

# Terms and Conditions

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District of Columbia Application for Residency

**Revised 12/2018**

## Contents

District of Columbia Terms and Conditions.....	2
District of Columbia Tenant Bill of Rights.....	3-5

## **District of Columbia Terms and Conditions**

We will apply the Deposit in accordance with the provisions set forth below. The Application Fee is a non-refundable application fee for processing this Application and will not be refunded to you. Upon receipt of this Application, the Deposit and the Application Fee, we will set aside and reserve the Apartment Home for you.

By submitting this Application, you agree to enter into a lease ("Lease") for the Apartment Home under the terms specified in this Application. We may require you to sign the Lease concurrently with your submission of this Application. However, if we put you on a waiting list for an Apartment Home, you will not be obligated to sign a Lease until we advise you (in writing, in person or by telephone) that an Apartment Home is available, and you accept the Apartment Home. You will have 24 hours after you are notified by us to accept or reject the Apartment Home, which you may do in writing, in person or by telephone. If you accept the Apartment Home, you will have 24 hours to pay all associated deposits and you must sign a lease within five (5) days or your rights to lease the Apartment Home will terminate. If you do not timely notify us of your acceptance of the Apartment Home, we will thereafter have no obligation to lease the Apartment Home to you.

If, for any reason, we decline this Application, then we will refund the Deposit to you in full. If we approve this Application, we will ask that you execute the Lease (if you have not already done so). Upon your execution of the Lease, we will apply a portion of the Deposit to the Security Deposit and the remainder of the Deposit, if any, to the Common Area Amenities [Charge/Rent] that is due upon the execution of the Lease. If, however, you decide prior to executing the Lease that, notwithstanding this Application, and our approval, you no longer wish to proceed with the Lease, you must so notify us in writing (the "Termination Notice"). To be effective, the Termination Notice must be delivered by you during regular business hours to one of our representatives at the leasing office where the Apartment Home is located. Concurrently with your delivery of the Termination Notice to us, in consideration for our having held the Apartment Home off the market and reserved the Apartment Home for you, you agree to pay to us a "Reservation Fee" in an amount equal to the product of (i) the number of days from the date of this Application until we received the Termination Notice; multiplied by (ii) the base rent that would have been payable by you under the Lease for the Apartment Home (calculated on a per diem basis). After our receipt of the Termination Notice, we will refund the Deposit to you in accordance with our customary practice, less the full amount of the Reservation Fee, unless you have previously paid the Reservation Fee to us, in which case no deductions from the Deposit will be made.

In all events, if you have not executed and returned the Lease to us within five (5) days after this Application is signed by you, we will assume that you are not interested in proceeding, the Apartment Home will no longer be reserved for you, and we will refund the Deposit to you, less the full amount of the Reservation Fee.

By accepting the Deposit and the Application Fee from you, we are not obligated to approve this Application or rent the Apartment Home to you. Our approval of this Application is contingent upon our receipt of a satisfactory report of your rental history, credit history and other information that we deem necessary.

By signing this Application, you certify that all persons over eighteen years of age who will be occupying the Apartment Home have completed and provided to us a separate Application for Residency, and that each such occupant of the Apartment Home will sign the Lease at the time required by us.

You authorize us, through our designated agent or employees, to obtain and verify information, *including a criminal background check* for the purpose of determining whether or not to lease the Apartment Home to you, including by ordering or obtaining a consumer credit report. You understand that should you enter into the Lease for the Apartment Home, we and our designated agents and employees will have a continuing right to review your credit information, rental application, payment history and occupancy history for account review purposes and for improving application methods. Should you enter into the Lease, you understand we may retain and incorporate data from your credit report to study and improve internal housing- and application-related metrics, and you authorize us to do so.

By submitting this application, you hereby consent to AvalonBay sharing Applicant's nonpublic personal information (as defined by the Gramm Leach Bliley Act, 15 U.S.C. §6802(e)) with one or more third party vendors (collectively, "Vendors") for the purpose of AvalonBay receiving an identity verification product in connection with my application, and for the Vendors' use in the preparation of similar reports.

By signing this Application, you certify that all information contained in this Application is true, correct and complete.

## **AGENCY DISCLOSURE (applicable for Virginia and Minnesota applicants only)**

AvalonBay Communities, Inc. ("Manager"), and its leasing agents have been retained by the owner of the community in which your apartment is located as its representative for management and leasing services. Manager owes fiduciary duties such as loyalty and faithfulness to the owner. As our customer, we want you to understand that an agency relationship exists between Manager and the owner. Under applicable law, prompt disclosure in writing of agency relationships to all actual and prospective parties to a transaction at the earliest practical time is encouraged and/or required. Each party should carefully read all documents pertaining to any real estate transaction. Should you have any questions, please let us know and we will gladly answer them. By signing this application, each of the undersigned acknowledges that he or she has read and received a copy of this Agency Disclosure.

