

ELIGIBILITY FOR RESIDENCE

The Next Step Center, Inc.

The following requirements must be met before an individual will be considered for residence at The Next Step Center:

1. Must meet at least one of the criteria listed on the Statement of Homelessness.
2. At least 52% of the admission to the NSC must have family incomes that do not exceed 200% of the Federal Income Poverty Guidelines.
3. If a victim of domestic violence, the victim must be beyond immediate crisis and have a current Protection from Abuse order.
4. If an individual is addicted to alcohol or controlled substance, that individual must be an active participant in an approved rehabilitation program or self-help program i.e. Twin Lakes, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Narcotics Anonymous. Random drug testing can be requested at the Director's discretion.
5. All adults (over 18) in the household must be willing to enter into a legally binding Guest/Shelter Agreement that specifies residency and liability limits, house rules, termination policies, as well as their responsibilities regarding the maintenance of the facility, mandates a maximum of 30 days stay, adherence to program rules and payment of all required fees.
6. Must be capable of independent living. In families, one parent must be capable of independent living.
7. Former Next Step Center residents will be considered on a case by case basis.
8. All individuals requesting admission must provide written proof to the Next Step Center showing their residency in Somerset County for at least 6 (six) months prior to intake. Proof shall include at least 2 (two) of the following: utility bills, rent receipts, Driver's License, etc.
9. Must have no record of sexual or violent offenses or pending offenses.
10. Must not be on parole. If on probation, the application will be reviewed by two board members and the Director and a decision to accept or reject will be made by this group.