



Clackamas County FAQ's

What is Rent Well?

Rent Well is a class that helps people to find and keep affordable rental housing. We do this by helping class participants to:

- Learn about housing laws, the rental process, and tenant rights and responsibilities
- Build stronger communication, problem-solving, and self-advocacy skills
- Prepare for the rental application process
- Understand and address issues that may come up when a landlord does a background check

Rent Well graduates also get:

- A certificate of completion that they can show to landlords
- A financial guarantee for landlords who choose to rent to them
- Help with some application and move-in costs

What will I learn in class?

Class topics include:

- Affordable Housing Options
- Understanding A Landlord's Point of View And Expectations
- Housing Laws and Tenant Rights
- Budgeting Basics
- Property Maintenance and Repairs
- Rental Rules and Agreements
- Professional Communication

We also focus on tools renters can use to get approved for housing even if their background includes things like:

- Evictions
- Poor or No Credit
- Short or No Rental History
- Criminal History
- Low Income
- Unstable Employment
- Money Owed to A Past Landlord

What does this cost?

Our classes are free for Clackamas County residents who meet our income guidelines.

Can Rent Well help me pay my rent?

No. Please call Clackamas County Housing Rights and Resources at (503) 650-5750 for information about programs that may be able to help with paying rent.

Am I guaranteed to get into housing after I take Rent Well?

No. We can't guarantee that a landlord will choose to rent to you, but we can help you understand the reasons why they might choose not to. Once you know what these reasons are, we can help you come up with a personalized plan to help you get approved. After you graduate, you can also use the Landlord Guarantee Fund, which may make some landlords more willing to rent to you.

What is the Landlord Guarantee Fund?

The Landlord Guarantee Fund is a financial incentive program for landlords who choose to rent to Rent Well graduates. The fund offers to pay landlords up to \$1,000 if the graduate leaves their rental home within the first year and there are unpaid costs beyond what their security deposit will cover.

Can I take Rent Well if I don't live in Clackamas County?

Please visit www.rentwell.org or call 2-1-1 to find out if there are classes available in your area.

Do you teach classes in languages other than English?

Classes are taught in English unless otherwise stated. Please let us know if you need an interpreter.

We also teach some classes in Spanish. Please call (503) 650-5647 for more information about Spanish classes.

Is childcare provided?

Childcare is available through our partner childcare centers and must be reserved in advance. Please let us know as soon as possible if you need childcare. Children are not allowed in class.

Who can I contact if I have other questions?

Please call (503) 650-5647 or email rentwellclackamascounty@gmail.com