FREE to search online at www.PAHousingSearch.com or through a toll-free call center at 1-877-428-8844
- Listings are up to date; don't waste time on rented properties
- Search by rent and bedroom/bath amount; search near work, school and public transportation
- Listings of private, income-based, Tax Credit properties, accessible and special-needs housing
- Easy-to-use search tools to find listings to meet specific needs
- Listings are detailed with interactive map links





Searching

1.

Choose a city
or county

Search online or call toll
free

Find Rental Properties in PA:

Region And Cities

Show only cities starting with:

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

Adams:

[Search ALL Cities in Adams](#) -or- click a City below

[East Berlin](#)

[Gettysburg](#)

[New Oxford](#)

Allegheny:

[Search ALL Cities in Allegheny](#) -or- click a City below

[Bridgeville](#)

[Mckeesport](#)

[Oakdale](#)

[Turtle Creek](#)

[Carnegie](#)

[Monroeville](#)

[Oakmont](#)

[Verona](#)

[Coraopolis](#)

[Munhall](#)

[Penn Hills](#)

[West Mifflin](#)

[Duquesne](#)

[Natrona Heights](#)

[Pittsburgh](#)

Armstrong:

[Leechburg](#)



Searching

2.

Choose a search type

Basic, Advanced or Accessible

Basic Search returns the most listings

Accessible Search locates units with accessibility features

Housing Search: Allegheny, PA
[Choose a different region](#)

Basic **Advanced** Accessible

General Search Information

Do you have a Section 8 Voucher? Yes No [?]

Bedroom[s] Bath

Rent range to a month

Optional Filters

ZIP Code[s] Optional ZIP Code[s]
[List relevant ZIP codes](#)

Public Transit

Smoking Policy [?]

Landlord Speaks

Show me Properties per Page

[CLICK HERE TO SEARCH](#)

Other Search Options

- [Show all available properties which are subsidized or sliding scale](#)

Resources

- [Scam Alert for Renters](#)
- [Foreclosure Alert](#)
- [Suggest a Resource](#)

Helpful Tools

- What can you afford to rent? ([Calculate](#))
- What can you afford to rent? ([Chart](#))
- [An example of moving costs](#)
- [Calculate your moving costs](#)
- [Budget Worksheet](#) (PDF 44KB)
- [Email this page to others](#)

Hospital

Smoking Policy [?]

Senior Housing

Landlord Speaks

Search By Address

Within Miles of

Street Address in

ZIP Code

City

[Choose a different region](#)

Entry and Door Options

[See all No-Step/Flat/Ramped Entry](#)

- Accessible Parking Close to Unit
- Flat or No-Step Entry and/or
- Ramped Entry
- Doorways - 32" or wider
- Lever Style Door Handles
- Automatic Entry Door
- Accessible Elevators
- Unit on First Floor

Kitchen Options

- Low Counter[s]
- Minimum 27" Knee Space Under Kitchen Counter
- Non-digital Kitchen Appliances
- Front Controls on Stove/Cook-top

Bathroom Options

- Low Vanity
- Minimum 27" Knee Space Under Vanities
- Grab Bars
- Reinforced for Grab Bar
- Roll-in Shower
- T' Turn or 60" Turning Circle in Bathrooms
- Lowered Toilet
- Raised Toilet



Searching

3.

Listings

Sift through and sort listings

Save to a shopping cart

Go back and update search as needed

Your Search Found 89 Properties: [Too many properties?](#)
 (In Allegheny, Rent range \$0 to \$4,500 a month)
 << Previous [Showing Properties 1 - 30 / [Show All 89 Properties](#)] Next >>

[Show These Properties on Map](#)

Sorted by: Rent [v] Descending [v] Re-sort

[New Search or Other Resources](#) | [See all Properties in Your Rent Range](#) | [Search a Different City](#)

