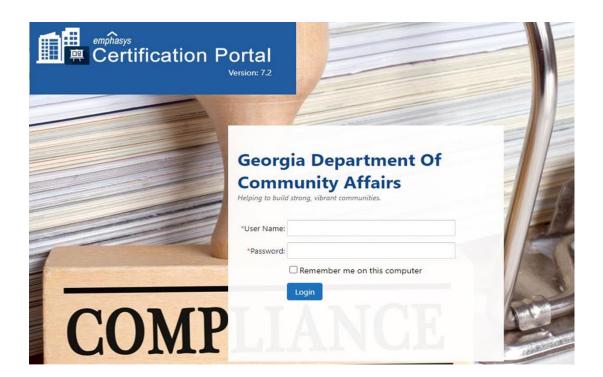


# **Emphasys Certification Portal**

# **Simple Guidance for Management Companies**

Contact Support @ hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov

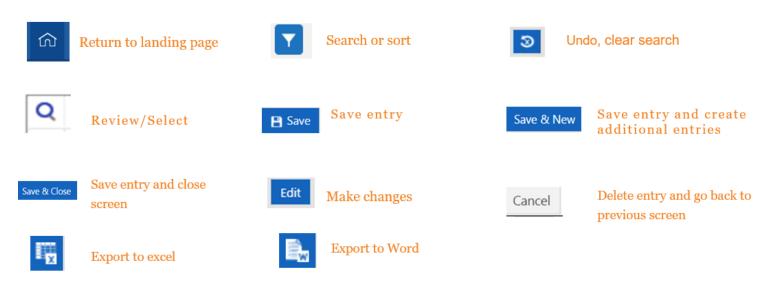


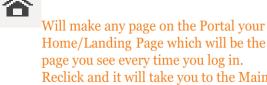
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# **User Function Key**





Home/Landing Page which will be the Reclick and it will take you to the Main Dashboard.



Submitting to Agency



Closes screen and returns Close to the last viewed page/screen

# **Key Terms**

**Annual Owner Certification "AOC":** Federal regulation requires the owner of a LIHTC property to certify at least annually for each year of the 15-year compliance period if the property is in compliance with key federal provisions. DCA/GHFA also requires this during the remainder of the LIHTC extended use period. This Annual Owner's Certification covers the period from January 1 to December 31 of a year. The certification must be signed by the owner or a representative with full authority to legally bind the ownership entity.

**Emphasys Certification Portal:** The Emphasys system is a web-based certification portal used by DCA/GHFA to compile and monitor tenant and building data for properties receiving funding through the Agency.

**Gross Rent**: The calculation of Gross Rent for LIHTC and LIHTC/Tax Exempt Bond properties with no other funding sources will include Tenant Paid, Mandatory Charges, and Utility Allowance. For LIHTC/HOME or HOME only properties, the calculation will include all fields.

**Mandatory Charges**: These are non-optional charges that the tenant must pay as a condition of occupancy and no reasonable alternative exists (i.e. garage rental, cable, etc....).

**On-Site Manager:** The Super User will set up your User ID and password and assign specific projects to the on-site manager. The manager duties would include uploading tenant data and review reports in the portal.

**Rental Subsidy**: This is the amount of subsidy the tenant is receiving in rental assistance (i.e. Section 8 voucher or other government rental assistance).

**Super User:** The primary super users will have full control of your portfolio portal. He/she will be responsible for adding/deleting users and resetting passwords, along with updating tenant data.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA): Administers the housing programs of GHFA and is the agency responsible for the administration and monitoring of LIHTC and HOME Funds for the state of Georgia

**Tenant Paid Rent**: The out-of-pocket amount the tenant pays for rent.

**Utility Allowance**: This amount reflects the Utility Allowance published by the local PHA, published by DCA, or a property-specific Utility Allowance, calculated using an approved method and approved by DCA.

### **SECTION 1. System Login and Super User Management Controls**

# **Emphasys Super User (New User Setup)**

#### Super User 1

The primary super user will have full control of your portfolio portal. He/she will be responsible for adding/deleting users and resetting passwords, along with updating tenant data. DCA will assign a temporary User ID and Password. During your first log-in, you will be required to change the temporary User ID and Password.

#### Super User 2

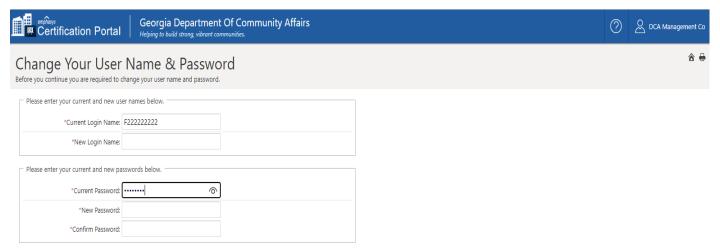
The secondary Super User will have full capabilities and responsibilities as the Primary User. Secondary users must contact Primary User for log-in credentials.

NOTE: The username and password fields require at least 6 characters and are case sensitive.

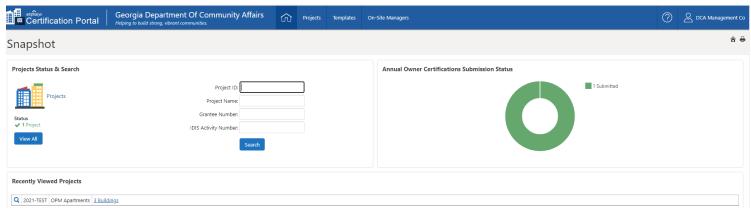
Access Portal here: <a href="https://ghfacp.emphasys-hft.com/">https://ghfacp.emphasys-hft.com/</a>

# Logging in for the 1st time

System will prompt you to change your Username & Password



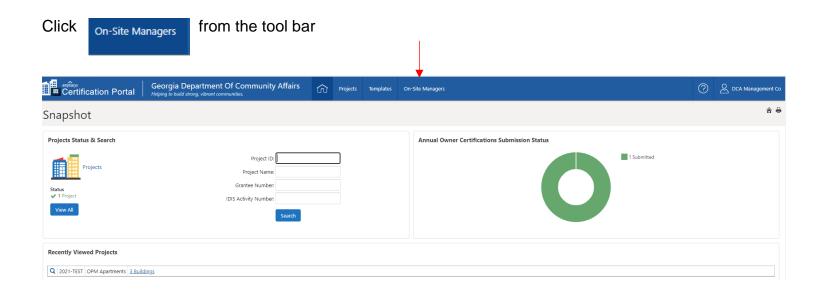
After logging in, the first page you will see is your Landing Page.



### **On-site Managers**

#### **New Non-Super Use (On-Site Manager)**

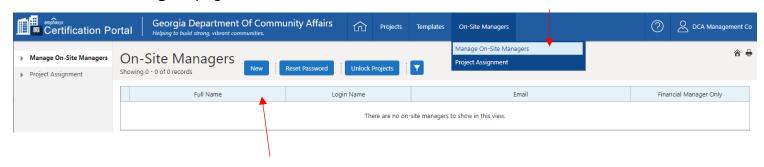
If you are a new user (On-Site Manager), the Super User will set up your User ID and password and assign specific projects to you. Contact your Super User for login credentials. The manager duties would include uploading tenant data and review reports in the portal.



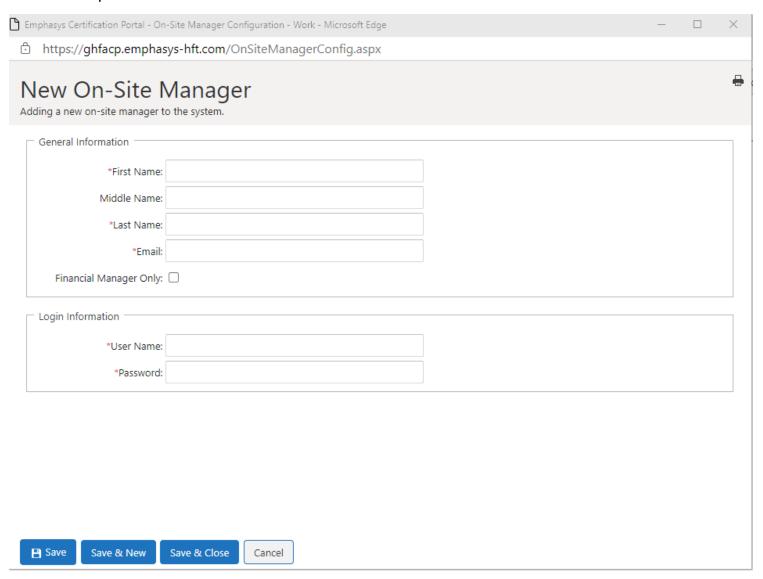
Manage On-Site Managers

New

#### From On-Site Managers page click

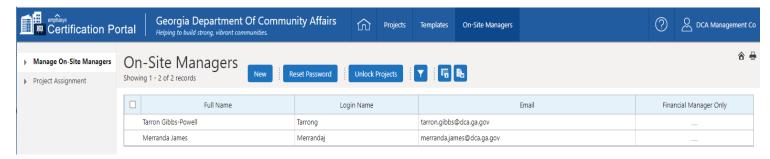


#### Enter the required information for the new user



Click when done with the section to go to the next section or click save & New to add more on-site managers. Clicking will completely close the record.

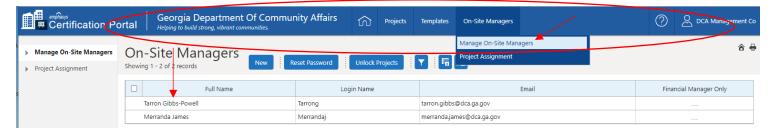
The added users will now be listed on the On-Site Managers page



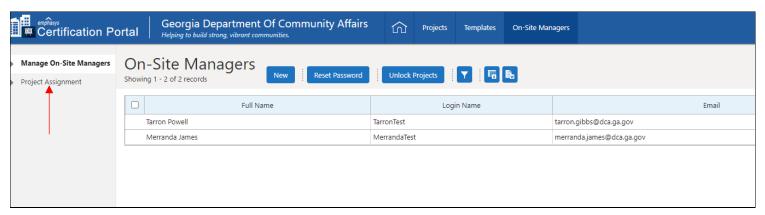
<sup>\*\*</sup>The new On-Site Manager will be prompted to change the username and password on their first login.

# **Assigning Properties to the On-Site Manager**

From the Manage On-Site Manager page select the on-site manager to assign property.



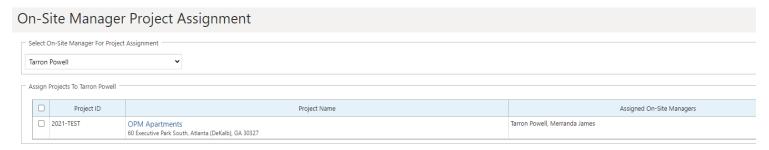
Select Project Assignment from the left-hand menu.



Select on-site manager from the drop-down menu.

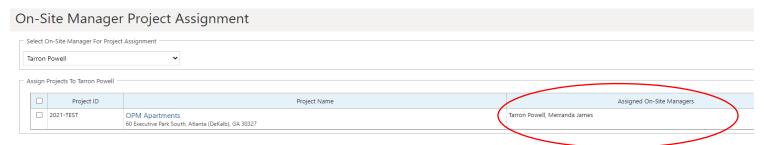


Select property(s) to assign to on-site manager.



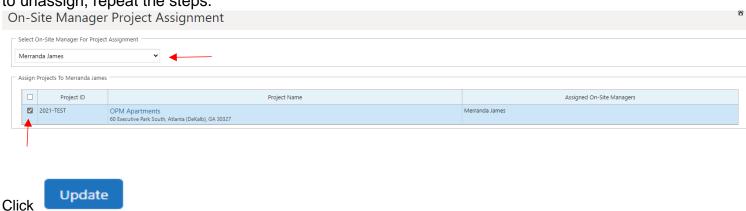


From the **Project Assignment** page, you will see the property is now assigned to a manager. Repeat the steps if you would like to assign more than one person to the same property. If there were previous on-site managers assigned to the property, their name will also appear on the screen.

