



National Veterans'  
Technical Assistance Center

# Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) "At Risk" Criteria Feedback Session

Community of Practice

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# Reminder

HVRP best practices will be shared during this session. NVTAC encourages all grantees to utilize best practices that may improve their service delivery. Before implementing a practice discussed during this session, please review your award statement of work and contact your Grant Officer's Technical Representative (GOTR) to discuss if it is an allowable cost or activity or if it requires an amendment to your approved plan.

# “At Risk” Criteria Overview

# “At Risk” Criteria (1 of 3)

Under HVRP, there are two categories of “at risk of homelessness” veterans:

- Veterans who, at program entry, are at risk of homelessness within 15–60 days (Note: Veterans who are within 14 days of homelessness are considered at “imminent risk” and are defined as homeless); **and**
- Veterans recently released (within the last 12 months) from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness

# “At Risk” Criteria (2 of 3)

In alignment with other federal entities (referring to the Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD]’s Criteria for Defining At Risk of Homelessness), the “at risk of homelessness” criteria is defined as an individual or family who:

- (i) Has an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for the geographical area; **AND**
- (ii) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place defined in Category 1 of the “homeless” definition; **AND**

# “At Risk” Criteria (3 of 3)

(iii) Meets one of the following conditions:

- (A) Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance; **OR**
- (B) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship; **OR**
- (C) Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance; **OR**
- (D) Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals; **OR**
- (E) Lives in a single room occupancy (SRO) or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than 2 persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than one and a half persons per room; **OR**
- (F) Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care; **OR**
- (G) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

[HVRP Eligibility Changes Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

# Median Household Income

- Grant recipients should use the “Median Household Income” data source from the [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts](#) to calculate the median household income for their geographic location
  - Grant recipients may use the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) [Consumer Price Index \(CPI\) Inflation Calculator](#) to adjust the income data to current dollars prior to the 30 percent calculation
- There is an income calculator tool for determining a veteran’s income level to meet the definitions of at risk of homelessness on the [HVRP website](#) under “Program Resources and Partners”
- Copies of calculations used should be maintained in the participant’s case file

[HVRP Eligibility Changes Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)



# FAQ (1 of 5)

**Q: Is there still a limit on the percentage of participants that can be at risk of homelessness?**

**A:** There is no limit on the percentage of HVRP participants served by a grant recipient who are at risk of homelessness. The number of enrollments that come from the “at risk of homelessness” category can vary depending on local circumstances. GOTRs will regularly monitor the report of homeless and “at risk of homelessness” participants to ensure enrollments reflect the needs of the grant recipient’s service delivery area.

[HVRP Eligibility Changes Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

# FAQ (2 of 5)

**Q: When determining eligibility for at risk of homelessness, do all three criteria have to be met?**

**A:** Yes. The individual or family must have income below 30 percent of median income for the geographic area; and have insufficient resources immediately available to attain housing stability; and meet one of the following conditions: have moved frequently because of economic reasons, or are living in the home of another because of economic hardship, or have been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated, or live in a hotel or motel, or live in severely overcrowded housing, or are exiting an institution, or otherwise live in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

[HVRP Eligibility Changes Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

# FAQ (3 of 5)

**Q: What categories of veterans must meet the “at risk of homelessness” criteria?**

**A:** The following two categories must meet the criteria for “at risk of homelessness”:

1. Veterans who, at program entry, are at risk of homelessness within 15–60 days (Note: Veterans who are within 14 days of homelessness are considered at “imminent risk” and are defined as homeless), and
2. Veterans recently released (within the last 12 months) from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness.

[HVRP Eligibility Changes Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

# FAQ (4 of 5)

**Q: Is there a minimum service-connected disability or can it be a rating of zero percent?**

**A:** The statute does not state the disability must be compensable, only that the veteran received a service-connected disability rating. This would include a zero percent rating.

[HVRP Eligibility Changes Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

# FAQ (5 of 5)

**Q: Does VA disability income count toward 30 percent AMI?**

**A:** For the purposes of determining income for HVRP participants, VA disability compensation is **not** included as income. However, VA disability compensation may be considered a sufficient resource to prevent the veteran from moving to emergency shelter (Please reference criteria ii on slide 6 for more information on this requirement).

[HVRP Eligibility Changes Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

# “At Risk” Feedback Discussion

**Do you feel that the current HVRP criteria for the “at risk of homelessness” category effectively captures individuals who are at risk of homelessness? Why or why not?**

**What impact has the 30 percent of median income threshold had on your ability to enroll veterans who are at risk of homelessness?**



**Are there any additional factors or life events that you believe should be taken into consideration for the “at risk of homelessness” criteria?**

**In your experience, what has been working well with the current definition?**

**Are there any promising practices or approaches you have utilized when applying the “at risk of homelessness” definition?**



**Questions?**

# Thank you!

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