HUD Homeless Definition Living Situation Quick Reference for Determining Chronic Homelessness Eligibility

Applicant's Current Living Situation	Is applicant considered Literally Homeless in this housing?	Is the applicant considered currently homeless for Chronic Homeless (CH) purposes?	Does time in this housing count as time homeless for CH purposes?	Notes
Emergency Shelter	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Place not meant for human habitation	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Transitional Housing (TH)	Yes	No	No	A stay in TH of 7 days or more is considered a break in homelessness. Only programs publicly funded as TH fit this category.
Rapid Rehousing (RRH)	Yes*	Yes*	No	*Individuals in an RRH subsidy program are considered eligible for CH permanent housing programs, if they were literally homeless prior to entering the program. They are not considered literally homeless for other program types.
Institutional Living Setting (Examples: acute medical facility, inpatient substance use or mental health treatment, crisis residential, hospital, jail, time-limited sober living environments or recovery residences)				
Less than 90 days	Yes, if the person was literally homeless upon program entry.	Yes, if the person was literally homeless upon program entry.	Yes, if the person was literally homeless upon program entry.	
More than 90 days	No	No	No	Stays in institutions of 90 days or more constitute a break in homelessness and do not count toward total time homeless.
Hotel/Motel				
Paid for by agency/voucher	Yes	Yes	Yes	If the hotel is paid for by an agency to divert the person from shelter or the streets, the person retains their homeless status.
Paid for by applicant, relatives, friends, or others (7+ nights)	No	No	No	If the hotel stay is less than 7 consecutive nights the person retains their homeless status.
Staying with Friends or Family/Couch Surfing				
Less than 7 consecutive nights	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Seven (7) or more consecutive nights	No	No	No	