=Photo =Some Pets OK

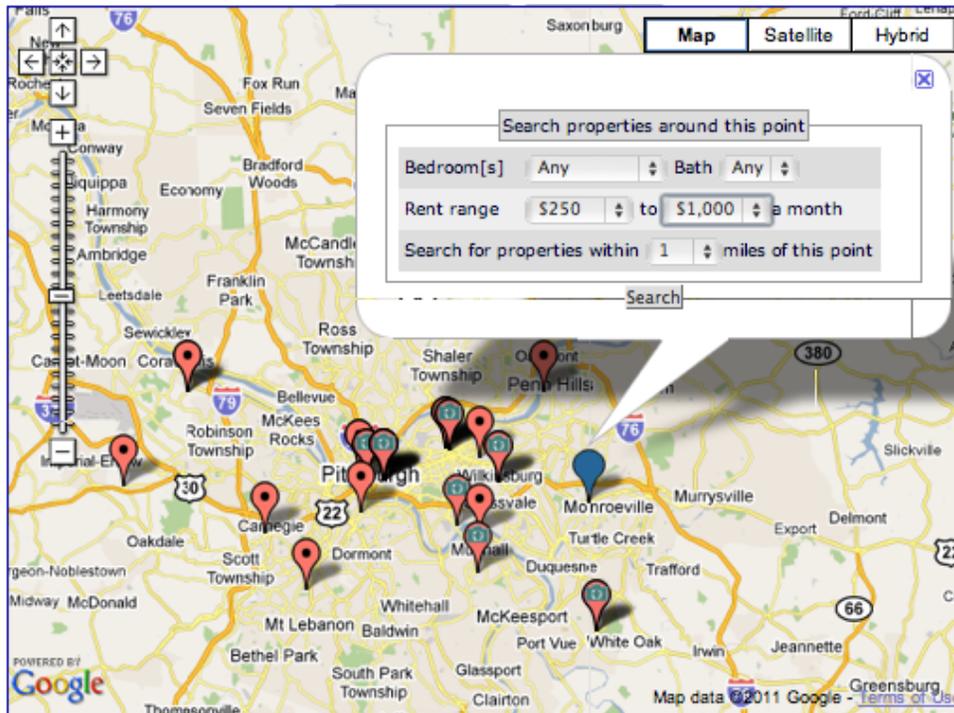
=Accessibility Features =Seniors =Income Restricted [?]

Your Temporary Basket is Empty

	Click Address for Details	City State, ZIP	Monthly Rent (Deposit)	Beds/Baths	Please Call	Date Available	Map
<input type="checkbox"/>	THE CENTURY BUILDING 130 7th St	Pittsburgh PA 15222	\$1,500 (\$1,500) (Negotiable)	2/1.0	(Apartments) Trek Development 412-688-7200	Waiting List 	Map
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Pennley Place Phase II 5621 Broad St	Pittsburgh PA 15206	\$1,100 (\$1,100)	3/1.0	(Townhouse) Property Management Company 412-362-2040	Waiting List 	Map
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Oaks Retirement Residence 2967 Jacks Run Road	Mckeesport PA 15131	Median Income Based Rent [?] ----- % M.I. Rent 50% \$665 60% \$730 Fair Market \$1,030 Rate	2/1.0	(Apartments) Property Management Company 412-675-0412	02/09/11 	Map



Searching



- View all properties on a map
- Conduct a “proximity” search from the map
- Results include landlord contact information
- Search anonymously: personal tenant information is never required

Search Results

- Properties that have accessible units at their site will show this code  on the list of search results.
- You can also search specifically for specific accessibility features on the www.PAHousingSearch.com “accessible” search tab.

What to do about Waiting Lists

If your web search results indicate that any of the apartments you are interested in moving to have a waiting list:

- Call the Property Manager/Landlord listed and ask if they are still accepting applications or if the waiting list is closed for now.
- If you need the features of an **accessible unit**, tell the Property Manager that you require that type of unit. (This specific waiting list may be shorter than the general waiting list.)
- Each property management company has different procedures. Ask about their application process and tenant selection plan.
- Ask about the application process and what items you need to apply.
- The application fee amount and the security deposit information can be found on the web search results. Click the link for the property and it will bring up a 2nd page with this information included.
- If you have any difficulty during your search, call 1-877-428-8844 and the Call Center will assist you.
- Consider private landlords from the web search, if the wait time for a PHFA property is too long for your current situation. To help you to identify private landlords, you will not see “income based” under the rent amount column.



Other Resources to Consider

- Pennsylvania Housing Authorities
<http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts/states/pa.cfm>
- Ask about public housing and the Section 8 program in your county.
- Is the application process open? Is it open for public housing and Section 8? Can I apply online or do I need to apply in-person?
- Be sure to tell the Housing Authority if you require the features of an accessible unit.

Other Resources to Consider

- More info on HUD Affordable Apartments
<http://www.hud.gov/apps/section8/step2.cfm?state=PA,%20Pennsylvania%20>
- More info on the HUD Section 8 Program
Read more about Section 8 vouchers specifically targeted to people with disabilities and other special needs:
<http://www.tacinc.org/knowledge-resources/vouchers-database/?state=PA>



Other Resources to Consider

- Private (Market Rate) Landlords
 - some private landlords are listed on:
www.PAHousingSearch.com



Questions?

- For more information on the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) go to:
www.phfa.org
- Call PHFA's Customer Solutions Center at:
1-855-U-Are-Home (827-3466)
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.