April 2004

The AC Phoenix

FIRSTCLOSING

Q: I have heard that I can use my Section 8 Housing Authority voucher to purchase a house. Is this true?

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A: It is true that if your local Housing Authority offers a Section 8 Homeownership program, you may be able to receive a monthly subsidy to be applied toward your mortgage by using your Section 8 voucher. HUD introduced a



Roslyn Lash

Section 8 Homeownership program approximately 2 years ago. It is a relatively new program, and not all Housing Authorities offer this type of assistance. I can provide you with some basic information. You will need to contact your local office directly to get specific details. HUD provided a model for the program, but many of the details and requirements are left to the individual Authority. As I have constantly stated, there are many, many subsidy programs available. There are many low money down programs, however, in order to purchase a house under favorable terms, you must have favorable credit. Yes, you can buy a house using your voucher if your credit is less than desirable, but you will receive higher interest rates. Higher interest rates result in higher monthly payments. With that understanding I will proceed with your question. You must call your local Public Housing Authority for their rules. I can tell you that the majority of these programs have at least the following requirements:

• Be a first time homeowner. This means that you cannot have purchased a home, or had property in your name for the past 3 years.

• In good standing with the Housing Authority and have no delinquent rent history with any other Housing Authority.

- Be employed. Income guidelines vary
- Currently are a Section 8 tenant
- Complete Budget and Credit Counseling
- Participate in Homeownership Classes
- Secure a loan from a lender
- Q: What is an origination fee?

A: It is the fee that banks charge for processing your loan. Fees vary from lender to lender, but many banks charge 1% of the loan amount. For example, if your loan amount is \$100,000 you would pay \$1000 as an origination fee. This like all other fees is negotiable. If your bank is charging you 2% ask for a lower fee, or go to another bank. The origination fee should be revealed to you immediately. In fact, I would suggest that you ask "before" applying for a loan. It's your money so don't hesitate to ask questions!

Roslyn S. Lash is a REALTOR with over 10 years of experience. If you have any questions or comments, please email her at RealtySelect @ yahoo.com or call 336 655.5701 and your questions will be addressed in an upcoming issue.



10th Annual Phi Omega Inc. Classic Golf Tournament

Sponsored by Phi Omega Inc. A non profit development group of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Women

> Saturday, April 24, 2003 Winston Lake Golf Course

Registration: 7:30 am Shotgun Start: 8:30 am Team Play Captain's Choice

Hole in One Prize

Continental Breakfast, Picnic Luncheon and Refreshments During Play Great Food, Fabulous Prizes and Gift Bags for Everyone!

> Auction for Fabulous Gifts During Luncheon The Tournament is limited to the first 120 players

Corporate Gold Sponsorship: \$1000

Includes golf and picninc lunch for four; full page advertisement in souvenir booklet, your company name posted at a course hole, recognition on the sponsor banner, and all promotional materials. Golf cart and refreshments provided.

Corporate Silver Sponsorship: \$500 Includes golf and picninc lunch for one; full page advertisement in souvenir booklet, recognition on the sponsor banner, and all promotional materials. Golf cart and refreshments provided.

 Team:
 \$240

 Includes golf cart and picnic lunch fro four.
 Individual Player Entry:
 \$60

 Includes golf cart and picnic lunch fro one.
 \$60

For additional information, please contact Janet Wheeler, Phi Omega Inc., President at (336) 769-1840 or Evelyn Acree, Golf Tournament Director (336) 722-0200

Registration___

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