

Eligibility Policy

Common Ground Queensland will adhere to the Department of Housing and Public Works (Housing Services) Common Eligibility Criteria in its response to applicants for housing. There are criteria which must be satisfied in the following areas:

1. Australian citizenship or permanent residency;
2. Queensland residency;
3. Assets test (property ownership and liquid assets);
4. Liquid assets;
5. Independent income; and
6. Housing income limits; and
7. Appropriateness of current housing.

The Department of Housing and Public Works' Common Eligibility Criteria is available in this management system and on the Department of Housing and Public Works website.

Within the eligibility criteria, Common Ground Queensland's mission is to provide supportive housing to homeless people or people at risk of homelessness as well as those who meet low to moderate income eligibility limits. Our supportive housing philosophy is "The integration of housing, support services and the community to assist people who are chronically homeless. *Housing should be easy to get into and hard to fall out of*". As such, our eligibility criteria include:

- Any person who is chronically homeless;
- Any person who is at risk of chronic homelessness;
- Any person who has experienced chronic homelessness and could break the cycle of homelessness if accommodated in a Common Ground Queensland property; and
- Any person on low income who would benefit from the supportive housing philosophy when housed in a Common Ground Queensland property or who would contribute to the success of a Common Ground Queensland property.

The *Tenant Selection Procedure* is designed to reflect these criteria and the Common Eligibility Criteria.

After people are housed by Common Ground Queensland, continuing eligibility of tenants is assessed on an on-going basis. The Department of Housing and Public Works (Housing Services) Duration of Need Policy and Ongoing Eligibility Policy are used in these assessments.

This Eligibility Policy will be amended as required when an assistance agreement is entered into with the Department of Housing and Public Works so as to satisfy any specific eligibility criteria of that agreement.

Procedures that Implement

This policy will be actively implemented by adherence to the following procedures:

- Tenancy Management (Residential) Procedure
- Tenant Selection Procedure
- Tenant Transfer Procedure