

Criminal Screening Information

The West Plains Housing Authority (WPHA) requires all applicants age 18 and over to submit to criminal screening prior to approval. A tenant background check company (also called a tenant screening company) is engaged by the WPHA to put together a report about all household members age 18 and older. The WPHA will use these reports to determine suitability for program participation. Public record information through Missouri Case Net, the sex offender registry, and reports from law enforcement agencies will also be viewed when determining suitability for admission.

HUD regulations state that any individuals who are a registered sex offender or who have been convicted of manufacturing methamphetamine in Public Housing will automatically be denied admission in both the Public Housing and Section 8 programs. The WPHA has adopted in its Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policies (ACOP) and Section Administrative Plan (Admin Plan) the guidelines used to determine program eligibility based on findings in criminal screening. To review these guidelines, please contact our office during the posted hours to view the ACOP or Admin Plan.

Screening is completed at no cost to the applicant. Full completion of the Application for Admission, related paperwork, and authorization of criminal screening is a requirement to be considered for program admission. Refusing to complete required documentation will result in a housing application being cancelled.

If the WPHA makes a negative decision based on applicant screening, the applicant will be provided with an "adverse action" notice in writing. A copy of the report used in determining program suitability will be provided upon request. Any replies will be handled in accordance with the agency's grievance procedure, which is posted for reference and available during operating hours at the main office.