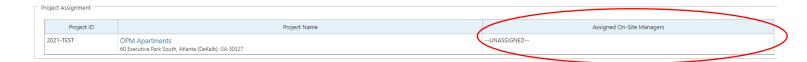


### **Unassign Properties Assigned to On-Site Manager**

From the On-Site Manager **Project Assignment** page select the on-site manager from the drop-down box and uncheck the box next to the property(s) to unassign. If there are more than one on-site manager to unassign, repeat the steps.



Property will now update to show **Unassigned** or just the on-site manager(s) actively assigned to the property.



#### **Unlocking Projects**

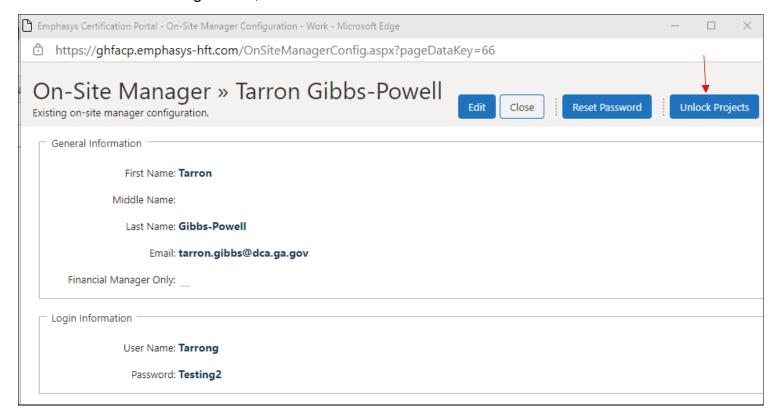
When a property is edited by an On-site Manager, the system marks the project as "being in use". This is done to prevent multiple users from being in the same property at the same time. If the On-site manager's session is terminated unexpectedly, the project may remain "locked" to other users. The "Unlock Projects" feature is meant for the property management company to release/unlock all projects from any On-site Manager.

From the On-Site Managers page, select the on-site manager whom session was terminated and locked other users from accessing the property.

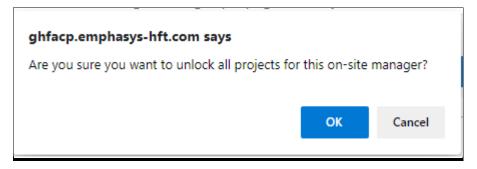


User will see the following screen, then click

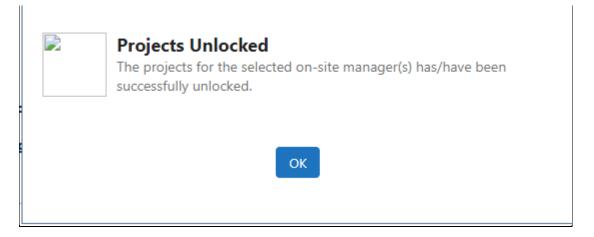
Unlock Projects



User will be asked the following. Click



The following message will appear. Click



# **Resetting Password for On-Site Manager**

There are two options to reset passwords.

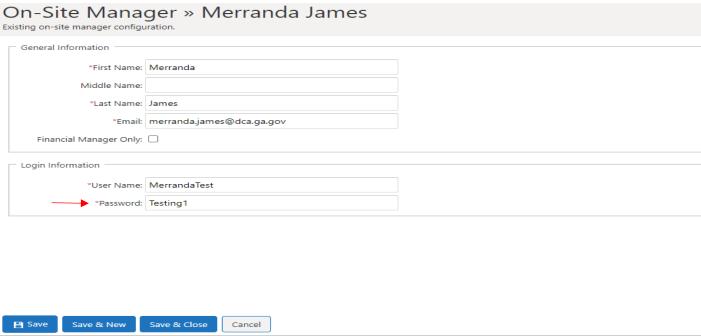
1) If you would like to reassign the on-site manager's password:

From the **Manage On-Site Managers** page click on the on-site manager needing password reset.



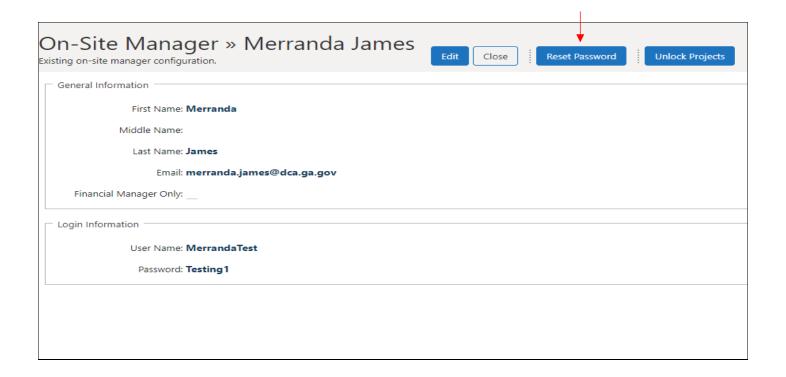
Click Edit and change password





Change the password and click when done with the section to go to the next section or click to reset password for another manager. Clicking save & Close will completely close the screen.

2) If you would like to reset the on-site manager's password to their original password, click Reset Password



#### **Delete On-Site Manager from System**

Navigate to the On-Site Managers screen

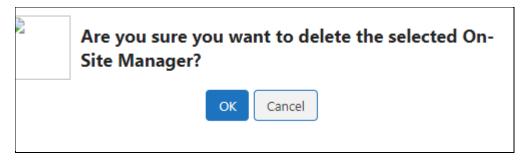
Hover mouse next to user for box to appear and mark box.



Delete button will appear at bottom of screen. Click **Delete**.



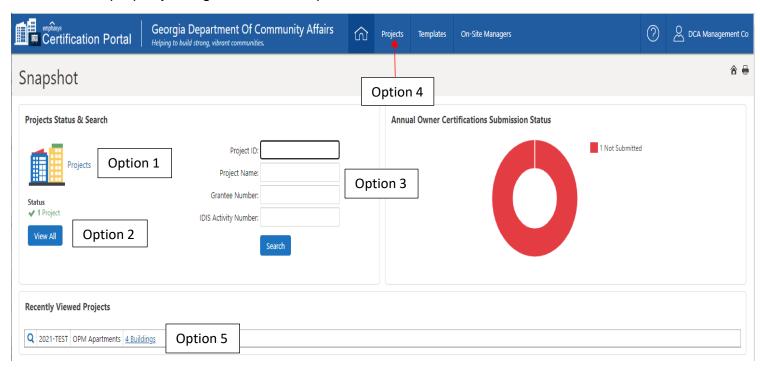
Answer the following system prompt:



Click **OK** to process deletion.

## **Section 2. Accessing Projects**

Once logged into the **Certification Portal**, the user will see the following **Landing Page** and will be able to access the property using five different options.





Option 1: Click on Projects

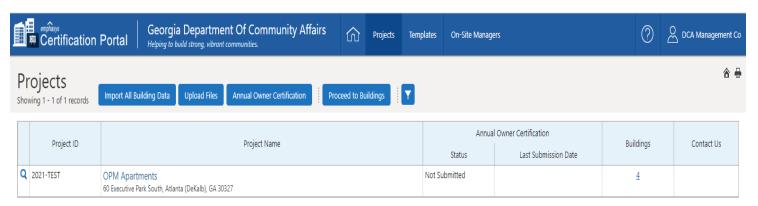
Option 2: Click on View All

**Option 3:** Enter the Project ID and/or Project Name and/or Grantee Number (HOME) and/or IDIS Activity Number (HOME). If using this option, be sure the entries are exact and correct (i.e. spelling, dashes, etc.)



**Option 4:** Click on at top of the LANDING PAGE.

**Options 1, 2, 3 and 4** will take the user to the following screen:



For the Super User, this screen will list all projects in the portfolio and the number of buildings listed for each property. For the On-Site Manager, this screen will list only the projects assigned to the user.

Click the next to the property to select a property.

Projects
Showing 1 - 1 of 1 records Import All Building Data Upload Files Annual Owner Certification Project ID:
Project ID:
Project Name:

Q Search

OPM Apartments
99 DeKalb Avenue, Atlanta (DeKalb), GA 30325

Type in Project ID or Project Name then click

**Option 5:** Will allow you to search from **Recently Reviewed Projects** by selecting next to the property. Selecting this option will take the user to the **Project Data** screen.

\*\*Option 5 is best used when the user is ready to input tenant transactions, view electronic documents or complete the Annual Owner Certification (AOC).\*\*

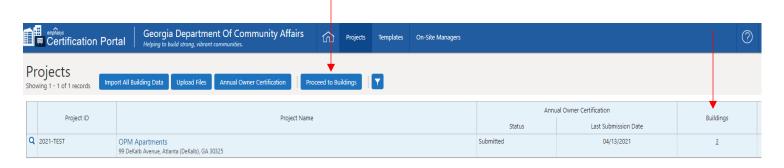


- Electronic Documents uploaded files are stored here
- Annual Owner Certification location of submitted AOCs
- **Buildings** click here to view the buildings in the project

#### **Accessing Buildings and Units**

There are 2 options to access the buildings:

- 1) Click on the number located in the **Buildings** column
- 2) Highlight the property and click on **Proceed to Buildings**

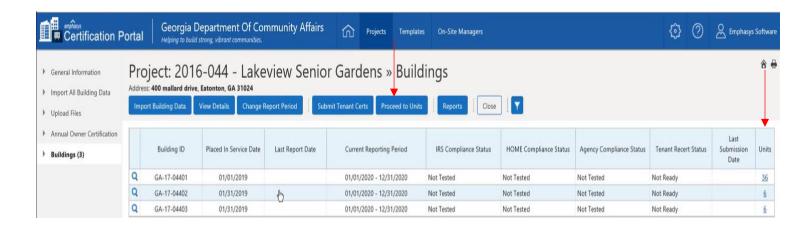


The user will be taken to the Buildings screen that list each building in the property.

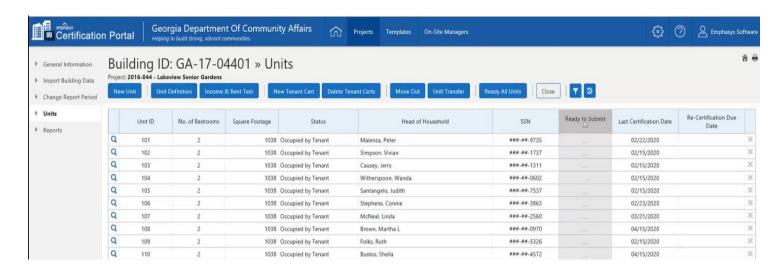
<sup>\*\*</sup>Import All Building Data, on the left-hand menu, will upload data from the user's 3rd party software.\*\*

On this screen, you can search units by:

- 1) Clicking on the number located in the **Units** column
- 2) Highlight the property and click on Proceed to Units



The user will be taken to the following Units screen for the selected building:



Clicking will take you back to the **Buildings** screen.

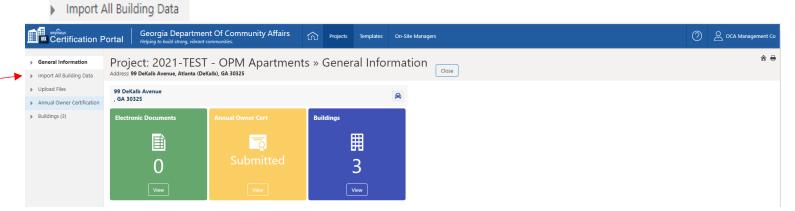
### Section 3. Tenant Data Upload Using 3rd Party Software

Remember that DCA requires all properties in our portfolio to input into the Emphasys Certification Portal their monthly tenant data covering initial certifications, annual recertifications, move-outs, transfers, and removing or adding household members. This data entry must be completed and submitted by the 10th of the following month. For further information, review the DCA LIHTC and HOME Compliance Manual on the DCA/ GHFA website.

