

# How to Find a Rental Unit



# Oshkosh Winnebago County Housing Authority - Housing Choice Voucher Program -

#### Where To Look:

- 1. Check the classified section of local newspapers under "Houses for Rent" or "Apartments for Rent or Lease".
- 2. Check bulletin boards in laundromats, supermarkets, credit unions, colleges, etc.
- 3. Check local rental guides available at many supermarkets, gas stations, and other retailers.
- 4. Check with friends or neighbors. They may know of places that are available.
- 5. Look for yard signs in the area where you want to live offering "Housing for Rent"
- 6. Check with Real Estate offices or rental agencies. (Warning: you may be required to pay a fee for services, and payment of a fee does not guarantee that you will find satisfactory housing)

#### **Consider Where the Unit is Located:**

Consider the following regarding location of the unit:

1. Public Transportation Access

3. Schools and Parks

2. Employment Opportunities

4. Shopping

## **Questions to Ask Prospective Landlords:**

- 1. The name, address, and phone number of the property owner or agent.
- 2. The full address of the unit.
- 3. The number of bedrooms in the unit.
- 4. The amount of rent that will be charged and what is the amount of the security deposit.
- 5. What, if any, utilities are included in the rent. Do they supply garbage service and water?
- 6. Any special restrictions the landlord has.
- 7. Who is responsible for lawn care / snow removal?
- 8. Does / Will the landlord accept Section 8 rental assistance

### Make an Appointment:

If the unit might be what you are looking for, ask for an appointment to see it. Be sure to keep the appointment and be on time. Consider arriving early to look around the neighborhood.

#### **Negotiating the Lease:**

If you find a unit that you like and the rent, including the utility allowance, is under the Fair Market Rent ceiling, complete the Request for Lease Approval Packet and submit it to the Housing Authority. If the unit is approved, a lease will be drawn up between you and the landlord.