

# HomeBASE Overview





HomeBASE provides an **alternative response to shelter** through **flexible financial assistance for housing and stabilization** with the goal of **rapidly ending homelessness and increasing economic self-sufficiency.**





# HomeBASE Overview

HomeBASE is a rapid re-housing program designed to support low-income families in securing long-term housing stability.

## Who is eligible for HomeBASE?

### Front Door Eligibility

Families experiencing homelessness who also **qualify for Emergency Assistance (EA)** temporary shelter

### Back Door Eligibility

Families experiencing homelessness who are **currently housed in EA temporary shelter**

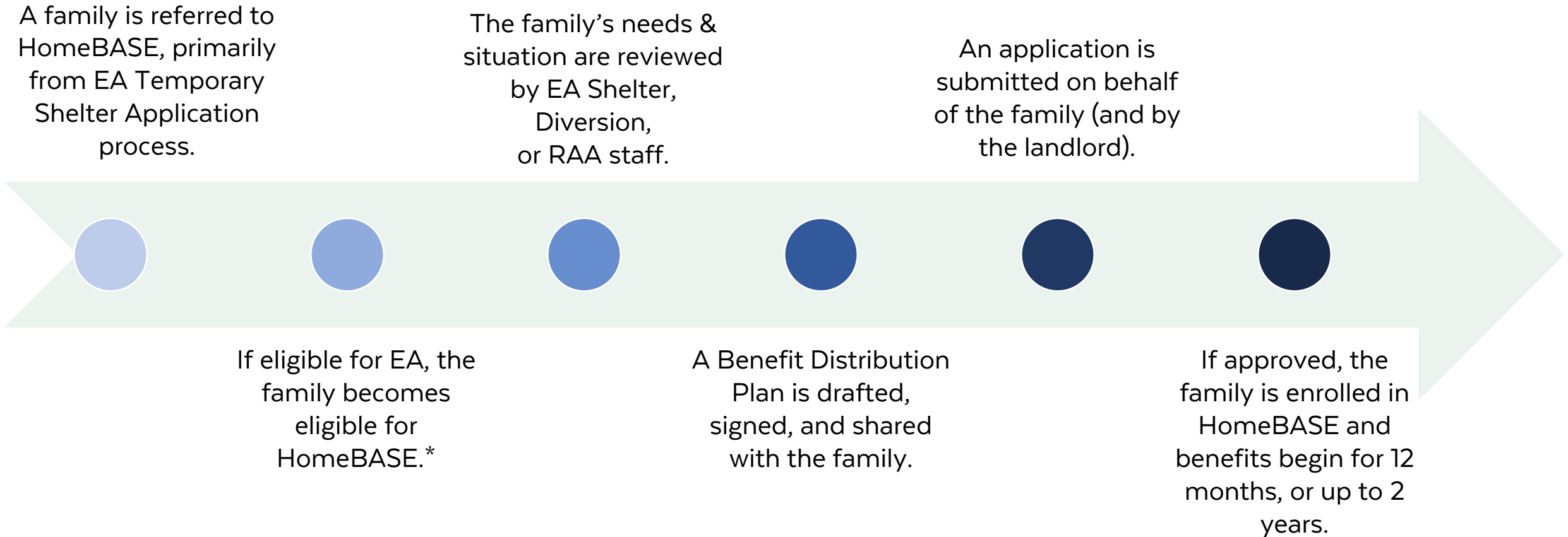
### Side Door Eligibility

Households **residing in domestic violence (DV) shelters** (DPH) or **residential family treatment programs** (Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS))

HomeBASE is administered regionally by Regional Administering Agencies (RAAs), in coordination with certain EOHLC and Diversion staff.



# How does it work? The Big Picture:



\*Eligibility verification process differs depending on how a family is referred to HomeBASE.

