

# Emergency Rental Assistance

## Frequently Asked Questions



### ***If approved, will I receive the money directly?***

No. Payments will be directed to landlords and utility providers.

### ***Can the assistance be used to pay for expenses other than rent and utilities?***

No. Funds can only be used for rent and utility assistance.

### ***Can the assistance be used to pay rent owed and/or unpaid utility bills?***

Yes. Funds will be used to first pay unpaid rent and utility bills. However, funds cannot be applied to past rent or utility bills that pre-date March 13, 2020.

### ***I do not owe back rent or utility payments, can I still apply for future assistance?***

Yes, AHA provides up to 12 months of future rent and utility relief to eligible applicants.

### ***If I qualify, how long will I be eligible to receive assistance?***

The program allows for up to 12 months of financial assistance, with the possibility of extended assistance for an additional three months. All past-due rent and utilities back to March 13, 2020 will be paid first with remaining funds available for prospective (future) assistance. Funding will be available at least through September 30, 2021.

### ***If I don't need help making rent payments, can I still apply for help with unpaid utility bills?***

Yes. Assistance from this program can be used to help you catch up on unpaid utility bills.

### ***Do I have to have been impacted by COVID-19 to be eligible for this program?***

Yes. You must demonstrate negative economic or financial hardship due directly or indirectly to the coronavirus outbreak.

### ***I'm currently employed and have income. Am I still eligible to apply?***

Yes. Funds will be available to renters with household incomes of no more than 80% of Area Median Income (AMI). Area Median Income (AMI) is calculated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) using data from federal entities such as the IRS. To qualify for Emergency Rental Assistance:

- Your 2020 annual income for all members of your household — including all wages, tips, etc. — must have been at or below the 80% community Area Median Income (AMI); OR
- Your 2021 monthly income for all members of your household — including all wages, tips, etc. — must currently be at or below the 80% community Area Median Income (AMI).

### ***I own my home. Does this program provide mortgage relief, or help with utilities for homeowners?***

The current program only assists renters, but there may be changes or additional programs in the future.

### ***How will my landlord know if I applied?***

Please notify your landlord that you are applying for assistance under this program. Let your Landlord know they will be contacted by AHA inviting them to participate and submit required information.

### ***I am a landlord, can I apply on behalf of my tenants?***

Landlords can help their tenants successfully secure assistance by providing needed information as part of their eligibility process.

If your tenants are struggling to pay rent or utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please let them know about this program and have them contact one of our team members for assistance.

### ***What if I didn't live in my current rental when COVID-19 started?***

You can still apply for assistance with rent and/or utility bills. There is no requirement for a specific length of residency in your current rental property.

*Please don't hesitate to contact a member of our team if you have any other questions.*

**DON'T DELAY APPLY TODAY**