

3<sup>rd</sup> and J Affordable Cooperative Housing Application  
Solar Community Housing Association (SCHA)



This application is a general application for anyone interested in the new affordable cooperative housing opportunity at 233 and 239 J Street.

Anyone is welcome to apply, as long as they make under \$40,600/year for a single person household or under \$46,400/year for a two person household. All eligible applications will be invited to an interview. Applications will be randomized to determine interview order and ensure a fair and open process.

**Please return this application to the following address no later than October 30, 2010:**  
**Solar Community Housing Association**  
**PO Box 72408,**  
**Davis, CA 95617**

or fill out the SCHA application on the web at:

<http://www.schadavis.org/new-coopers-application-for-new-house>

**About the affordable housing:**

Solar Community Housing Association (SCHA) is a non-profit organization that has been dedicated to the development and maintenance of sustainable, affordable housing for low income members of the Davis community since 1979. SCHA is currently opening two new houses on Third and J Streets. These two houses are meant to be joined together as one community of eight residents.

**SCHA is currently looking for residents for this new house!**

This search will take place in two steps. For the first step, SCHA was looking for four people who have extensive experience with the cooperative model. The second step, the current step, of recruitment is open to any member of the Davis community who is interested. **This application is for this second round of applications.** These house members will be interviewed by the already selected “experienced co-ops,” so that everyone is excited about the people they are going to be living with! Interview order will be determined by random lottery. Intrigued? Please! Turn in your application in today!

People who apply to this house must make a one year commitment to living in the cooperative. In addition, SCHA expects that there will be a bit more of a time requirement than that of living at an established cooperative, as the culture and some of the physical structure of the community will have to be built by the residents. Members will probably be expected to attend house meetings every two weeks, cooking together five nights a week, and occasional house trips.

In keeping with the spirit of self-sufficiency, SCHA does as much of its own construction and maintenance as possible. Residents formally organize at least one workday per month and participate in weekly household upkeep. Residents are homeowners in every sense except monetarily. The SCHA houses are held in a trust by the SCHA non-profit organization that SCHA members control as a group. These two houses are on land that SCHA leases from the City of Davis's Redevelopment Agency.

If you have any questions, feel free to call or stop by one of the existing houses where you can also get to know the folks living there. Or, come to one of our OpCo work days and take part in making the new houses totally rockin.’



## SCHA Third and J Street General Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us a little about how you spend your time. How will you fit co-op life into your schedule and/or resolve conflicts in your schedule? How do you tend to prioritize your time?

Have you ever lived in a cooperative housing situation before? What interests you about living here?



What chores do you think should be assigned in a co-op house? Which are your favorites? Least favorites?

Why are you leaving your current residence?

From what you have heard so far, how do you see yourself being involved in our community? What would you bring to the community in terms of technical or interpersonal skills, hobbies, etc.?



How often would you be available to join in our house dinners (Monday-Thursday)?

Do you have any pets?

How many people are in your household?



**Background:**

Here is a website where you can check us out and sign up:

<http://sites.google.com/site/schadavis/application-for-living-in-new-house>

We are very excited about this new cooperative and feel that it offers residents the rare opportunity to create a new, dynamic community. The new property is in downtown Davis, next to our current house at J and 3rd street, near the SPCA. It will feature LEED certified buildings, permaculture design elements, and in general will be a pretty groovy place to live!

SCHA is an Equal Opportunity Housing organization



## **Fact Sheet:**

-SCHA, as an organization, is committed to providing affordable housing, in an environmental sustainable, self-sufficient, energy efficient, cooperative manner, and to serve as a model as to how such living situations can work. As a consensus based organization, run by a board consisting mostly of it's members, you will have the opportunity to expand and redefine our ever changing culture, goals, and outreach efforts!

-We are also striving for harmony, equality, and the ability to see past all differences, especially those generated by culture, age, gender, or sexual preference. Our commitments to community living include: attending house meetings every two weeks, cooking together five nights a week, and occasional house trips. We do not spend house resources on meat, and our communal meals are vegetarian with vegan options. We have a garden and are committed to buying, when possible, local and organic food. By working together and sharing our unique skills and experiences, we hope to have a smooth running household.

### **Rules and Responsibilities for (existing) Solar Community Housing Association (SCHA) Members and Minors**

- Accept and promote community mindedness within house/houses; help create nurturing, respectful, and peaceful households.
- Practice tolerance and active cooperation. Be respectful of others, opinions, beliefs, and the consensus process.
- Demonstrate environmental/consumer conscientiousness by recycling, reusing, repairing, sharing, composting, and conserving energy.
- Pay rent and board in a timely manner (within 5 days of due date).
- Participate in community meals at least once per week.
- Attend all community meetings (minimum of two per month).
- Participate in the growth and maintenance of the co-op by contributing a minimum of 5 hours of chore time per month plus 8 hours of work party per month.
- Keep living spaces and yard clean and maintained.
- Cultivate self-sufficiency by having members and supporters of the community maintain the properties whenever possible.
- Protect and promote the SCHA mission statement: SCHA encourages and creates community and respect for the environment through affordable, cooperative housing..
- Review and observe SCHA Bylaws.
- Work toward self-governance in each co-op.