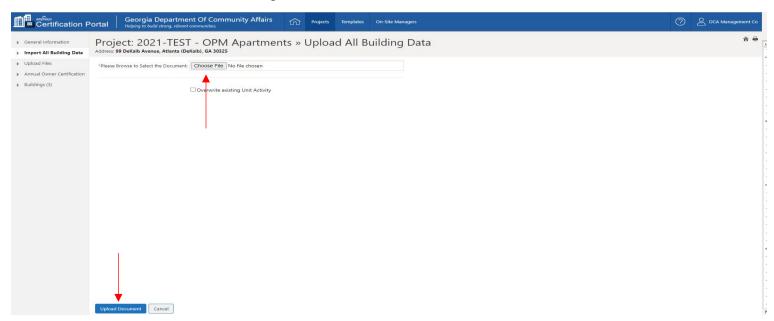
If a 3<sup>rd</sup> party software (i.e. – Yardi, RealPage, OneSite, etc.) is being used to upload tenant data into the system, there are two ways to complete this step:

#### <u>Step 1 – To upload all buildings in the project</u> (this step is done on the **project level**)

1) Select the project by using the steps in Section 2. If choosing the property listed under the 'Recently Viewed Projects' section, click on the property. Once forwarded to the following screen, click

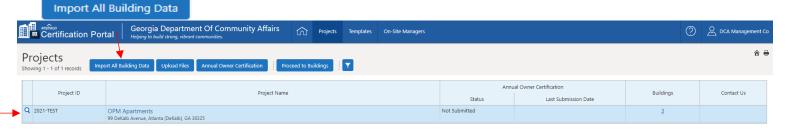


The user will be taken to the following screen. Click 'Choose File':

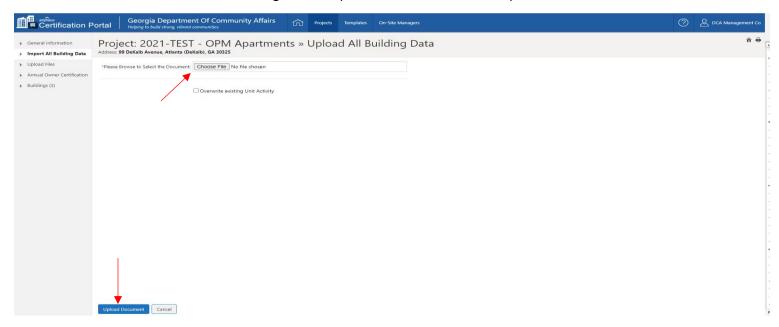


This will take the user to their browser. Select the XML file created by the 3<sup>rd</sup> party software. Click open in the user's browser and then user's browser and then to complete the process.

2) If choosing another way to access the property, click on the project to highlight and then click



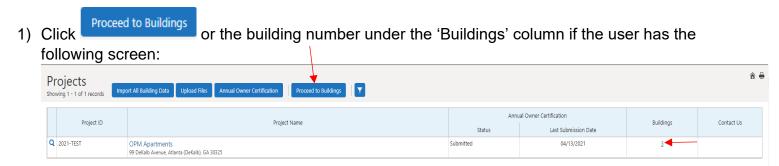
The user will be taken to the following screen (the same screen above) and click 'Choose File':



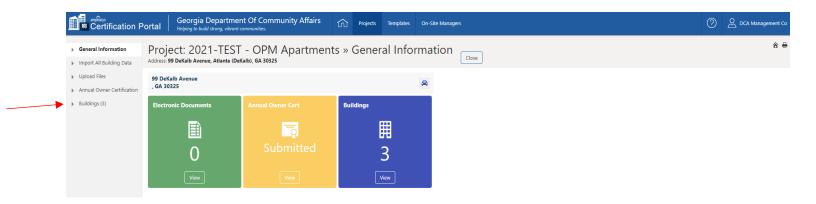
This will take the user to their browser. Select the XML file created by the 3<sup>rd</sup> party software. Click open in the user's browser and then to complete the process.

### Step 2 - To upload a single building(s) in the project (this step is done on the building level)

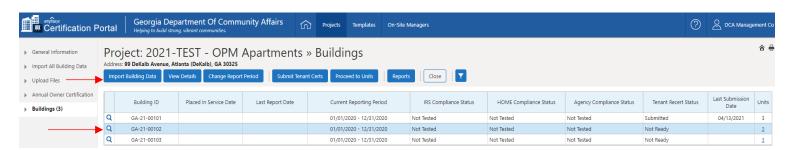
After selecting the project, the user will select the building to upload the tenant data by using either of the following steps:



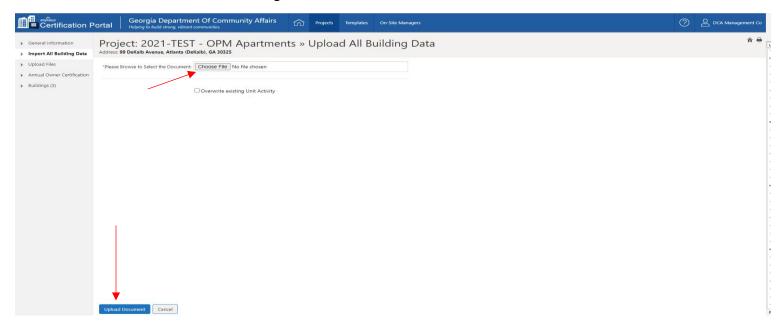
2) Click 'Buildings' if the user has the following screen:



The user will be taken to the following building screen. Select the building by clicking to highlight then

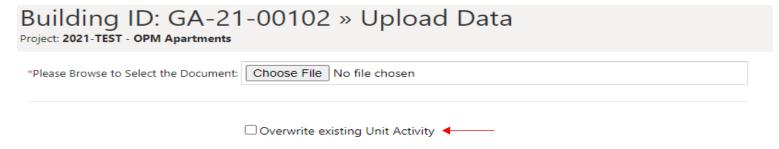


The user will be taken to the following screen and click 'Choose File':



This will take the user to their browser. Select the XML file created by the 3<sup>rd</sup> party software. Click open in the user's browser and then to complete the process.

\*\*If the user wants to refresh/reupload data that is already in the system, be sure to check the box for 'Overwrite existing Unit Activity'. Leaving the box unchecked will leave the data already uploaded into the system and just append to or add new data.



#### **Error Messages**

All files must be error free for the upload to be imported. When an XML file has errors during import, the process will cancel, and an error message will be displayed. A copy of the "Multifamily – XML Upload Error Messages" is attached. (Appendix A).

To alleviate upload errors, please be sure to

- 1) Select the correct xml file to be imported
- 2) Make sure the building and unit numbers are correct
- 3) Be sure your tenant transactions are listed in the correct sequence move-in, recertification, move-out (see example below).

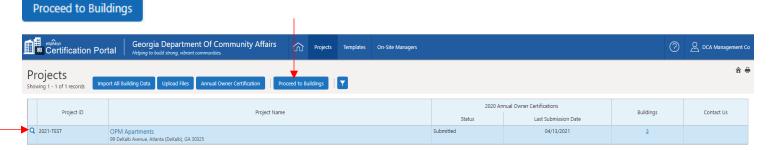
Effective Date	Certification Type	Tenant
03/23/2012	Recertification	Shelton, Eric
03/23/2011	Move In	Shelton, Eric
09/18/2010	Move Out	Brown, Brenda
04/01/2010	Recertification	Brown, Brenda
04/01/2009	Recertification	Brown, Brenda
04/01/2008	Move In	Brown, Brenda

4) Run the LIHTC/HOME Annual Occupancy report monthly and compare it to your property rent roll (see Section 9).

### Section 4. Manual Entry - New Move In

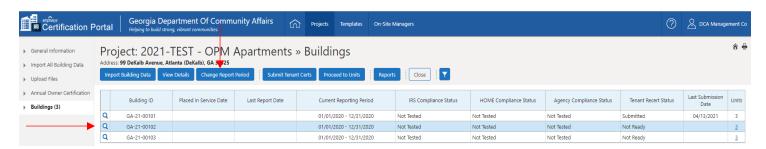
This section is used for manual entry of a new tenant move-in transaction.

Select the project by using the steps in Section 2. Click on the project to highlight, then click

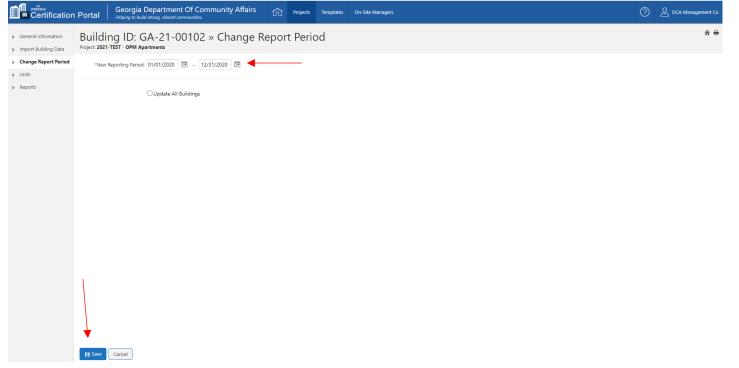


Select the building to input the move-in transaction by clicking on the building to highlight. Then click

Change Report Period

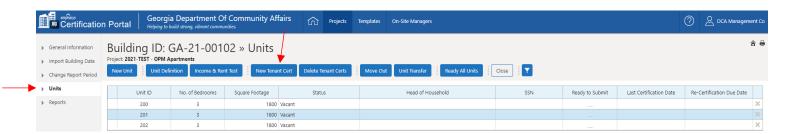


The user will be taken to the following screen. Enter the 'New Reporting Period' for the transaction to be entered then click Save.



User will not be able to input a new reporting period prior to the current reporting period. For example, the reporting period listed above is 1/1/2020-12/31/2020. User cannot input a new reporting period prior to 1/1/2020.

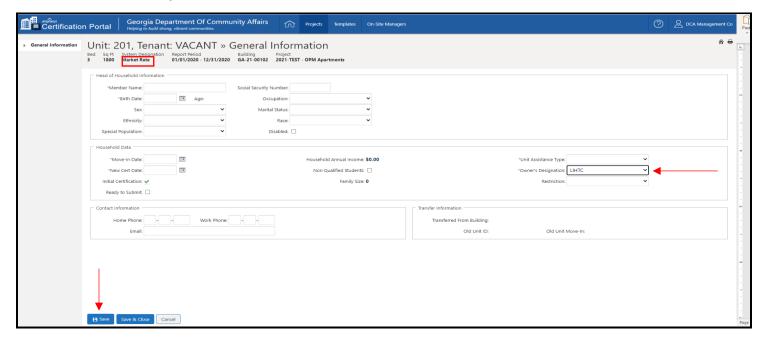
After entering the new reporting period, click shown to the left of the screen. The user will be taken to the following screen. Once on this screen, choose the unit to add the transaction then click



The user will be taken to the following screen to input general tenant information for the Head of Household (HOH). All applicable fields must be completed. Fields with the asterisk (\*) cannot be left blank. If the tenant refuses to disclose Ethnicity and Race, this choice should be indicated for those fields. Also check Non-Qualified Student if household has students that do not meet HOME and/or LIHTC student exceptions.

Initial Certification is automatically checked when Household Annual Income shows '0' but will auto-populate when family data is completed (after completing the Household Members section).

