

# Housing SA



**Housing SA** is the State Government Department that assists people with housing.

To be eligible for services from the Housing SA you must be:

- A resident of South Australia for at least the last three months
- Have an independent income
- Be on a low income or Centrelink payment
- Have proof of income and proof of ID

## **PRIVATE RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

When you move into a new place you usually need to pay a bond (equal to 4 weeks rent). This is like a guarantee or deposit for your landlord, if you don't pay rent or if you damage the property, the landlord can claim the money when you leave, otherwise you get it back.

- Housing SA may be able to assist with a bond and/or rent in advance. If you lose the bond at the end of your tenancy, you will have to pay it back to Housing SA and you can do this in small amounts (\$10 a fortnight). The rent in advance does not have to be paid back.
- You need to make an appointment at one of the Housing SA offices to be assessed to see if you are eligible and it's important that you take proof of your independent income and proof of ID to this interview. If the Housing SA worker decides you are eligible, they will give you paperwork which states the maximum amount of rent per week they think you can afford and the amount of bond they will give you. They will also tell you if they can give you any rent in advance.
- When you find a place that you can move into, the landlord signs a form, which you take to the Housing SA, who then issue you with a bond guarantee and/or rent in advance.

## **STUDENT HOUSING PROGRAM**

- Housing SA provides affordable accommodation to tertiary students. This may be single or shared and will be close to public transport and services.
- If you are a tertiary student and have an independent income you can register your interest. You'll need to provide proof of enrolment, proof of your independent income and proof of ID.
- For more information, contact the Student Housing Program Coordinator at Housing SA on 8207 0664 or [www.studenthousing.com.au](http://www.studenthousing.com.au)

## **HOUSING SA PROPERTIES**

- Depending on your circumstances, you may be eligible to lease a house from Housing SA. Waiting lists are very long and depending on your situation it may take several years to get housing this way.
- The Direct Lease Scheme is priority housing for young people, 16 to 25 years, with leases up to 18 months.
- For both these types of housing, you usually need several support letters from people you are working with, such as your doctor, counsellor, or social worker. These letters need to say why you are not able to get private rental accommodation. To find out if you are eligible for any of these properties, ask the Housing SA for an application form and an appointment.

# Housing SA

## COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT HOUSING SA

### How do I get an appointment with Housing SA?

*You need to call or visit your local Housing SA office first thing in the morning to make an appointment for the same day. This means 9am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 10am on Wednesdays.*

*The Adelaide Housing SA office has 2 youth housing advisors that work specifically with young people up to 25 years of age. If you contact the Adelaide Housing SA office, you can request an appointment with one of the youth housing advisors.*

### What if I have a debt with Housing SA?

*If you have an outstanding debt with Housing SA (eg from a bond or a Housing SA property) you may still be able to get assistance but you will have to sign a repayment plan with a Housing SA worker before you can be assessed for further help. This might mean agreeing to pay the Housing SA back at \$10 or \$20 a fortnight.*

### Is living in a Housing SA place cheaper than private rental?

*While Housing SA tenancies have cheaper rent they are not always a cheaper option. Private rental with rent assistance from Centrelink can sometimes be almost as affordable as Housing SA accommodation. Sharing in the private rental market can also be a cheaper option.*

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING SA OFFICES – Phone: 131299

### Metropolitan

Adelaide	120 Flinders Street
Elizabeth	1 <sup>st</sup> floor, Raleigh Centre, Elizabeth City Centre
Gawler	1B Julian Terrace
Marion	235 Sturt Road, Sturt
Modbury	100 Reservoir Road
Noarlunga	1 <sup>st</sup> floor, Noarlunga House, Noarlunga Centre
The Parks	Building 4, Parks Community Centre 2-46 Cowan St, Angle Park
Port Adelaide	296 St Vincent Street
Salisbury	1 Ann Street

### Regional

Berri	29 Vaughan Terrace
Ceduna	15 McKenzie Street
Murray Bridge	Mobilong House, Seventh Street
Port Augusta	13 Mackay Street
Port Lincoln	10 Hallett Place
Port Pirie	76 Florence Street
South East	4 James Street, Mount Gambier
Whyalla	173 Nicolson Avenue, Whyalla Norrie

[www.housingtrust.sa.gov.au](http://www.housingtrust.sa.gov.au)

[www.syc.net.au](http://www.syc.net.au)