**It is unlawful to discriminate against an applicant or tenant because of their race, color, national origin, religion, gender, familial status, disability, or any other basis that may be protected under applicable state or local law.**

## District of Columbia Tenant Bill of Rights

The Tenant Bill of Rights Amendment Act of 2014, effective December 17, 2014 (D.C. Law 20-147; D.C. Official Code §§ 42-3531.07(8) & 42-3502.22(b)(1)) requires the D.C. Office of Tenant Advocate to publish a "D.C. Tenant Bill of Rights" to be updated periodically and noticed in the D.C. *Register*. This document is not exhaustive and is intended to provide tenants with an overview of the basic rights of tenancy in the District. Except for rent control, all these rights apply to every tenant in the District.

1. **LEASE:** A written lease is *not* required to establish a tenancy. If there is one, the landlord must provide you with a copy of the lease and all addendums. The landlord must also provide you with copies of certain District housing regulations, including those for Landlord & Tenant relations. Certain lease clauses are prohibited, including waiver of landlord liability for failing to properly maintain the property. The landlord may not change the terms of your lease without your agreement. After the initial lease term expires, you have the right to continue your tenancy month-to-month indefinitely on the same terms, except for lawful rent increases. (14 DCMR §§ 101, 106 & 300-399)
2. **SECURITY DEPOSIT:** The amount of the security deposit may not exceed the amount of 1 month's rent. The landlord must place your security deposit in an interest-bearing account. The landlord must post notices stating where the security deposit is held and the prevailing interest rate. If there is a "move-out" inspection, the landlord must notify you of the date and time. Within 45 days after you vacate the apartment, the landlord must either return your security deposit with interest, or provide you with written notice that the security deposit will be used to defray legitimate expenses (which must be itemized within 30 more days). (14 DCMR §§ 308-311)
3. **DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION:** Upon receiving your application to lease an apartment, the landlord must disclose: (a) the applicable rent for the rental unit; (b) any pending petition that could affect the rent (if rent control applies); (c) any surcharges on the rent and the date they expire (if rent control applies); (d) the rent control or exempt status of the accommodation; (e) certain housing code violation reports; (f) the amount of any non-refundable application fee, security deposit, and interest rate; (g) any pending condo or coop conversion; (h) ownership and business license information; (i) either a 3-year history of "mold contamination" (as defined) in the unit and common areas, or proof of proper remediation; and (U) a copy of this D.C. Tenant Bill of Rights document. The landlord must make this information accessible to you throughout your tenancy. Upon a tenant's request once per year, the landlord must also disclose the amount of, and the basis for, each rent increase for the prior 3 years. (D.C. Official Code §§ 42-3502.22 & .13(d)). All of the disclosures described above are available at the community.
4. **RECEIPTS FOR RENTAL PAYMENTS:** The landlord must provide you with a receipt for any money paid, except where the payment is made by personal check *and* is in full satisfaction of all amounts due. The receipt must state the purpose and the date of the payment, as well as the amount of any money that remains due. (14 DCMR § 306)
5. **RENT INCREASES:** "Rent control" limits the amount and the frequency of rent increases. For units that are exempt from rent control, generally only the lease terms limit rent increases. If rent control applies, the landlord may not raise the rent: (a) unless the owner and manager are properly licensed and registered; (b) unless the unit and common areas substantially comply with the housing code; (c) more frequently than once every 12 months; (d) by more than the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for an elderly tenant (age 62 or over) or tenant with a disability, regardless of income, if registered with the Rent Administrator; (e) by more than the CPI + 2% for all other tenants. A rent increase larger than (d) or (e) requires government approval of a landlord petition, which tenants may challenge. You also may challenge a rent increase implemented within the prior 3 years.
6. **BUILDING CONDITIONS:** The landlord must ensure that your unit and all common areas are safe and sanitary as of the first day of your tenancy. This is known as the "*warranty of habitability*." The landlord

must maintain your apartment and all common areas of the building in compliance with the housing code, including keeping the premises safe and secure and free of rodents and pests, keeping the structure and facilities of the building in good repair, and ensuring adequate heat, lighting, and ventilation. The tenant has the right to receive a copy of a notice of violation issued to the landlord ( 14 DCMR §§ 106; 30 I; & 400-999)