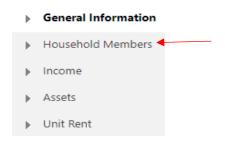
With a new move-in, the Move In Date and New Cert Date should be the same. The Move In Date cannot be greater than the End of Period Date (12/31/2020 on the below screen) of the Reporting Period. Transfer Information is auto populated when a unit transfer occurs. Check box for **Ready to Submit** when entries are completed.



Please note that because this is a test property, the System Designation (listed at the top of the screen under the unit number) shows 'Market Rate'. This is for illustration purposes only. When entering data for a unit, the system designation must be 'low income' for all program units, unless it is actually a market unit.

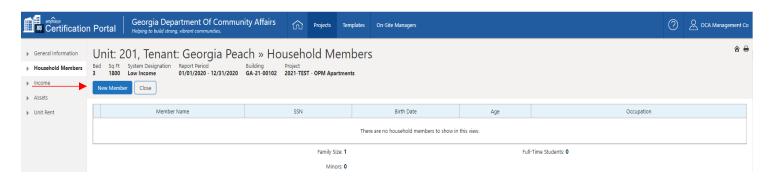
Click when done with this section to go to then next section. Clicking will completely close the tenant record.

After clicking save, the following menu will open on the left side of the screen to enter additional household data. If there is more than one household member, click

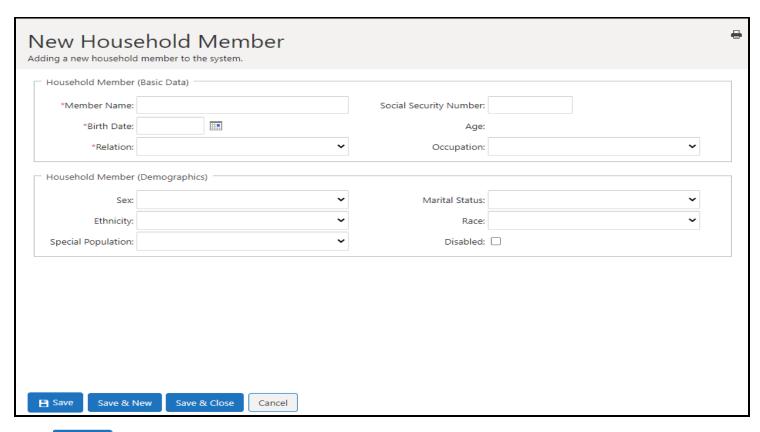


The user will be taken to the following screen. To enter additional household member data, click

New Member

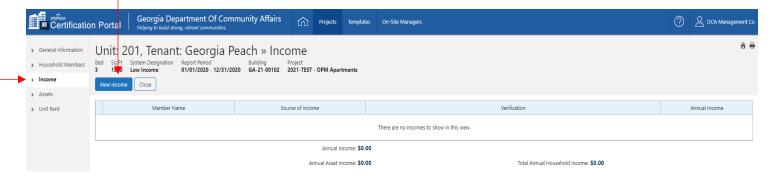


The user will be taken to the following screen. All applicable fields must be checked. Fields with the asterisk (\*) cannot be left blank. If there is an unborn child, no date of birth is needed. Also, if the tenant refuses to disclose Ethnicity and Race, this choice should be indicated for those fields.

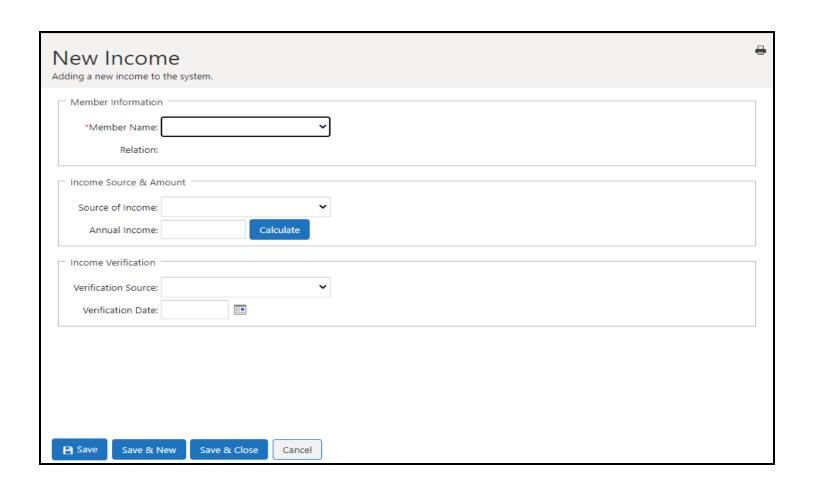


Click when done with the section to go to the next section or click save & New to add more household members. Clicking save & Close will completely close the tenant record.

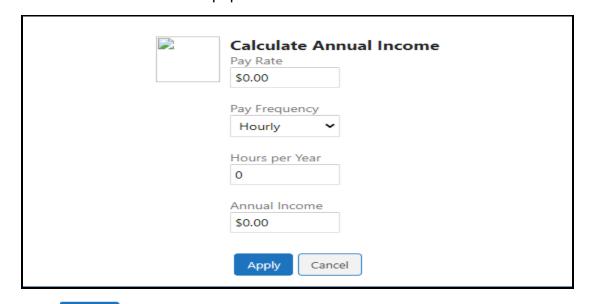
Next click household income. Then click New Income to enter each household member income.



The user will be taken to the following screen. All fields must be completed using the drop-down selections. Select the member name from the drop-down selection and relationship to head of household. For annual income, enter the annual income for the selected household member or click Calculate

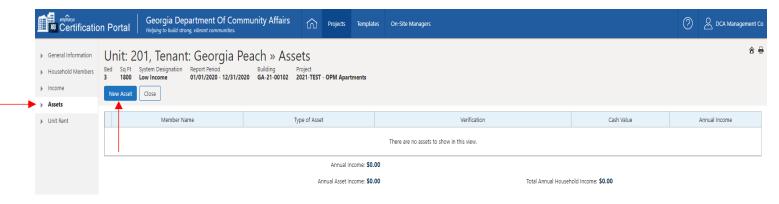


If user selects the following screen will show, and the system will calculate income for earned income sources. Enter the Pay Rate, Frequency, hours per year and the system will display the calculated Annual Income. The user will need to click Apply to have the system calculate the income. The calculated income will populate in the Annual Income field in the screen above.

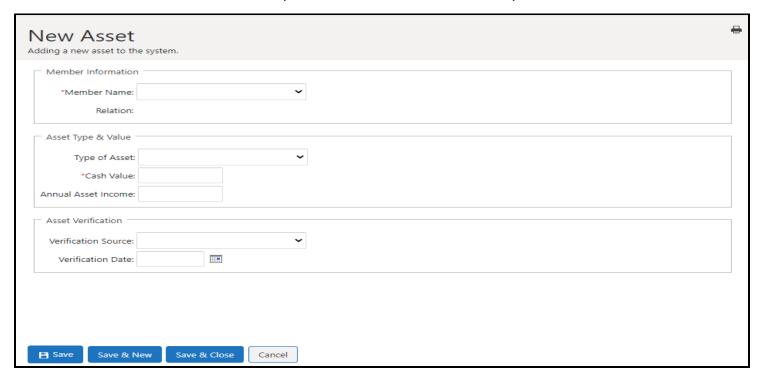


Click when done with the section to go to the next section or click to add more household members. Clicking save & Close will completely close the tenant record.

If there are household assets, click Assets then New Asset



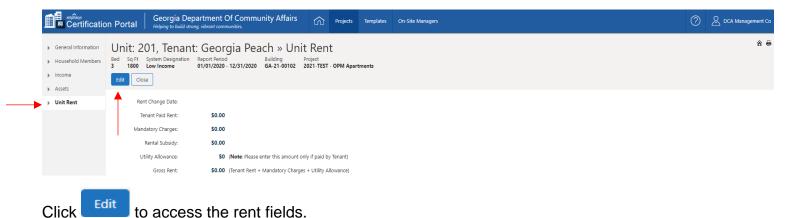
The user will be taken to the following screen to enter household asset data by member name. All fields must be completed using the drop-down selections. Fields with the asterisk (\*) cannot be left blank. Select the member name from the drop-down selection and relationship to head of household.



For assets that require verification, select the verification source, and input the verification date.

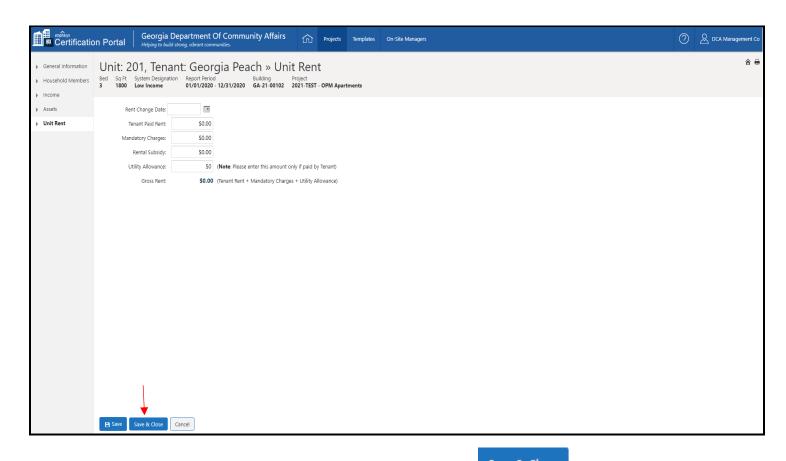
Click when done with the section to go to the next section or click save & New to add more household members. Clicking save & Close will completely close the tenant record.

Next click Variation to enter rent data. The user will be taken to the following screen.



#### **Rent Change Date:**

\*\*DO NOT\*\* enter a Rent Change Date except for RD (rural development) or Project-based Section 8 Properties or for Housing Choice Voucher holders when an increase or decrease occurred at a time other than at recertification.



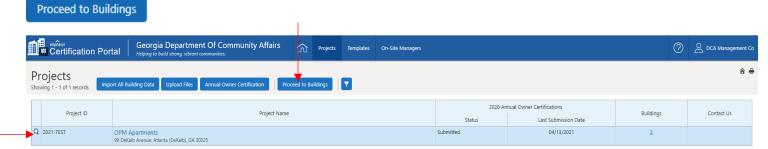
When all data has been entered in all screens for the unit, click

Save & Close to return to Unit screen.

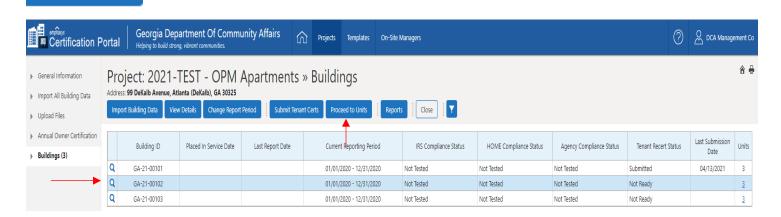
#### **Section 5. Manual Entry - Recertification**

For 100% LIHTC properties exclusively - recertifications will no longer necessitate a TIC, or a Self-Certification Form. Instead, only the completion of the Student Certification and VAWA forms is required. For 100% LIHTC properties only - no "waiver" or "approval" is required to be granted or provided by DCA to allow properties to begin the self-certification process implementing only the Student Certification form and the VAWA form(s), which can be found on the DCA Website.

