

Support Vital Rental Assistance for Massachusetts Residents

The Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) keeps families housed and prevents homelessness by ensuring affordable housing remains accessible to those with extremely low incomes.

A strong and stable MRVP ensures Massachusetts families can access safe, affordable housing—now and in the future.

At a time of increasing housing challenges and unpredictable federal support, MRVP provides a stable, state-managed solution to keep families housed.

nearly
11,000
households
served per year

Fund MRVP at \$300 million for FY26

\$253 million to sustain current vouchers
\$47 million to create 2,300 new vouchers

MRVP vouchers are cost-effective: the state can provide families experiencing homelessness secure, stable housing for **\$6,800 less per month** than emergency shelter

168,000 households are on the waitlist for MRVP

Nearly two-thirds of extremely low-income (ELI) renters in Massachusetts are housing insecure, spending more than 50% of their income on rent

“Right now I’m paying more than half my income in rent! I’m counting on a voucher to get veterans like me into stable housing I can afford.”

-MRVP waitlist member

Cosponsor HD.2020/SD.1753

An Act Codifying the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program

MRVP does not currently exist in statute, though it was created in 1992 and is a \$219 million+ program

Codifying MRVP strengthens the housing ecosystem by establishing a long-term framework for tenant-based and project-based vouchers. It ensures sustained affordability in all communities while providing greater certainty for voucher holders, property owners, and developers

MRVP keeps projects financed by the Affordable Homes Act attainable for the lowest-income households

Establishing MRVP in state law ensures clear guidelines, reporting processes, and oversight, helping the program remain effective and responsive to housing needs

“MRVP kept me off the streets when I was paying more rent than my income.”

-MRVP holder