

THE RIGHT FIT PILOT PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS | FAQs



Q: What is the Right Fit Pilot Project (RFPP)?

A: The goals of our 3-year pilot project are to work collaboratively with partners to advance systemic improvements that: 1) Ensure affordable wheelchair-accessible housing vacancies are filled by wheelchair users who need them; 2) Make it easier for wheelchair users to find and access affordable housing that's the right fit for their needs; and 3) Provide a foundation to share RFPP solutions beyond Metro Vancouver. Read more [**The Right Fit Pilot Project Goals.**](#)

Q: Who can participate?

A: Initially, RFPP is accepting applicants aged 19-64 who are indoor wheelchair users receiving provincial Persons with Disabilities (PWD) and who are seeking housing within Metro Vancouver. Applicants must also have a current application for subsidized housing through The Housing Registry. See [**Phase 1 Eligibility**](#)

Q: What if I'm eligible for social housing but I don't receive PWD?

A: Phase 1 of our pilot is limited to PWD clients (including those receiving medical services only) who are also eligible for social housing. Future phases may broaden eligibility, based on the advice of our Steering Committee.

Q: If I meet eligibility criteria, does that mean I will be accepted?

A: Our navigators can work with a maximum active caseload of 20 applicants at any time as RFPP is a pilot with limited capacity. Our navigators will try to respond to all applicants as promptly as possible so that we can identify all potential candidates who might be a good fit for any housing vacancies that arise. If applicant demand exceeds our capacity, however, we may have to limit or delay further applicant intake.

Q: How does this help wheelchair users who need affordable housing?

A: Case management support can help better match needs to available housing and supports and ease the transition process for wheelchair users moving to a new home. Working directly with participants will also help us identify barriers so that we can propose systemic changes and improvements. Supports offered through RFPP may also reduce the risks of missing potential housing opportunities due to delays in securing supports for independent living.

Q: Will participating in the pilot help an applicant be housed faster?

A: No. Our navigators can provide information, links to useful programs and services and help clients clearly identify their needs and priorities. Case management support can also help smooth the transition process, once a suitable housing match is identified. This does not change the priority assigned to applicants who apply for social housing through The Housing Registry.

Q: How do I apply?

A: Contact one of our navigators at the Individualized Funding Resource Centre | Email: RightFit@IFRCSociety.org | Phone 604 777-7576

Q: What will happen once I contact a navigator?

A: Navigators will schedule intake meetings, usually by phone, to confirm eligibility, clarify housing needs and ensure the applicant has all the necessary paperwork to access subsidized housing and support services. If a potential housing match is identified, navigators will reconnect with the applicant to ensure they are still interested and ensure all paperwork is up-to-date. They will help with applications for health services or equipment and work with the applicant, housing and service providers to facilitate the process of providing independent living supports and moving.

Q: What type of supports and equipment does this cover?

A: Our navigators will help RFPP participants apply for Home Support services funded through the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health Authorities, including access to the CSIL (Choice in Supports for Independent Living) program. They will also help arrange medical assessments for medical equipment and devices from the Ministry for Social Development & Poverty Reduction (e.g. for bathing & toileting aids, hospital beds, pressure relief mattress and/or floor or ceiling lifting devices, based on Ministry eligibility and the individual's assessed need).

Q: What kind of housing will be available through the pilot?

Q: For Phase 1, RFPP will work with non-profit members of The Housing Registry who have a financial relationship with BC Housing and who provide subsidized, accessible housing in the Metro Vancouver region. The list includes family housing, single units, co-ops and some specialized housing providers. It does not include supportive housing, care homes or assisted living, as the focus is on wheelchair users who can live independently with home supports.

Q: What if I don't want social housing? Will this work in the private market?

A: The Right Fit Pilot project is limited to participants who need accessible affordable housing only.

Q: What are the benefits for participating housing providers?

A: Our navigators can help participating housing providers successfully match accessible unit vacancies with wheelchair users who are a good match, thus ensuring that the region's limited accessible housing stock is effectively utilized by those who need it. By helping applicants secure the right home and independent living supports, navigators will also help ensure a successful and stable new tenancy. BC Housing may also provide financial assistance to help eligible providers reserve vacancies for RFPP participants who are the right fit.

Q: How do eligible housing providers arrange to have their costs covered for reserving a unit?

A: Eligible housing providers will work with our navigators to arrange for required BC Housing subsidies, once a suitable match is identified with an RFPP participant.

Q: If a housing provider isn't affiliated with BC Housing, will they still be financially supported to reserve units?

A: No. BC Housing is only offering financial incentives to support housing providers with whom they have a financial relationship, to help them reserve available units for additional time while applicants arrange the necessary home supports to move in.

Q: When did the pilot start?

A: The pilot officially started in April 2017. Initial work focused on preparation and planning for Phase 1, which was launched in August 2017.

Q: What will Phase 2 will look like?

A: The scope of Phase 2 has not yet been determined. That will be informed by what we learn from Phase 1 about additional opportunities and barriers.

Q: Are there plans to expand beyond Metro Vancouver?

A: Our 3-year pilot is limited to wheelchair users who want to move within the Metro Vancouver region. However, we hope that lessons learned and recommendations will have province-wide relevance and future application.

Q: Who is involved in this project?

A: RFPP is led by Disability Alliance BC in partnership with the Individualized Funding Resource Centre, BC Housing, City of Vancouver, Fraser Health Authority, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority & the Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction.

Q: How is the pilot funded?

A: The project is generously funded by Vancouver Foundation & BC Rehab Foundation, with in-kind contributions from project partners.

Q: When will RFPP finish?

A: Our 3-year pilot project will end in March 2020.

Q: What happens when the project comes to an end?

A: We will issue a final report summarizing lessons learned, recommendations and systemic changes accomplished during the 3-year pilot. Our mandate includes public outreach to share the results of our work broadly with relevant BC stakeholders.

Q: Where can I find out more about The Right Fit?

A: Please visit our Website at RightFitProject.org. You can also follow us on **Twitter** (@RFPPCoordinator) or join our **Facebook group** to keep up with news about RFPP, to connect with other interested stakeholders discussing accessible affordable housing issues and solutions and/or to show your support.