



# Frequently Asked Questions

*Answers to common questions*

## General Questions

### **Q1: Why is DCA placing temporary restrictions on moves and portability?**

A: Due to limited funding, DCA is temporarily pausing certain moves to ensure we can continue serving families already in the program.

### **Q2: Are these changes permanent?**

A: No, these restrictions are temporary and will be lifted once the funding and program capacity improve.

### **Q3: Will this impact my current voucher or housing assistance?**

A: No, if you are not planning to move, your help will continue without interruption.

### **Q4: How will I know when the restrictions are lifted?**

A: You will be notified by your Housing Specialist or through DCA's website when changes take effect.

## Program Specific Questions

### **Q5: Can I move to another unit with DCA?**

A: Yes, you may move **only** if the total rent (contract rent plus utility allowance) is equal to or less than your current unit. If the rent is higher, your request will only be considered if it meets DCA's exception criteria. All move requests must be reviewed and approved in writing by DCA before you proceed.

### **Q6: Can I move to a more expensive unit?**

A: No, move requests that would result in a higher cost to DCA may be denied, even if the unit is otherwise eligible.

### **Q7: Does this apply to me if I submitted my Notice to Vacate (NTV) before June 23, 2025?**

A: If your NTV was submitted **before June 23, 2025**, your move request will be honored and processed under the previous policy.

If your request was submitted **after June 23, 2025**, it is subject to the current restrictions and may be denied if it does not meet the eligibility or exception criteria.

**Q8: Can I port my voucher to another housing authority?**

A: In most cases, port-out requests are currently suspended. However, you **may be allowed to port** if one of the following applies:

- The **receiving housing authority's payment standards are lower than DCA's,**

**or**

- The **receiving housing authority agrees in writing to absorb your voucher** if its payment standards are higher than DCA's.

**Q9: What happens if I have already given notice to my landlord?**

A: If you've already submitted a Notice to Vacate (NTV), please **do not take any further steps** like signing a new lease or moving into a new unit until you receive a written decision from DCA. All move requests must still be reviewed and approved.

Your Housing specialist will contact you directly if we need more information. We are reviewing all cases carefully to ensure program compliance and minimize disruption.

**Q10: What should I do if I'm thinking about moving soon?**

A: Before you take any steps, review the current policy and speak with your Housing specialist. Please don't move out of your unit without permission, sign a new lease, pay a deposit, or give your landlord notice until DCA has reviewed and approved your request **in writing**. This will help protect your voucher and avoid delays.

**Q11: Should I contact my landlord or visit the office to get more information?**

A: You may submit an NTV to your landlord, but a signed NTV is not approval. DCA will review and let you know in writing. You don't need to visit the office; you can contact your Housing Specialist for guidance.

**Q12: What if my unit is on abatement? Can I move?**

A: Yes. If your unit is on abatement due to failed inspections and the landlord has not resolved the issues within the required timeframe, the DCA will work with you to find a new place to live. You must still select a unit that is the same rent or less than your current approved amount.

**Q13: What if my landlord chooses not to renew my lease or end my month-to-month agreement?**

A: You may be eligible to move. In these cases, the same rent cap applies; you must move to a unit with rent that is **equal to or less than your current rent**. Please submit your documentation to DCA, and we'll review your request.

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**Note:** *If you believe your situation may qualify under DCA's exception policy or involves a documented disability, you may submit supporting documentation for review. All requests are evaluated individually and must meet HUD and DCA criteria.*

*DCA reserves the right to deny requests, including those submitted under exceptions, if approving the request would place an administrative burden on the agency or materially alter the operation of the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program.*