# Summary of Recent Changes



# Rehousing Reforms announced in July

*These reforms will target HomeBASE to the families who most need it, to support them out of homelessness, and will target case management so that the program better supports families on the path to self-sufficiency.*

TARGETING	TRACKING	<b>Improve data collection on exits outcomes</b>	Modernize and standardize data collection to better understand exit outcomes and target services that best help families achieve stable housing.	Live
		<b>Introduce annual income checks</b>	Recheck EA income eligibility at point of HomeBASE application	Live
		<b>Better Target Year 2 of Stabilization Services</b>	Beginning next calendar year, target second year of stabilization services so that it is more based on need and focused on families receiving a rental stipend.	Early 2026
		<b>Pause approvals for year 3 of HomeBASE</b>	Pause year 3 approvals starting July 1 to prioritize serving the most families exiting or diverting from shelter with the resources available.	Live

# Stabilization Changes launched in November

## Stabilization Assessment

Tool for stabilization intake to identify barriers to stability and collect key data points

- Similar model to the Rehousing Assessment and Rehousing Plan
- New Touch point in ETO
- Used by stabilization case workers
- Conducted once for each family

## Stabilization Plan Updates

The plan will serve as a crucial tool in gathering key data points along the families path towards stability

- Available in ETO, but also a printout version to work on with the family
- The aim is to improve reduce the administrative burden / length of the touchpoint and better hone in on key data points

## New Stabilization Dismissal Reasons

New questions will be added to the exit touchpoint to help better track

- Referrals
- Stabilization off ramp plan (e.g. stable housing, moving in with family, moving somewhere with lower cost of living, etc.)

## Income verification

Changes to ensure we have necessary documentation

- Should be done during monthly check-ins
- Income documentation should be added to the stabilization touchpoint in ETO at the 12-month mark

Q&A



# FAQ – General

## How long does the program last, and what is the duration of the assistance?

- HomeBASE provides funding for up to two years with a maximum total benefit amount of \$30K. Families currently are enrolled in HomeBASE for the full two years even if they have exhausted their financial benefit (rental stipend)
- However, it is worth noting that:
  - In July 2025, we were forced to pause the review and approval of year 3 of HomeBASE as a result of fiscal constraints
  - As of January 1, 2026, Stabilization services will be tied to the receipt of a rental stipend for families in year 2 of HomeBASE. In other words, families who exhaust their rental stipend in year 2 will be un-enrolled in stabilization services

## What are the next steps after completion of the program, and are there any options for continued support?

- Stabilization providers work with families on their Stabilization plan throughout the duration of their program enrollment. This includes the identification of resources, programs, supports the family needs and referring families to those resources

## How often are landlords allowed to increase rent, and how is the amount the participant owes and home base pays adjusted

- The lease families sign should follow best practices, including a set monthly rental amount for the duration of the lease
- If a landlord decides to increase rent from one year to the next, there are no restrictions prohibiting them from doing so
- If the rent increase is prohibitive, the family can work with their stabilization case worker to search for a new unit and lease to move to for year 2

# FAQ – Rent Contributions

## How is the amount that the participant has to pay calculated, and what factors are taken into consideration?

- Participants must pay 30% of their income towards rent. The remaining can be covered by HomeBASE until their benefit amount is exhausted
- If a participant does not have any income, HomeBASE can cover the full rent amount, so long as their benefit amount has not been exhausted

## What happens to the calculation when a household loses income from job loss due to things like employment authorization being revoked?

- The household should contact their stabilization case worker as soon as there are any changes to their income or employment status in order to ensure their rental distribution plan matches their current needs

## How does the program help households with \$2000 monthly income achieve sustainability when their rent is equally high?

- Stabilization workers conduct a stabilization assessment on a quarterly basis to assist families in crafting their Stabilization plan. The program helps households stabilize based on their individualized needs, which can vary from referrals to legal services to assisting in finding a new lease for year 2 if the rent become prohibitive in year 1.

## How often are landlords allowed to increase rent, and how is the amount the participant owes and home base pays adjusted

- The lease families sign should follow best practices, including a set monthly rental amount for the duration of the lease. The leases should not allow a landlord to unilaterally increase rent **from month-to-month**
- There are no program restrictions prohibiting a landlord from increasing rent **from one year to the next**
  - If a rent increase is prohibitive, the family can work with their stabilization case worker to search for a new unit and lease to move to for year 2

# Questions?

