



HARVEY HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

KEY STEPS



First Steps

- Check your eligibility (See next column)
- Find a realtor
- 8-hour Homebuyer Education Course
- Get a pre-approval letter from a lender for a fixed-rate mortgage



Application

Start by calling 832-393-0550 (available 8am-5pm M-F)

- Receive HAP (Homebuyer Assistance Program) number
- Collect documents on the Applicant Document Checklist
- Submit documents (online portal preferred)



Eligibility Check

- Checking household income (<120% Area Median Income)
- Checking Harvey impact (were you in Houston 8/25/2017)
- Checking other requirements (See next column)



Property Review

Lenders submit required documents to HCDD

Eligible types of homes:

- Single-family property
- Condominiums or townhomes
- Cooperative units
- Manufactured homes on permanent foundation



Environmental and Safety Inspections

Things we're looking at:

- Historic areas
- lead
- quality building materials
- hazards
- chemicals
- safety
- noise



Underwriting

HCDD will secure your funding

- You will receive funding on the day of your closing



Closing

- Lenders submit pre-closing documents
- Funds are wired to your title company on day of your closing
- Lenders submit post-closing documents

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

ELIGIBILITY

YOU MUST:

- be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident
- be willing to contribute \$350 to the home purchase
- be a first-time homebuyer OR be replacing a home lost during Hurricane Harvey
- have lived within the City of Houston jurisdiction on August 25, 2017
- have a household income at or below 120% of Area Median Income
- have a debt-to-income (back-end) ratio less than 45%
- not be a registered sex offender

YOUR NEW HOME MUST:

- be located within the City of Houston jurisdiction
- meet environmental and safety requirements
- be able to pass our internal inspection

AFFORDABILITY PERIOD

The City wants to ensure that our investment in your home will actually be used by you, so we place a five-year second lien on homes purchased with help from the Harvey Homebuyer Assistance Program. This lien takes the form of a loan, which is automatically forgiven after five years. If your home is in a flood plain, you must also maintain flood insurance for the duration of this period. If you need to sell your home or move out before the five-year period ends, you will need to pay back a pro-rated portion of that loan amount.

TIPS TO MAKE THE PROCESS GO FASTER

- Check your eligibility before trying to apply.
- Have all your documents ready to go.
- Provide an email address when you call 832-393-0550 to begin your application.
- Upload documents to the applicant portal at recovery.houstontx.gov/hbap.
- Respond to requests for additional information in a timely manner.

To check the status of your application, please call **832-393-0550**.

LEARN MORE: RECOVERY.HOUSTONTX.GOV/HBAP

To file a complaint or submit an appeal, please visit recovery.houstontx.gov/complaints and recovery.houstontx.gov/request-for-appeal

