

For general criminal background checks in HUD-assisted housing, public housing authorities (PHAs) and private landlords typically use a lookback period of **3 to 5 years**, though rules vary by local agency. However, certain federal rules require a **lifetime ban**, and asset-based programs like Medicaid long-term care use a **5-year lookback**.  LeaseRunner +3

Criminal History Lookback Windows

- **General Discretionary Crimes:** Most non-violent or standard felony/misdemeanor convictions are reviewed on a 3- to 5-year lookback window. Landlords evaluate these case-by-case.  LeaseRunner +2
- **Eviction for Drug Activity:** Federal rules mandate at least a **3-year lookback** if evicted from federally assisted housing for drug-related criminal activity, though local PHAs can extend this.  Prison Policy Initiative
- **Lifetime Disqualifications (No Time Limit):**
 - Lifetime sex offender registration requirement.
 - Conviction for manufacturing methamphetamine on federally assisted property.  Prison Policy Initiative +1

Asset and Financial Lookback Periods

- **Medicaid-Funded Housing/Nursing Care:** If your housing assistance is tied to Medicaid long-term care or specific state-funded medical waivers, a strict **5-year (60-month) asset transfer lookback** applies to verify no assets were given away below market value.  YouTube · The Estate Pl... +1
- **Income and Assets Verification:** Standard HUD programs (like Section 8 or Public Housing) look at current income and recent asset values (usually verifying the prior 12 months or immediate snapshot), rather than a multi-year financial asset transfer lookback. 