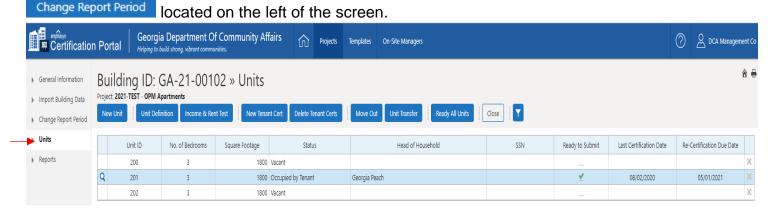
Select the project by using the steps in Section 2. Click on the project to highlight it, then click



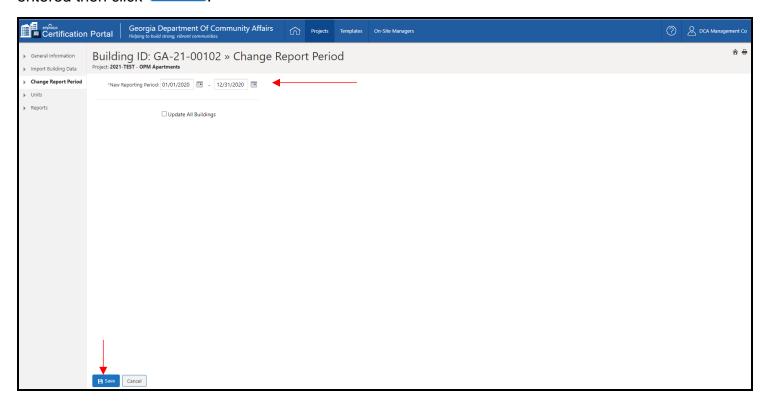
Select the building to input the recertification data by clicking on the building to highlight. Then click Proceed to Units



Select the unit to input the recertification transaction by clicking on the unit to highlight. Then click

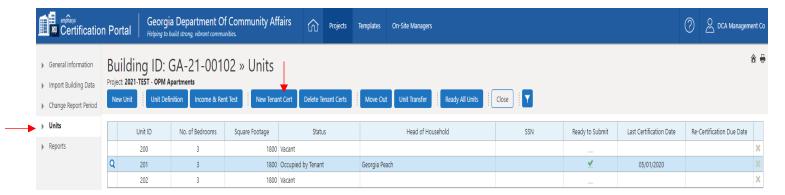


The user will be taken to the following screen. Enter the 'New Reporting Period' for the transaction to be entered then click Save.



User will not be able to input a new reporting period prior to the current reporting period. For example, the reporting period listed above is 1/1/2020-12/31/2020. User cannot input a new reporting period prior to 1/1/2020.

After entering the new reporting period, click located to the left of the screen. The user will be taken to the following screen. Select the unit to add the recertification data, then click located to the left of the screen. The user will be taken to the following screen. Select the unit to add the recertification data, then click located to the left of the screen. The user will be taken to the following screen. Select the unit to add the recertification data, then click located to the left of the screen. The user will be taken to the following screen. Select the unit to add the recertification data, then click located to the left of the screen.



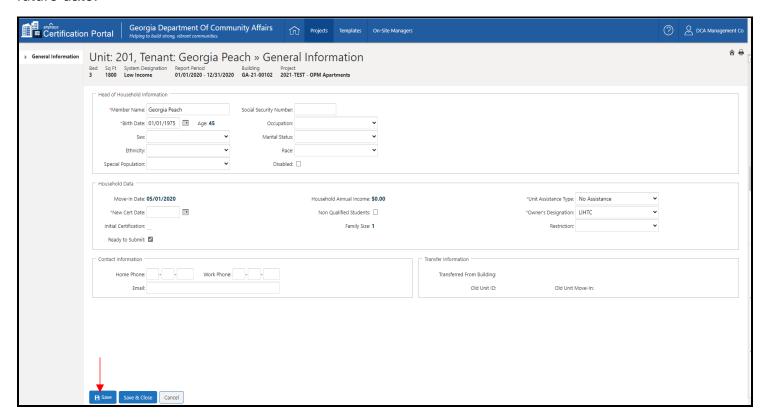
The user will be taken to the following screen. Enter the New Cert Date

\*New Cert Date:

| Image: Page | P

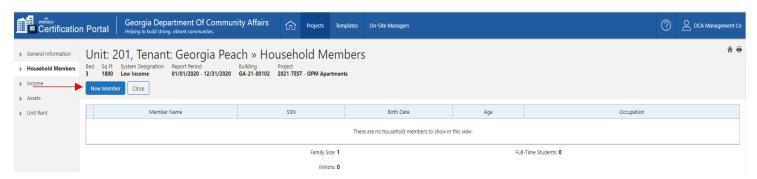
click User will not be able to enter a New Cert Date pass the end of the Report Period nor a future date.

and

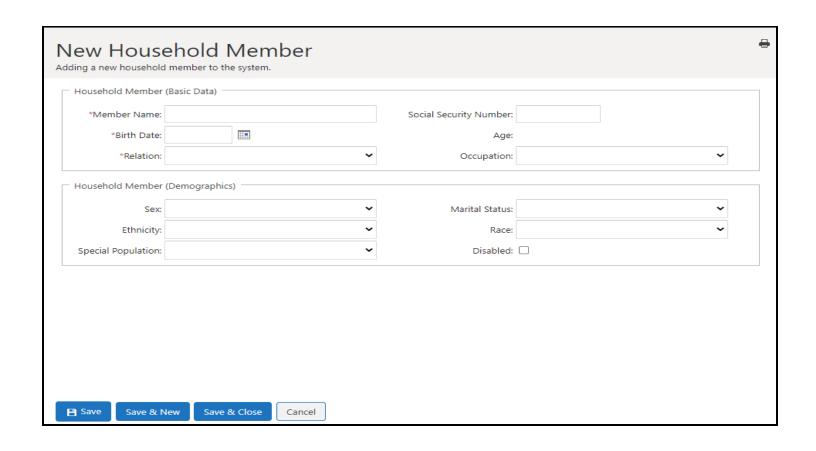


If there are any changes (additions or move-outs) to household members since the last certification (or move-in), click on household Members then New Member.

The user will be taken to the following screen. Enter the additional household member data.



The user will be taken to the following screen. All applicable fields must be checked. Fields with the asterisk (\*) cannot be left blank. If the tenant refuses to disclose Ethnicity and Race, this choice should be indicated for those fields.

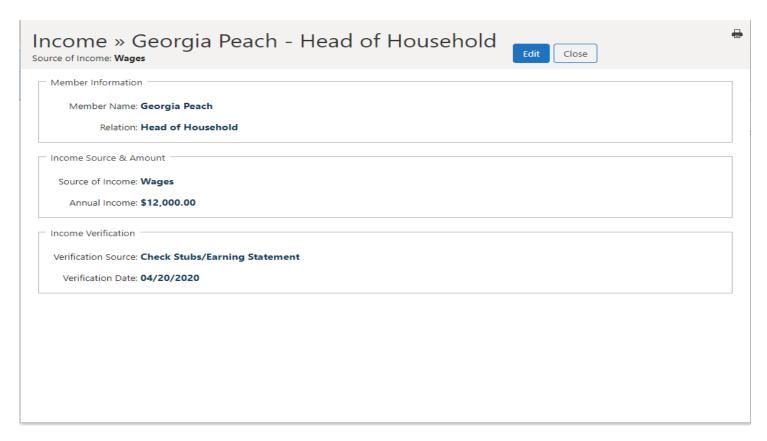


Click when done with the section to go to the next section or click save & New to add more household members. Clicking save & Close will completely close the tenant record.

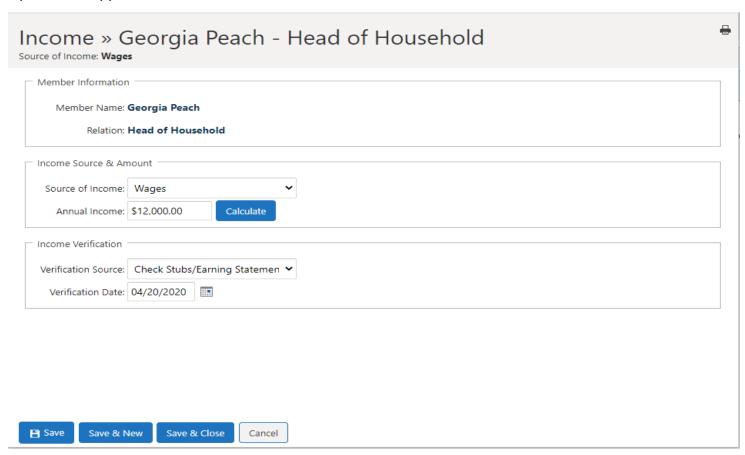
Next click location to any changes to a household member income. Click the household member needing to have income update, then click location location location.



The user will be taken to the following screen. Click



Update the applicable fields.



All fields must be completed using the drop-down selections. For annual income, enter the annual income for the selected household member or click Calculate.

If user selects the following screen will show, and the system will calculate income for earned income sources. Enter the Pay Rate, Frequency, hours per year and the system will display the calculated Annual Income. The user will need to click Apply to have the system calculate the income. The calculated income will populate in the Annual Income field in the screen above.

	Calculate Annual Income Pay Rate
	\$0.00
	Pay Frequency Hourly
	Hours per Year  0
	Annual Income \$0.00
	Apply Cancel
Click Save when done	with the section to go to the next section or click Save & New to add a new
income source. Clicking	will completely close the tenant record.

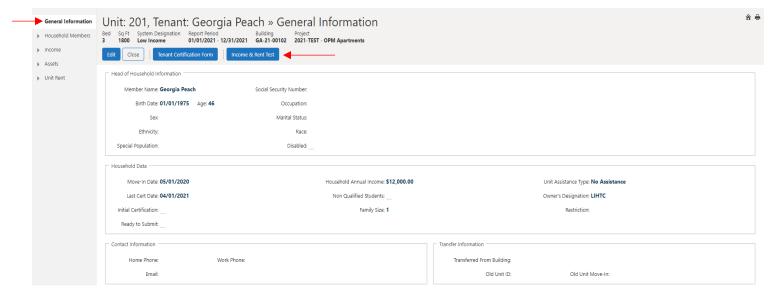
#### **Income and Rent Test**

The Income and Rent Test is used to find units that the system identifies as being 'Over the Income Limit' and/or 'Over the Rent Limit'. This is based on the certification date and the income and gross rent limits in effect on the date of certification or recertification. It is strongly recommended that this test is used after each move-in or recertification transaction is input into the system.

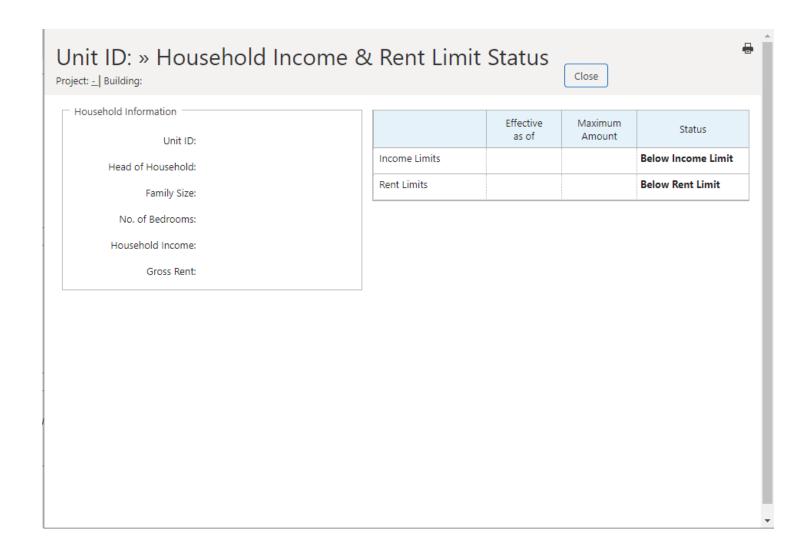
On the General Information screen, click on

Income & Rent Test

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Repeat income and asset updates and/or add new income sources and asset types until update is complete.



The user will be taken to the following screen.

