

THE RIGHT MOVE! FAIR HOUSING

You should not experience discrimination
when looking for housing in Cook County!

The Cook County Human Rights Ordinance prohibits housing discrimination based on:

Race	Disability	Housing Status
Traits associated with race (including, but not limited to, hair texture & protective styles)	National Origin	Gender Identity
Color	Ancestry	Criminal History
Sex	Sexual Orientation	Bodily Autonomy
Age	Marital Status	Pregnancy Status
Religion	Parental Status	Ethnicity
	Military Discharge Status	Caste
	Source of Income	

Examples of potential fair housing violations:

Refusing to rent based on source of income.
“No Housing Choice Vouchers” or “No Vouchers”
in apartment advertisements.

Denying housing based on family status.
“You have two infants? Unfortunately, we are an
adults-only building due to noise concerns, so
we are voiding your signed rental agreement.”

**Denying a housing application for having
a criminal record.**
“Due to your conviction, we cannot accept your
housing application.”

How You Pay Your Rent Should Not Impact Your Housing Access:

Source of income means the lawful manner by
which an individual supports themselves or their
dependents. For housing, it generally means **how
you pay for rent**.

Landlords must not discriminate against tenants
or applicants based on their source of income,
including Housing Choice Vouchers. Other examples
that are covered include emergency rental assistance
and homelessness prevention program funds.

Your Criminal Record Should Not Impact Your Housing Access:

In Cook County, including the City of Chicago,
landlords cannot deny housing applications or
discriminate against you based on your:

1. Arrest history, and
2. Conviction history older than 3 years old.

Also, if you have a conviction that is less than 3
years old, landlords should ask you questions that
allow you to give more information about the
conviction (this is called an individualized
assessment).

And don’t forget, it is illegal for there to be a question
or checkbox that asks about criminal history on an
initial housing application and on advertisements.



COOK COUNTY
Commission on
Human Rights

Contact Us:
If your housing rights have been violated, contact the Cook
County Commission on Rights and consider filing a complaint:
69 W. Washington, Suite 1130, Chicago, IL 60602
Email: human.rights@cookcountyil.gov
Phone Number: 312-603-1100
Website: CookCountyIL.Gov/CCCHR



SCAN ME

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