Multnomah County
Aging, Disability & Veterans Services Division
Safety Net Program: Emergency Housing Assistance

Bed Bug Assistance Policy Guidelines

Purpose: To assist individuals of the ADVSD network who are renting in multi-unit buildings to comply with the bedbug treatment plan of their housing provider or landlord. The program focuses on those who are at risk of eviction because they are not able to complete the tasks required in preparing their unit for pest control treatment.

Access to this program is contingent upon availability of limited funds. If demand exceeds capacity/budget, ADVSD reserves the right to limit or terminate program services.

Types of assistance considered*:*

- Housekeeping assistance as necessary to prepare for bed bug treatment. Guidelines typically provided by pest control operator (preparation task list).
- Laundry services for clothing and bed linens.
- Bed Bug proof encasements for mattress and box spring.
- A new bed if existing mattress and box spring are no longer serviceable.
- Climb-Up Interceptors for bed frame legs for on-going monitoring of infestation.
- Post-treatment assistance (e.g. unpacking, cleaning surfaces)

ADVSD is not able to support plans that include moving excess belongings to storage facilities, especially in cases where excessive belongings are creating a housekeeping violation separate from the bed bug infestation.

Eligibility:

- **Same as general eligibility for Emergency Housing Assistance Program** (e.g. age, disability, Multnomah County resident, financial need, at risk of eviction)
- **Must not have State or Local in-home services in place** (e.g. through Long Term Care, Oregon Project Independence). However, these individuals may still be eligible for assistance acquiring mattress/boxspring encasements and climb-up interceptors.
- **Must not be able to complete tasks independently.**
- **If client is unable to cognitively understand the process and tasks necessary to comply with treatment process, a support plan must be in place.** If no support is available, please refer to ADVSD Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT). If client is served by Mental Health System, their provider should formulate a plan for support.

Assistance must support a comprehensive bed bug treatment plan by the landlord consistent with Multnomah County Health Department recommendations.

NOTE: In multi-unit buildings (4 or more) in Portland, it is the landlord's responsibility to cover the cost of treatment by a licensed pest control operator. If a landlord attempts to attribute financial responsibility for an infestation to a particular tenant, refer to Legal Aid Services of Oregon (503-224-4086) for assistance.

Please see Multnomah County's Bed Bugs web page for more information:
www.multco.us/health/bed-bugs

For general information
Call the Multnomah County Bed Bug Hotline at 503-988-BUGS (2847)