

Salem Housing Authority

Veterans' Preference

Veteran

For purposes of this act "veteran" means any honorably discharged officer, soldier, sailor, airman, marine or nurse who served in any Army, Air Force or Navy of the Allies of the United States in World War I, between July 14, 1914, and November 11, 1918, or who served in any Army, Air Force or Navy of the Allies of the United States in World War II, between September 1, 1939, and September 2, 1945, and who was inducted into such service through voluntary enlistment, and was a citizen of the United States at the time of such enlistment, and who did not, during or by reason of such service, renounce or lose United States citizenship, and any officer, soldier, sailor, marine, airman, nurse or army field clerk, who has served in the active military or naval service of the United States and has or shall be discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable, in any of the following wars, uprisings, insurrections, expeditions, or emergencies listed below, and who has presented to the retirement system evidence of such record of service in form and content satisfactory to said retirement system.

Disability Preference

A preference for a family who includes a family member who is a person with disabilities. However, there cannot be a preference for a specific disability.

Veteran of the United States Armed Forces

Only veterans discharged or released from active duty in the armed forces under honorable conditions are eligible for veterans' preference. This means you must have been discharged under an honorable or general discharge.

If you are a "retired member of the armed forces" you are not included in the definition of this preference unless you are a disabled veteran or retired below the rank of major or its equivalent.

The surviving spouse of a Veteran who died outside of service is entitled to the same preference as the Veteran, up until they remarry

Ranking Preferences

Any family terminated from the Salem Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher or Public Housing programs due to insufficient program funding receives the highest selection preference. Families who qualify for a disability preference or Veterans Preference are equal in selection preferences.

Applicants will be placed on the waiting list based on preference and draw in the lottery.

Veteran Service Criteria

To qualify for the Veterans Preference, the Veteran must have served on active duty during a qualifying war era. The following documents will be needed to prove this service occurred:

- WD Form 53-55 or DD Form 214
- Honorable Discharge Certificate
- Additional documents as needed

Qualifying Service Events

The amount of active-duty service required to qualify for Veterans Preference varies by war era. Regardless of war era, active-duty service accrued during the following Reserve or National Guard training obligations does NOT count towards the Veterans Preference active-duty requirement:

Basic Training

Advanced Training

Officer Candidate School

Weekend Drills

Annual Training

To qualify for Veterans Preference, the following war eras require at least 90 days of active-duty service, begun within the specified windows:

World War II -September 16, 1940 to December 31, 1946 (including Merchant Marine Personnel)

Korean Conflict June 23, 1950 to January 31, 1955

Vietnam Conflict December 31, 1960 to May 7, 1975

To qualify for Veterans Preference, the following war eras require at least 14 days of active-duty service begun within the specified window or at least 1 day of active-duty service begun within the specified window and received a service incurred injury or disability

The service was in the geographic area or on a ship patrolling the territorial water of the nation (or in airspace over it, in the case of Bosnia/Herzegovina)

Lebanon Crisis July 1, 1958 to November 1, 1958

Lebanon Peacekeeping Mission September 26, 1982 to December 1, 1987

Grenada October 23, 1983 to November 21, 1983

Panama December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990

Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990

Operations Southern and Northern Watch August 27, 1992 to current

Somalia December 5, 1992 to March 31, 1994

Bosnia and Herzegovina November 20, 1995 to December 20, 1998

Haiti September 19, 1994 to March 31, 1995

Operation Enduring Freedom September 11, 2001 to current

Operation Iraqi Freedom March 19, 2003 to current