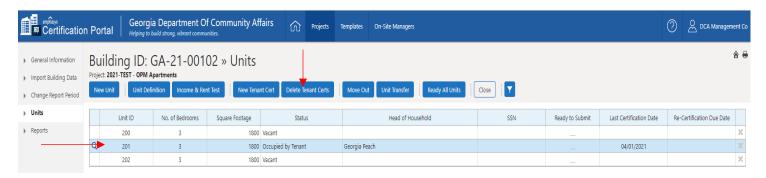


#### **Deleting Tenant Certifications**

If a date of certification, move-in or transfer was entered incorrectly the transaction can be deleted.

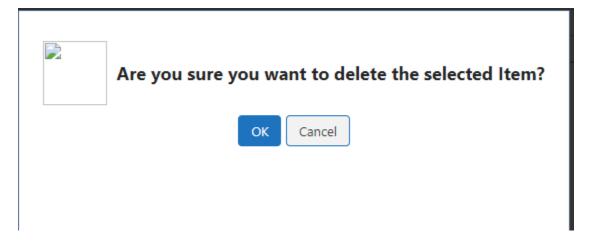
Click the unit that contains the certification to be deleted then click

Delete Tenant Certs





Only entries with an  $\times$  can be deleted. User cannot delete transactions/certifications that have been processed. If there are more than one entry with a  $\times$ , deletion must be completed starting from the most recent entry then downward. Before the deletion is completed, the user will receive the following warning message:



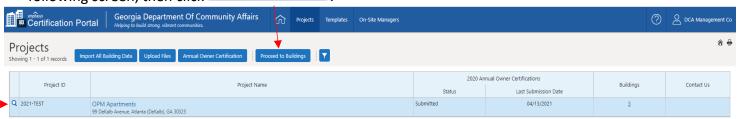
# Section 6. Manual Entry - Unit Transfers

This section is used for manual entry of unit transfers. For all unit transfers, there must be a vacant unit to transfer to.

#### TRANSFER WITHIN THE SAME BUILDING

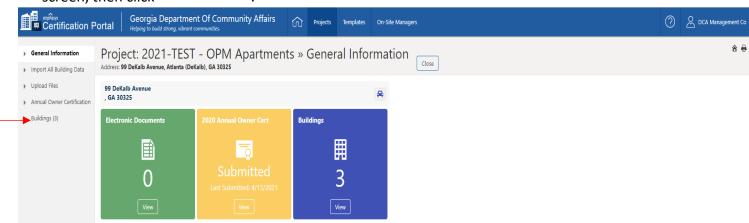
Select the project by using the steps in Section 2.

1) If using Options 1-4 to select the project, click on the project to highlight. The user will be taken to the following screen, then click Proceed to Buildings.

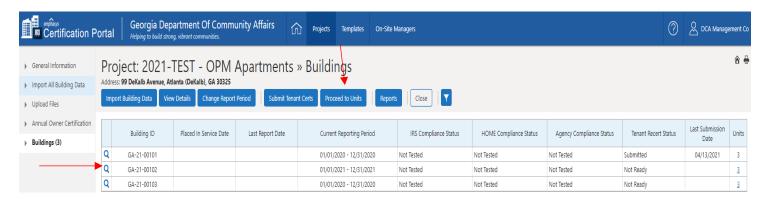


2) If using Option 5 to select the project, click on the project to highlight. The user will be taken to the following screen, then click

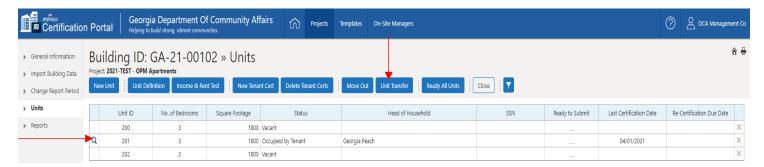
Buildings
.



The user will be taken to the following screen when using either option after clicking "Proceed to Buildings" or "Buildings". Click building that contains transfer units to highlight, then click .

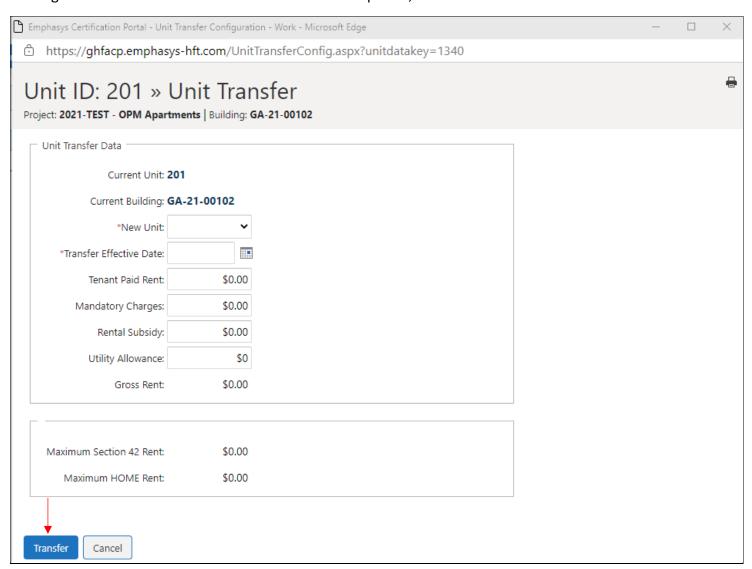


The user will be taken to the following screen. Click the unit of which the tenant will be moving out of to highlight, then click Unit Transfer.



The user will be taken to the following screen. Make sure the 'Current Unit' and 'Current Building' numbers are correct.

Click the down arrow in New Unit field to reveal the available vacant units and select the unit of which the household will be transferring into. If there are no vacant units listed, check your property's rent roll for any missing move-out transactions. After all fields are completed, click <a href="Transfer">Transfer</a>.



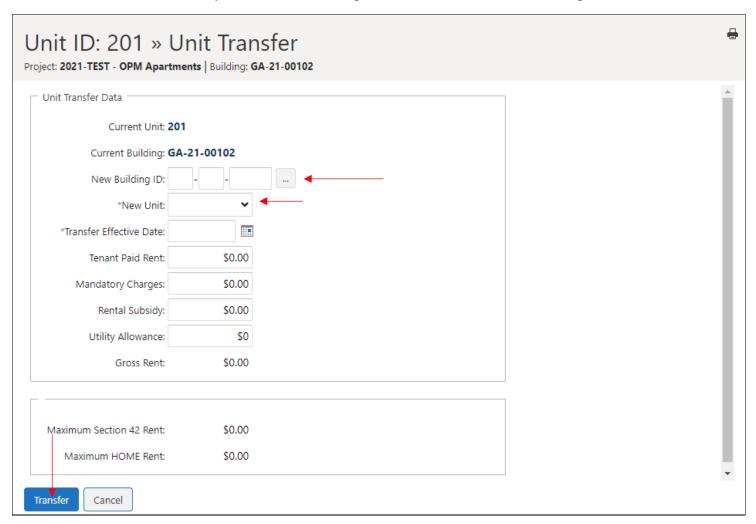
\*\*The "Transfer Effective Date" cannot be prior to the move-out date of the vacant unit the household is moving into.

#### TRANSFER BETWEEN BUILDINGS

Transfer

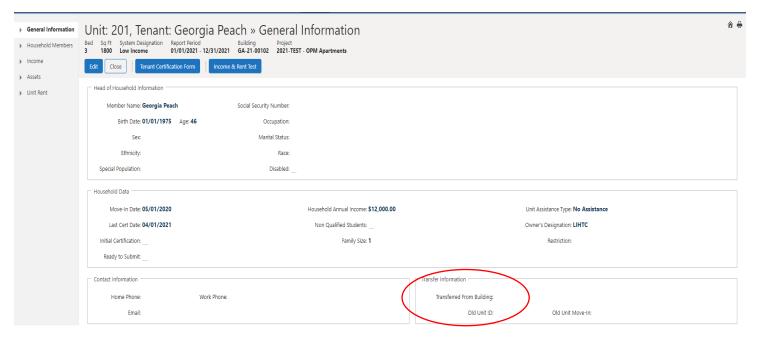
The IRS considers each building in a property to be a separate project unless the owner elects to treat more than one building in a property as part of a multiple-building project. Owners make the election for multiple building projects on Part II, line 8b of IRS form 8609.

Follow the same steps as above for "Transfer Within the Same Building". If the owner elected to allow unit transfers between buildings (per the 8609) the Super User or On-Site Manager will get the following "Unit Transfer" screen with the ability to select the building and unit household is transferring to:



Click the ellipses \_\_\_\_\_ to select the new building. Click the down arrow in New Unit field to reveal the available vacant units and select the unit of which the household will be transferring into. If there are no vacant units listed, check your property's rent roll for any missing move-out transactions. After all fields are completed, click

The following screen shows where the transfer information will be located. The transfer unit information will never go away.



### **Unit Transfer Error**

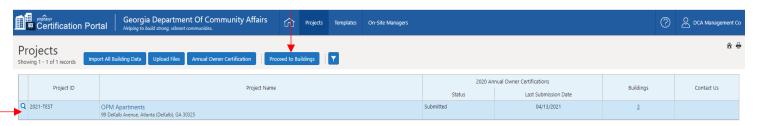
If a unit transfer was completed in error and needs to be deleted, please send the request to <a href="mailto:hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov">hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov</a> for further instructions.

## Section 7. Manual Entry - Move Out

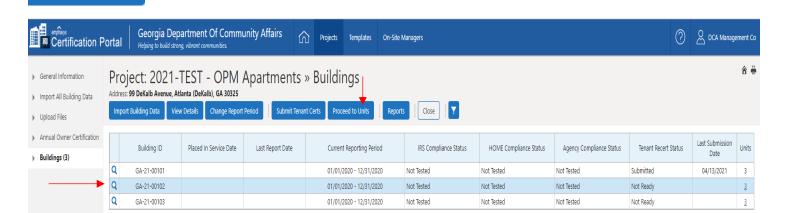
This section is used for manual entry of a move-out transactions.

Select the project by using the steps in Section 2. Click on the project to highlight, then click

**Proceed to Buildings** 

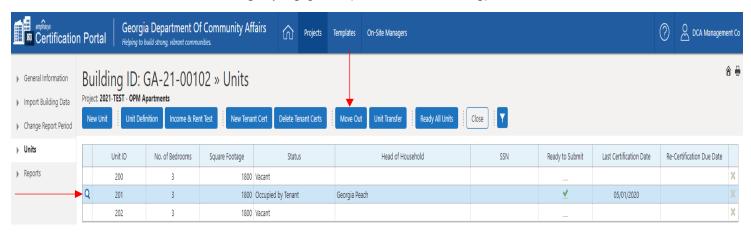


Select the building to input the recertification data by clicking on the building to highlight. Then click Proceed to Units



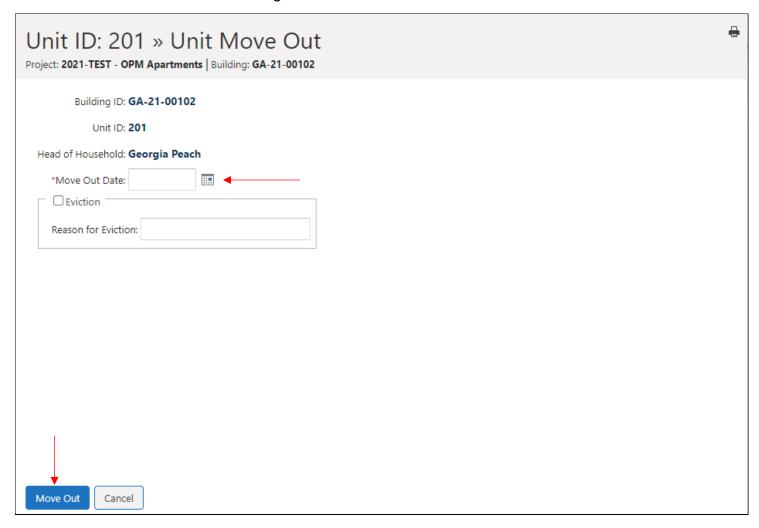
The user will be taken to the following screen. Select the unit of which the move-out will occur, then click Move Out.

