

BECOMING A SUCCESSFUL TENANT

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SEARCH

Organize your search:

- \checkmark Decide which neighborhoods are feasible based on cost, transportation and schools
- ✓ Find out if you are eligible for any government subsidies
- ✓ Obtain your credit report and deal with any negative entries
- ✓ Prepare your "resume" so that you will be able to fill out applications quickly and completely.

Carry out the search systematically:

- ✓ Check newspaper listings, and internet listings such as "Craigslist" regularly
- ✓ Ask friends to look for vacancies
- ✓ Travel through neighborhoods you have selected for your focus to look for vacancy signs and "move in special" signs on apartment buildings
- ✓ Check out Laundromats and other local postings in your selected neighborhoods

Make a positive impression when you apply for a vacant unit

- ✓ Use your resume to make your application look "professional"
- ✓ Dress to make a good impression, just like it was a job interview
- ✓ Practice your meeting so that you will greet the rental agent with a smile and a firm handshake. Show good manners including, thanking the agent at the beginning and end of the interview for meeting with you
- ✓ Don't let children or pets become a distraction
- ✓ Don't be afraid to ask questions and to look for the points listed on the "checklist"

For assistance call Project Sentinel 408-720-9888

Project Sentinel offers neutral counseling and dispute resolution services, but not legal advice or representation.