



Diversity Commitment

The Village of Oak Park holds an extended commitment to the long-term diversity of the community. Oak Park rejects prejudicial behavior and enforces its local Fair Housing Ordinance which fights discrimination in housing. As espoused in the Village's Diversity Statement adopted and reaffirmed by successive Village elected officials since 1973, the Village seeks to create a mutually respectful, multicultural environment.



The Village of Oak Park
Village Hall
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302

708.383.6400
Fax 708.383.6692
TTY 708.383.0048
village@oak-park.us

For additional information about the Diversity Assurance Program, please contact:

Community Services Department
Housing Programs Division
708.358.5424
Fax 708.358.1470

ADA Compliance

The Village of Oak Park intends to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by making reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities. If you have questions about the Village's compliance, contact the Village's ADA coordinator.

Diversity Assurance

A Housing Program
for Multi-Unit Rental Buildings
of 4 or More Units



The Diversity Assurance Program

The Diversity Assurance Program is one of the proactive efforts of the Village that promotes and supports the goals of the Diversity Statement. Established in 1984, the Diversity Assurance Program has two primary financial assistance options intended to encourage rehabilitation projects in multi-family buildings. In return, the building owners list their vacancies with the Oak Park Regional Housing Center. Through this program, the Village is then able to expand the housing choices of renters in the Oak Park area, encouraging racial diversity among its residents of multi-family buildings.

What are the opportunities available with the Diversity Assurance Program?

Qualified multi-family building owners may apply for the following programs:

Matching grant program: In this program, the Village matches the owner's cost of rehabbing up to \$2,000 per unit for all buildings new to the program.

Low interest loans: Housing Bond loans for financing rehabilitation are available through the Village at a reduced 6 3/4% interest rate. Major mechanical repair or replacement loans are also available up to \$50,000.

Who is eligible for the Diversity Assurance Program?

The program is open to owners of multi-family buildings with four or more units pending:

- An evaluation of the building's historical and current racial diversity.
- An evaluation of diversity in the neighborhood.
- An evaluation of the condition of the building and its rental units.
- An evaluation of the extent to which the building owner has cooperated with the Village's Code Administration and Diversity Assurance programs in the past.

How is the Oak Park Regional Housing Center involved in the Diversity Assurance Program?

The Housing Center is the Village designated marketing agent for buildings under the Marketing Services Agreement aspect of the program. When a unit rehab is completed and ready for marketing, the Housing Center will list the unit as available for rent.

The Housing Center provides lists of Oak Park vacancies to potential tenants, striving for diversity in the Oak Park area. Depending on the Diversity Assurance Program Option the building is participating in, it may be eligible for Housing Center escorts to show the apartment.

What is a Marketing Services Agreement?

All loan or grant recipients are required to enter into a Marketing Services Agreement. It is a five year commitment to list rental unit vacancies with the Oak Park Regional Housing Center.

What if the unit remains vacant after it enrolls in the marketing program?

Owners with an authorized vacant unit may be eligible for rental reimbursement after 30 days of vacancy.

The owner may receive 80% of the last rent paid for day 31 up to day 120 if the unit is not rented during that period.

The Village and Housing Center may also recommend new marketing strategies to the building owner.

What other program criteria are there?

Participants are eligible for loans, subject to Village policy that limits the debt-to-value ratio to a maximum 80%.

For all loan and grant programs, the properties are subject to review by multiple Village departments to ensure compliance with all appropriate requirements, including payment of water bills, building license, and property taxes. All applications are also reviewed by the Housing Programs Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Village Board for final approval.