Do not click the magnifying glass (which is for editing).



Move Out

The user will be taken to the following screen. Enter the Move Out Date then click

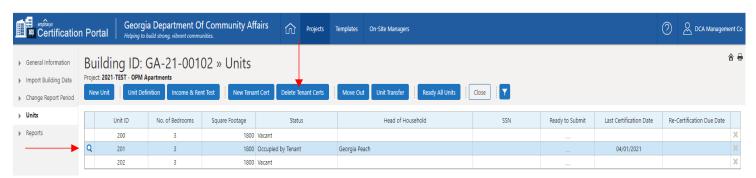


#### **Deleting Move-Out**

If the move-out was entered incorrectly the transaction can be deleted.

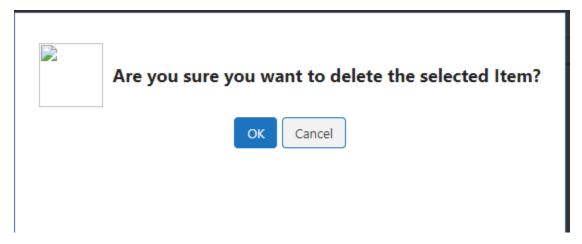
Click the unit that contains the move-out to be deleted then click

Delete Tenant Certs



#### Unit ID: 201 » Tenant Certifications Close Project: 2021-TEST - OPM Apartments | Building: GA-21-00102 Move/Transfer In Last Certification Move/Transfer Out Head of Household Rent Change Date Date Date Date Georgia Peach 04/01/2021 X-05/01/2020 05/01/2020 Georgia Peach 08/02/2020 05/01/2020 Georgia Peach 05/01/2020 Vacant

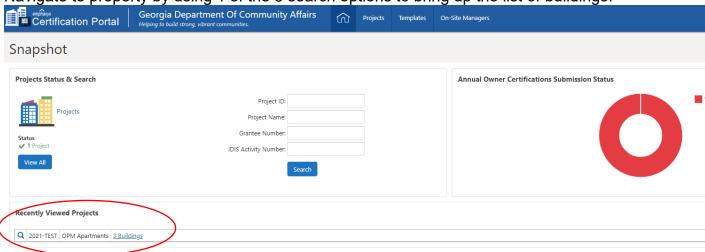
Only entries with an  $\times$  can be deleted. User cannot delete transactions/certifications that have been processed. If there are more than one entry with a  $\times$ , deletion must be completed starting from the most recent entry then downward. Before the deletion is completed, the user will receive the following warning message:



## Section 8. Readying Units for Submission

This section gives the steps on how to submit the monthly final submission to DCA. User will not be able to move to the next reporting period until the submission(s) have been completed. Marking units as **Ready to Submit** lets DCA Compliance know that the property has completed entering data for the current reporting period.

Navigate to property by using 1 of the 5 search options to bring up the list of buildings.



There are two ways to mark a unit Ready to Submit.

#### 1) At the Building level:



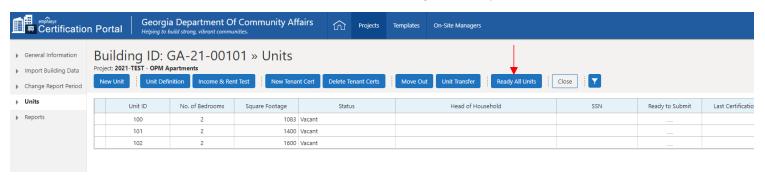




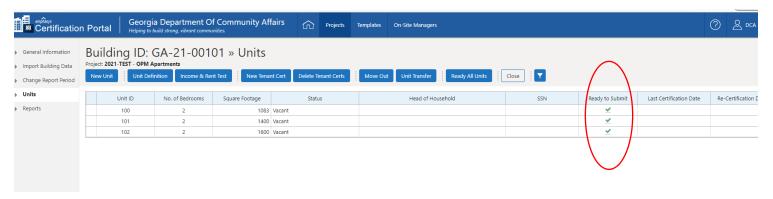


Ready All Units

This will mark all the units in the building as Ready to Submit.



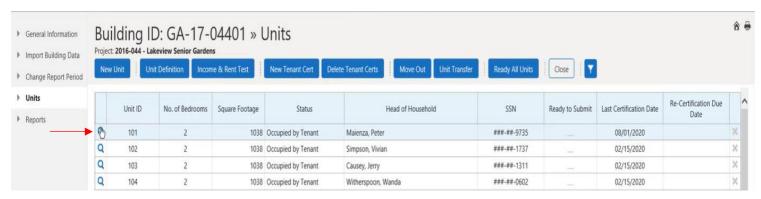
#### As shown below, units are Ready to Submit

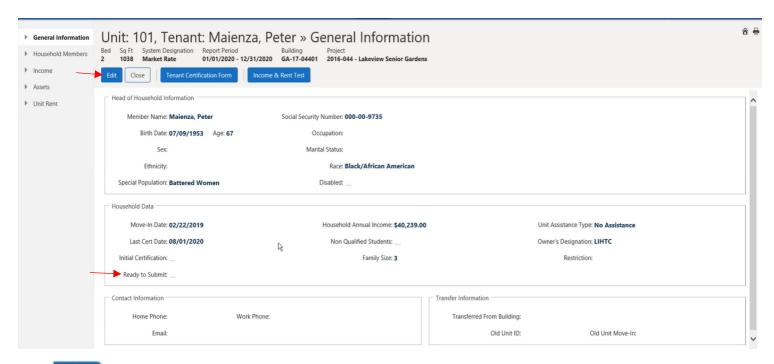


#### 2) At Unit level:

a) The user can mark the unit individually:

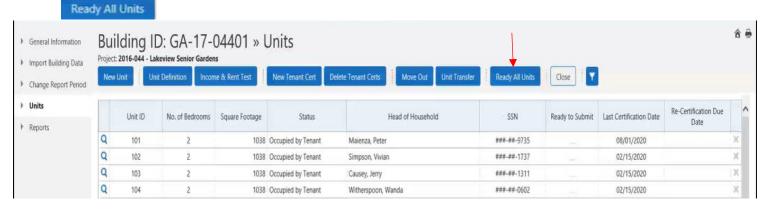




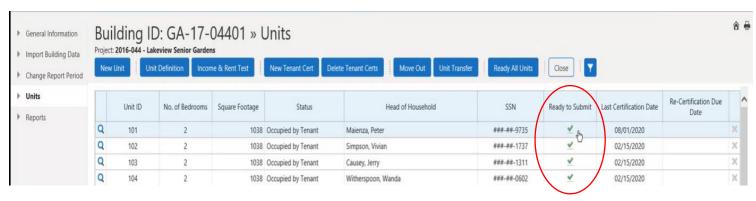


Click Ready to Submit: box.

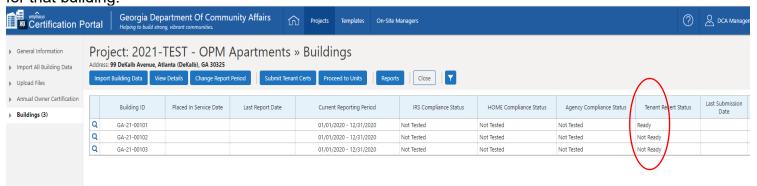
b) If user knows all activity has been entered for the current open period and **Ready to Submit**, click



All units will be checked as Ready to Submit.



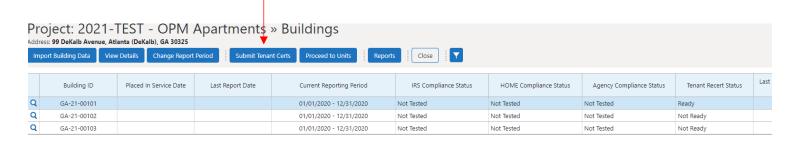
When all units in the buildings are checked **Ready to Submit**, the **Recert Status** will change to **Ready** for that building.



Highlight the 'Ready' building and Click

Submit Tenant Certs

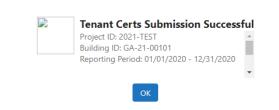
. The data is then sent to DCA Compliance.



If the user tries to submit building data without submitting the units as ready, the following message will appear:



A successful submission message will appear to show that the transaction was submitted to DCA.



SECTI

\*An error message will display if a noncompliance issue was identified

You are required to submit tenant data monthly.

Submitting multiple months of tenant certifications before

submitting the BINS for the current reporting period is considered "stacking." You must only submit tenant data for the month that you are currently reporting for.

If you are submitting tenant data for the reporting period 6/1/24-6/30/24 but also submit TICs for April and May, that is stacking. Each monthly reporting period is required to have its own submission. As a reminder, for each monthly submission, you must "ready all units" and click "Submit Tenant Certs".

Please note that stacking is prohibited in the Emphasys system.

Ex. This is an example of stacking. The current reporting period is September 2022, but the last report date (successful submission) is February 2021. For the project to be in Compliance, the next reporting period should be March 1, 2021, to March 31, 2021. All TICs submitted should be for March 2021 only.

)	Placed In Service Date	Last Report Date	Current Reporting Period
01	12/01/1999	02/28/2021	09/01/2022 - 09/30/2022

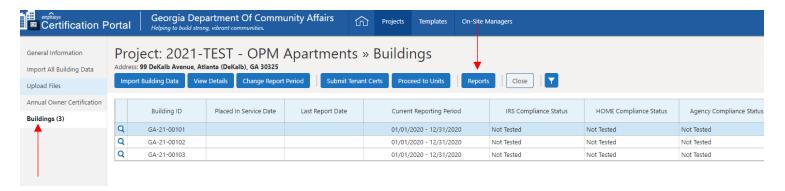
# Ex. Below is a project who has completed a successfully submission and currently in the correct reporting period.

	tus
05/31/2024 06/01/2024 - 06/30/2024 In Compliance	
05/31/2024 06/01/2024 - 06/30/2024 In Compliance	

# Section 10. Reports

From the Building main screen, highlight the building and click



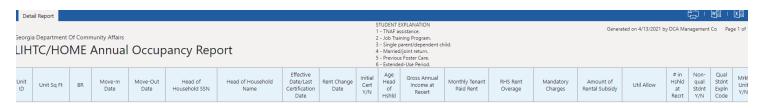


The Super User or the On-Site Manager will be taken to the "Reports" screen. Then click on the report from the options listed below.

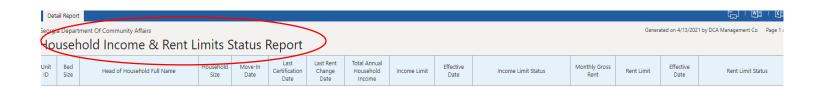


The LIHTC/HOME Annual Occupancy Report will only print activity that has occurred within the reporting period that is currently open. If you would like to include all activity in addition to the reporting period, the user will need to check Include units without recent activity If you would like to run the report for "all" buildings and units in the entire project, the user will need to check Run Report for all Buildings.

Clicking Show only last 4 digits of SSN in reports will only show the last 4 digits of tenant's social security number.

