

What is the Private Rental Assistance Program?

Private Rental Assistance Program (PRAP) provides people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness with financial and practical assistance to establish and maintain private rental tenancies. PRAP is funded by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

PRAP is intended to prevent or end homelessness and housing crisis by:

- Rapidly rehousing people capable of sustaining private rental after initial support
- Supporting at risk households to sustain affordable and appropriate housing in the private rental market
- Assisting people who currently live in crisis, transitional or social housing to become independent in the private rental market.

PRAP is a preventative intervention that provides holistic support to households experiencing or at risk of homelessness. It should be delivered in a flexible manner, to provide support and practical assistance that is tailored to the needs of each household. PRAP includes three elements:

- Private rental brokers
- Private rental assistance brokerage
- PRAP Plus – support program

Target group and eligibility

To be eligible for PRAP, households must be either financially disadvantaged or victims of family violence. A household is considered to be experiencing financial disadvantage if:

- a. they have no income; or Private rental assistance program guidelines revised October 2019 2
- b. their main source of income is a Centrelink benefit; or
- c. their income is insufficient to sustain their personal financial commitments and they have defaulted in the payment of rent, utility bills or other personal debts.