

## **Concessionary Rent for Dedicated Rehousing Estate (DRE) Subsidised Rental Units**

1. If an applicant and household member(s) encounter financial difficulties, they should submit their application for Concessionary Rent (CR) together with their application for DRE subsidised rental units to the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS). **No application will be accepted thereafter.**
2. Applicant and household member(s) listed in the application form should fulfil “no domestic property ownership in Hong Kong”<sup>Note 1</sup> and “no double housing benefits requirements” and pass the means test pitched at the prevailing income and asset limits<sup>Note 2</sup> of Waiting List Income Limit (WLIL) and Waiting List Asset Limit (WLAL) for applying Group A Estates<sup>Note 3</sup>, the HKHS will provide CR for eligible households for 5 years, counting from the commencement of the tenancy of DRE subsidised rental units. The discount rate of CR is 25% of the normal rent (i.e. a 25% reduction on normal rent<sup>Note 4</sup> (rent is exclusive of rates).
3. Nearing the end of the first 5-year period (i.e. 6 months before the expiry of the concessionary period), if households still have financial difficulties, they are required to re-apply at the respective estate offices and declare their financial status (including but not limited to ownership of domestic property in Hong Kong, income and assets). The HKHS will assess whether the households are still eligible to continue enjoying CR based on the prevailing WLIL and WLAL<sup>Note 2</sup> applicable to Group A Estates<sup>Note 3</sup>. Households are required to take an oath according to the Oaths and Declarations Ordinance (Cap. 11) on the information supplied by them.
4. Households are not allowed to apply for both CR and RAS at the same time.
5. Households who are determined ineligible for CR after assessment or households whose enjoyment of CR was ceased, are not allowed to reapply CR within the tenancy period.
6. After the HKHS’s approval of CR and during the enjoyment of CR, households should immediately notify the estate office of any changes in family circumstances (including but not limited to addition/deletion of household member(s) or take over tenancy or changes in marital status, etc.) and/or improvement of household financial status that affect the eligibility of CR. They should submit the required documents as needed to the HKHS for reassessment of CR eligibility. If households are determined to be ineligible for CR after reassessment, they cannot continue to enjoy CR and will need to pay rent according to their household income level under prevailing Well-off Tenants Policy (WTP).
7. If the tenant is deceased, his/her spouse who is listed on the tenancy agreement, subject to the fulfilment of eligibility criteria for TOV, will take over tenancy and can continue to enjoy CR. Any other reason(s) for TOV, or application for TOV by other listed household member on the tenancy agreement (including divorced spouse i.e Absolute Decree of Divorce is obtained) will result in the cessation of household’s enjoyment of CR and he/she will need to pay rent according to his/her household income level under prevailing WTP. If the tenant has financial difficulties, he/she may apply for RAS.
8. To prevent abuse, the HKHS will randomly select approved cases for vigorous checking to ensure that the CR recipients are still eligible for CR, both at the time of application and during the period of enjoying CR.

9. According to HKHS's enhanced WTP, former HKHS tenants and all of their household members aged 18 or above at the time of tenancy termination due to making false declarations or breaching any terms of the tenancy agreement will not be allowed to re-apply for public rental housing for a period of five years starting from the day after tenancy termination. If the household who applying for public rental housing include the ex-tenant or his / her household members aged 18 or above has unsettled rent arrears / arrears of their former rental flat, a flat will not be offered to the household. In this regard, the HKHS will report relevant tenant information to the Hong Kong Housing Authority.
10. If any persons knowingly and wilfully provide false statement or conceal any information in order to obtain CR, they commit a criminal offence. The applicant and household member(s) listed in the application form will be liable for prosecution and the HKHS will cancel the application and cease the household's enjoyment of CR. The household has to pay the rent undercharged to the HKHS. At the same time, the HKHS will consider serving "Notice to Quit" to recover possession of the rental unit.

Note 1: Definition of "Ownership of Domestic Property in Hong Kong":

- (i) Applicant and his / her household member(s) included in the application form has / have
  - (a) Owned or co-owned or have an interest in any domestic property in Hong Kong; or
  - (b) Entered into any agreement (including provisional agreement) to purchase any domestic property in Hong Kong; or
  - (c) Owned more than 50% of the shares in a company which directly or through a subsidiary company owned any domestic property in Hong Kong; or
  - (d) Been a beneficiary of the estate of any deceased person which includes any domestic property or land in Hong Kong.
- (ii) If the applicant and his / her household member(s) on the application form not wholly assign any domestic properties in Hong Kong or any interest in such properties in Hong Kong (the date of assignment means the date of execution of the Deed of Assignment).
- (iii) 'Domestic property' includes any domestic property, uncompleted private domestic property, rooftop structure approved by the Building Authority, domestic building lots and small house grants approved by the Lands Department in Hong Kong.

Note 2: The HKHS will review the application waiting list income and asset limits for the rental estates annually, please note the latest announcement.

Note 3: Rental Estates of the HKHS are classified into Group A and B. Please contact the estate staff or browse the website of the HKHS ([www.hkhs.com](http://www.hkhs.com)) for the categories of the Rental Estates.

Note 4: The HKHS will periodically review the normal rent level of rental units.

### **Enquiries**

The above information is for reference only. For details, please contact the Estate Office so that we can render assistance.

Last Review Date: 3/2025