

# Rural Oregon Continuum Of Care

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## Transfer Policy

Board Approved: August 22, 2024

### Emergency Transfers

The Rural Oregon Continuum of Care (ROCC) is concerned about the safety of its clients, and such concern extends to clients who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. In accordance with the Violence Against Women Act:

- 1) ROCC agencies allow clients who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to request an emergency transfer from their current unit to another unit. The ability to request a transfer is available regardless of the client's sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.
- 2) The ability of ROCC agencies to honor such request for clients currently receiving assistance, however, may depend upon a preliminary determination that the client is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and on whether the landlord has another dwelling unit that is available and is safe to offer the tenant for temporary or more permanent occupancy.

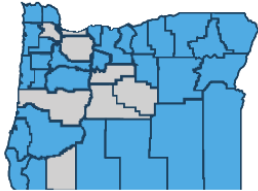
This plan identifies clients who are eligible for an emergency transfer, the documentation needed to request an emergency transfer, confidentiality protections, how an emergency transfer may occur, and guidance to clients on safety and security.

#### I. Eligibility for Emergency Transfers

A client who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as provided in HUD's regulations at 24 CFR part 5, subpart L is eligible for an emergency transfer, if: the client reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the client remains within the same unit. If the client is a victim of sexual assault, the client may also be eligible to transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises within the 90-calendar-day period preceding a request for an emergency transfer.

A client requesting an emergency transfer must expressly request the transfer in accordance with the procedures described in this plan.

Clients who are not in good standing with their landlord may still request an emergency transfer if they meet the eligibility requirements in this section.



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### II. Moving to Another Unit

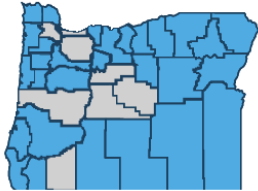
Upon your request, Housing Provider may permit you to move to another unit, subject to the availability of other units, and still keep your assistance. In order to approve a request, Housing Provider may ask you to provide documentation that you are requesting to move because of an incidence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If the request is a request for emergency transfer, the housing provider may ask you to submit a written request or fill out a form where you certify that you meet the criteria for an emergency transfer under VAWA. The criteria are:

- (1) You are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If your housing provider does not already have documentation that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, your housing provider may ask you for such documentation, as described in the documentation section below.
- (2) You expressly request the emergency transfer. Your housing provider may choose to require that you submit a form, or may accept another written or oral request.
- (3) You reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your current unit. This means you have a reason to fear that if you do not receive a transfer you would suffer violence in the very near future.

OR

You are a victim of sexual assault and the assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period before you request a transfer. If you are a victim of sexual assault, then in addition to qualifying for an emergency transfer because you reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your unit, you may qualify for an emergency transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises of the property from which you are seeking your transfer, and that assault happened within the 90-calendar-day period before you expressly request the transfer.

Housing Provider will keep confidential requests for emergency transfers by victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and the location of any move by such victims and their families. The Housing Provider



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emergency transfer plan provides further information on emergency transfers, and Housing Provider must make a copy of its emergency transfer plan available to you if you ask to see it.

### **III. Documenting You Are or Have Been a Victim of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking**

The Housing Provider can, but is not required to, ask you to provide documentation to "certify" that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Any such request from the Housing Provider must be in writing, and the Housing Provider must give you at least 14 business days (Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays do not count) from the day you receive the request to provide the documentation. The Housing Provider may, but does not have to, extend the deadline for the submission of documentation upon your request.