

Help For Felons Renters Packet Checklist

A short checklist to help you look prepared, lower landlord risk, and avoid wasting application fees.

Use this packet before you apply. Keep digital copies on your phone and printed copies in a simple folder.

Identity and Income

- Photo ID
- Two or three recent pay stubs
- Job offer letter, if recently hired
- Proof of any other steady income
- Bank statement or proof of savings, if available

Rental Strength

- Previous landlord reference, if available
- Two personal references with phone numbers
- Proof you can pay the deposit and first month of rent
- Simple list of where you have lived in the past few years

Record Explanation

- One page explanation letter about your record
- Proof of classes, treatment, counseling, or program completion, if relevant
- Proof of probation or parole compliance, if relevant
- Any work certificates, training, or volunteer history that shows stability

Before You Pay an Application Fee

- Ask if all felonies are automatic denials or reviewed case by case
- Ask if there is a lookback period
- Ask whether evictions, credit, or income are a bigger issue than criminal history
- Ask if a co signer is allowed
- Ask what income they require compared with the monthly rent