7. **LEAD PAINT HAZARD:** For properties built prior to 1978, the landlord must (a) provide a prospective tenant household with a form issued by the District Department of the Environment about their rights under the D.C. lead laws; (b) provide a current lead-safe "clearance report" to (i) a prospective tenant household that includes a child less than 6 years of age or a pregnant woman, (ii) an in-place tenant household that gains such a person and requests the report in writing from the landlord, and (iii) any tenant household regularly visited by such a person; and (c) disclose to a tenant household what the landlord reasonably should know about the presence in the tenant's unit of a lead-based paint hazard or of lead-based paint, which is presumed to be present unless there is documentation showing otherwise. (20 DCMR §§ 3300 *et seq.*)
8. **MOLD:** Upon written notice from a tenant that mold or suspected mold exists in the unit or a common area, the landlord must inspect the premises within 7 days and remediate within 30 days. Mold assessment and remediation must be performed in compliance with District regulations. (D.C. Official Code§ 8-241)
9. **QUIET ENJOYMENT AND RETALIATION:** The landlord may not unreasonably interfere with the tenant's comfort, safety or enjoyment of a rental unit, whether for the purpose of causing the housing accommodation to become vacant or otherwise (D.C. Official Code § 42-3402.10). The landlord may not retaliate against you for exercising any right of tenancy. Retaliation includes unlawfully seeking to recover possession of your unit, to increase the rent, to decrease services or increase your obligations; and also includes violating your privacy, harassing you, or refusing to honor your lease. (D.C. Official Code§ 42-3505.02)
10. **DISCRIMINATION:** The landlord may not engage in discriminatory acts based upon the actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, genetic information, personal appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, family responsibilities, disability, matriculation, political affiliation, source of income, status as a victim of an intra-family offense, or place of residence or business of any individual. Discriminatory acts include refusing to rent; renting on unfavorable terms, conditions, or privileges; creating a hostile living environment; and refusing to make reasonable accommodations to give a person an equal opportunity to use and enjoy the premises. (D.C. Official Code§ 2-1401.01 *et seq.*)
11. **RIGHT TO ORGANIZE:** The landlord may not interfere with the right of tenants to organize a tenant association, convene meetings, distribute literature, post information, and provide building access to an outside tenant organizer. (D.C. Official Code § 42-3505.06)
12. **SALE AND CONVERSION:** Tenants must be given the opportunity to purchase an accommodation before the landlord sells or demolishes the accommodation or discontinues the housing use. The landlord may not convert the rental accommodation to a cooperative or condominium unless a majority of the tenants votes for the conversion in a tenant election certified by the District's Conversion and Sale Administrator. (D.C. Official Code §§ 42-3404.02 & 42-3402.02)
13. **RELOCATION ASSISTANCE:** If you are displaced by alterations or renovations, substantial rehabilitation, demolition, or the discontinuance of the housing use, you may have the right to receive relocation assistance from your landlord. (D.C. Official Code § 42-3507.01)
14. **EVICTION:** The landlord may evict you only for one of ten specific reasons set forth in Title V of the Rental Housing Act of 1985. For example, you may *not* be evicted just because your lease term expires, or because the rental property has been **sold** or **foreclosed** upon. Even if there is a valid basis to evict you, the landlord may not use "self-help" methods to do so, such as cutting off your utilities or changing the locks. Rather, the landlord must

go through the judicial process. You generally must be given a written Notice to Vacate (an exception is non-payment of rent where you waive the right to notice in the lease); an opportunity to cure the lease violation, if that is the basis for the action; and an opportunity to challenge the landlord's claims in court. Finally, any eviction must be pursuant to a court order, and must be scheduled and supervised by the U.S. Marshal Service. (D.C. Official Code § 42-3505.01)

<b>RESOURCES</b>	
<p>D.C. Dept. of Housing and Community Development            1800 Martin Luther King Avenue, SE            Washington, DC 20020  <b>Phone:</b>(202) 442-9505 <b>Fax:</b>(202) 645-6727  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.dhcd.dc.gov">www.dhcd.dc.gov</a></p>	<p>D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate            2000 14th Street. NW, Suite 300 North            Washington, DC 20009  <b>Phone:</b> (202) 719-6560 <b>Fax:</b> (202) 719-6586 <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.ota.dc.gov">www.ota.dc.gov</a></p>
<p>D.C. Dept. of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs            1100 4th Street, SW            Washington, DC 20024  <b>Phone:</b>(202) 442-4400 <b>Fax:</b>(202) 442-9445  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.dkra.dc.gov">www.dkra.dc.gov</a></p>	<p>District Dept. of the Environment            1200 First Street, NE            Washington, DC 20002  <b>Phone:</b> (202) 535-2600 <b>Fax:</b> (202) 535-2881 <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.ddoe.dc.gov">www.ddoe.dc.gov</a></p>