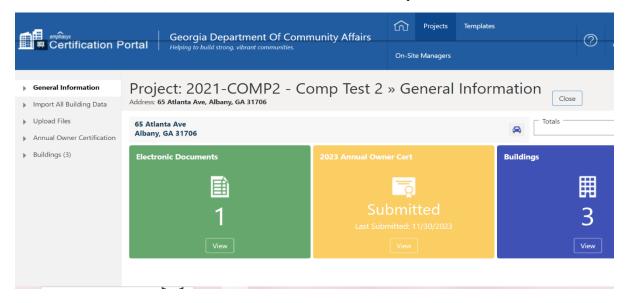


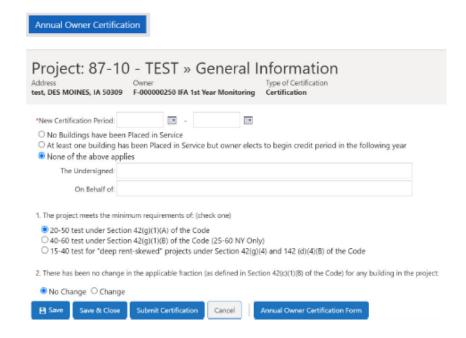
The **Household Income & Rent Limits Status Report** gives information on how the household compares against the income and rent limits that are applicable to each unit based on the recerts effective dates and type of unit. Cannot run this report for all buildings, just on a per building basis.



#### Section 11. Annual Owner Certifications "AOC"

An owner of a LIHTC project must submit an online Annual Owner's Certification (AOC) to DCA/GHFA under penalty of perjury and as provided in Section 1.42-5 (c)(1) of the Treasury Regulations, by the stated deadline provided on the AOC form and the Agency website each year. All AOC submissions will be reviewed for Section 42 compliance and timely submission. DCA requires all AOC's to be submitted by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year by 5:00 PM EST. For further information, review the DCA LIHTC and HOME Compliance Manual on the DCA/ GHFA website.





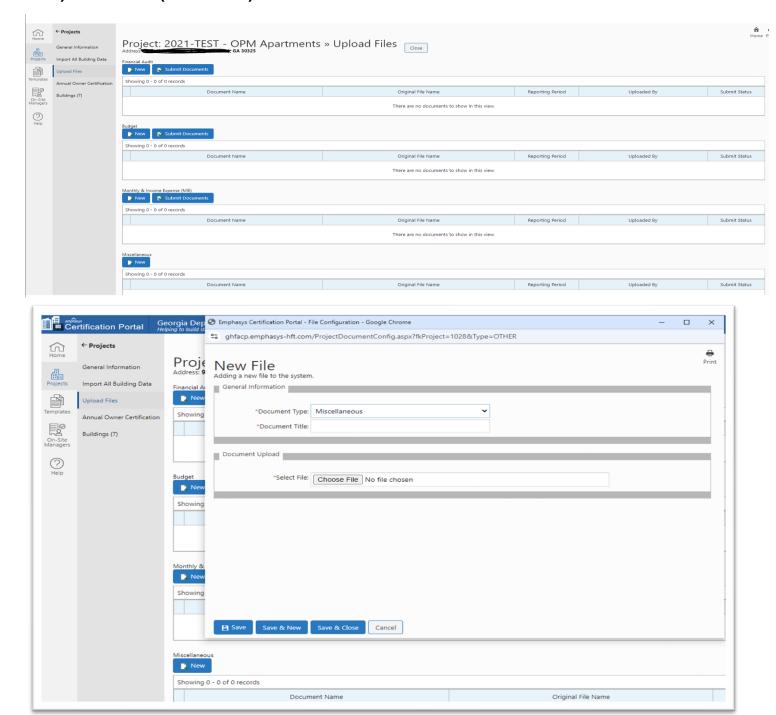
For further information and training on how to complete the AOC, please review the DCA website <a href="here">here</a> and DCA LIHTC & HOME Compliance Manual <a href="here">here</a>.

# **Section 12: Uploads to the Miscellaneous Section**

If you are required to upload any data that does not include monthly tenant data such as Property Information Form (PIF), DCA checklist, 8609's, Work Orders, Invoices, PDF photos, and etc will need to be uploaded using the "Miscellaneous" section.

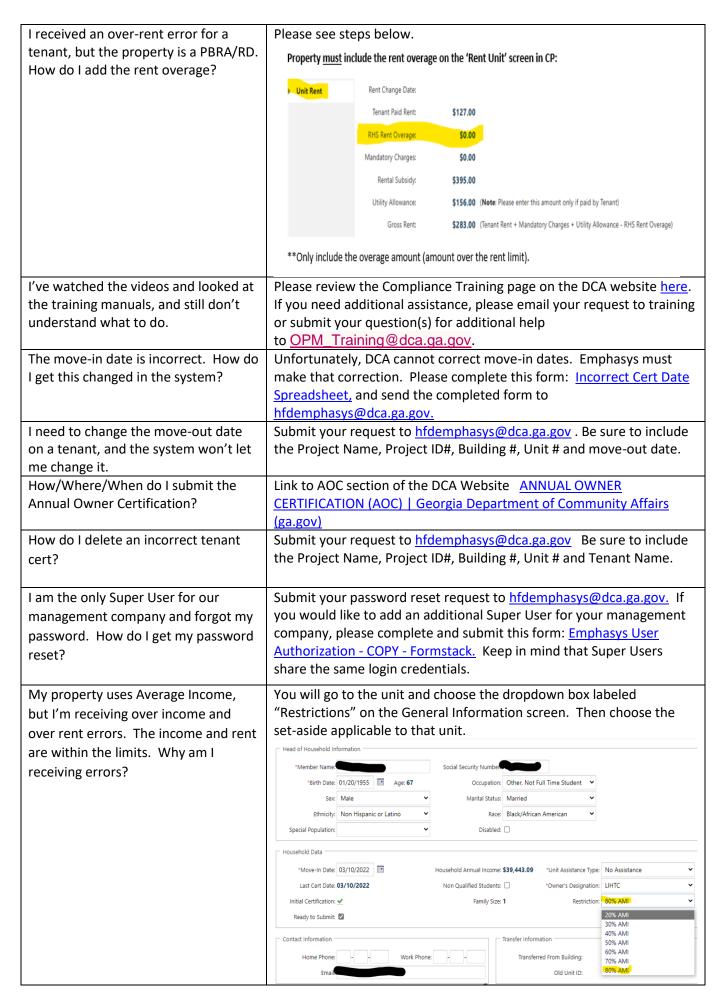
To upload any of the files above please follow the below steps:

Upload Files- Miscellaneous- New- Document Type (Miscellaneous)- Document Title (Ex. AOC)- Select File (choose file)- Save



# **Frequently Asked Questions "FAQ"**

Question	Answer
I need help getting into the	Email <a href="mailto:hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov">hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov</a> to notify you need access to the
certification portal. What and who do	system. That includes if you need a password reset for the certification
I need to contact?	portal.
My on-site manager needs help	The super user should be able to reset the password for all on-site
getting into the project.	managers. If it still does not work, have the super user
	email <a href="mailto:hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov">hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov</a> for assistance.
My project is not showing up in the	Has your project placed in service? Please email
certification portal.	hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov with your placed in-service form and unit
·	spreadsheet that can be found on the website here. This will start the
	property setup process.
My Owner needs help getting into the	The owner will use the same login credentials as the Super User.
project. What can I do to get that	Currently there is no way for the Owner to have access for each
person's credentials?	property.
What can I do if I can't find my answer	Please send your questions to <a href="mailto:hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov">hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov</a>
in the FAQ?	incuse send your questions to indemphasise acaiguiges
Why is my project showing submitted,	Submissions for the building(s) were forwarded to our queue due to a
but I cannot move forward to the next	system error or tenant data error. You or another staff member will
reporting period?	receive an email from our Compliance staff with the error(s) listed for
reperting periods	each building. Notifications are completed and sent in the order
	received.
My property has been placed in	If you feel there may be an issue, please ensure you have submitted
service, but I don't see it in the	the required forms – Emphasys Unit Data Spreadsheet, Placed In
system. What do I need to do?	Service form found on the website <u>here.</u> Also, be sure that the forms
system. What do rheed to do:	are complete, all applicable tabs have been filled out and that the PIS
	form accurately captures the Acquisition or Rehab PIS dates, if
	applicable. Remember, one building must have an "actual" placed-in-
	service date, not an "anticipated" date, to begin setting up the project.
	If you have verified all the above, please
	email <a href="mailto:hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov">hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov</a> . Also, properties are set up in the
	order received.
How do I know if my project is in an	To determine if a property is in an eligible rural area, click <u>USDA Rural</u>
eligible Rural Development (RD) area	Development Eligibility and then select the 'Multifamily-Housing'
and thus should use the NNMI limits?	program link. Partners with projects eligible to use the NNMI limits
	should notify DCA and provide a screenshot of the USDA RD Eligibility
	page for each project. Learn more about the DCA Compliance
	requirements in our previously published Blast April 18, 2022
	Compliance Blast
My National Non-Metro Income Limits	Is your project in a designated rural development, and thus should be
(NNMI) are incorrect; what do I do?	using the NNMI limits? First, be sure that you are reviewing the
(*******, *****************************	correct income limits. Refer to the LIHTC and HOME Compliance
	Manual to ensure you are reviewing the correct limits based on the
	placed-in-service dates, among other factors. If you need further
	assistance, email <a href="mailto:https://doi.org/10.1007/j.min.edu/https:&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;I have checked my Non-Metro Income&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;If you have verified that you are comparing the correct limits and the&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;Limits and the HUD MTSP limits. My&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;limits are still incorrect, email &lt;a href=" mailto:hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov"="">hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov</a> to alert DCA
limits are still incorrect, what do I do?	to your concern(s).
My property has missing buildings,	Please email <a href="mailto:hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov">hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov</a> with the Project ID#, Project
units, and/or incorrect units who do I	name, and building/units that are missing. All requests are handled in
contact?	the order they are received.
336361	the order they are received.



Why hasn't my last report date	Only DCA can add missing units to Emphasys. Submit your request to
changed after I just completed it?	hfdemphasys@dca.ga.gov. Be sure to include the Project Name,
	Project ID#, Building #, and Unit #.

#### **APPENDIX A**

#### **XML Upload Error Messages**

Error Log: "No Records found in Upload File ... Please call Software Provider"

Explanation: The XML File is empty. It was created without data.

2. Error Log: "Missing Project ID"

Explanation: At least one record in the XML File has an empty Project ID field.

Error Log: "Missing or Invalid Building ID"

Explanation: At least one record in the XML File has an empty or an invalid value in the

Building ID field. The correct format is: 2-digit State (string), 2-digit Year (numeric) and 5-digit building number (numeric). <a href="Example: TN9900011">Example: TN9900011</a>

Error Log: "Missing Unit ID"

Explanation: At least one record in the XML File has an empty Unit ID field.

Error Log: "Project ID Not Found in HFA Database"

Explanation: At least one record in the XML File has a Project ID value which does not

match the existing Project IDs in the COL System for that Property Manager.

The incorrect Project ID value is displayed on the error log.

Error Log: "Building ID Not Found in HFA Database"

Explanation: At least one record in the XML File has a Building ID value which does not

match the existing Building IDs in the COL System for that Property Manager.

The incorrect Building ID value is displayed on the error log.

7. Error Log: "Unit ID Not Found in HFA Database"

Explanation: At least one record in the XML File has a Unit ID value which does not match

any of the existing Unit IDs in the COL System for that building.

The incorrect Unit ID value is displayed on the error log.

8. Error Log: "Missing or Invalid Report Period Starting Date"

"Missing or Invalid Report Period Ending Date"

Explanation: The building's Reporting Period Starting Date and/or Reporting Period Ending

date is either empty or contain non-numeric or invalid characters.

Error Log: "Invalid Unit Bedroom Size"

Explanation: At least one unit record in the XML File has an empty or non-numeric

bedroom size value.

The Unit ID with the invalid bedroom size is displayed on the error log.

Please review the DCA website for additional guidance and training.

https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/rental-housing-development/compliance-monitoring

# **DCA LIHTC & HOME Compliance Manual**

https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:02265c14 -1d95-4291-bdae-e63521c77a79