



COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program

City of San Diego residents experiencing financial hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic may qualify for help from the City of San Diego's COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program.

This program will help qualifying households pay past-due, unpaid rent and utilities, as well as their upcoming rent, based on available funds. The program also will help pay past-due internet service expenses.

Per guidance from the U.S. Department of Treasury, financial help this program provides to a household is not considered income for the household.

The program does not ask about immigration status; it does not affect eligibility for the program.

The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) administers the program for the City of San Diego.

For additional information about other rent relief and eviction prevention programs, visit housinghelpsd.org

How to Apply

Visit covidassistance.sdhc.org to access the online application.

Landlords can start an application on behalf of their tenant.

For help with your application, or if you do not have access to a computer or the internet, call **(619) 535-6921**

These community-based organizations also are available to help:

- Casa Familiar <https://www.casafamiliar.org/> (619) 333-6824
- Chicano Federation <https://www.chicanofederation.org/> (619) 285-5600
- ElderHelp of San Diego <https://www.elderhelpofsandiego.org/> (858) 380-5341
- Logan Heights Community Development Corporation <https://www.loganheightscdc.org/> (619) 858-0563
- San Diego Refugee Communities Coalition <https://ucsdcommunityhealth.org/work/refugee-health-unit/san-diego-refugee-communities-coalition/> (619) 793-9019

Who Can Receive Help from the Program?

Households that meet the following criteria are eligible to receive help:

- Tenant has a City of San Diego address.
- Household income is at or below 80 percent of San Diego's Area Median Income (AMI), currently \$97,000 per year for a family of four. For the complete AMI chart, [click here](#).
- Household has an obligation to pay rent.
- At least one member of the household has a reduction of income or other financial hardship due to COVID-19.
- Household experienced or is at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

Priority is given to households that have rental arrears and at least one of the following:

- Income is at or below 50 percent of San Diego's AMI (\$60,600 per year for a family of four).
- At least one member of the household has been unemployed for 90 days and remains unemployed.
- Received an eviction notice or summons.

Required Information and Documents

Applicants are required to upload and submit supporting documents as part of their online application.

The types of documents accepted for the application are available on SDHC's website at: www.sdhc.org/COVID19HSAP

Payments

The program is required to give priority to paying past-due, unpaid rent.

If funds remain available after past-due, unpaid rent payments have been made for qualifying households, the program can help pay the tenant's upcoming monthly rent.

A new State law enacted on June 28, 2021, allows the COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program to pay 100 percent of a qualifying household's rent obligations. This law also extended the statewide temporary ban on evictions through September 30, 2021. If a landlord declines to accept payment, the program is able to provide payment directly to the tenant for it to be used to pay rent.

Qualifying households also may receive help to pay past-due, unpaid utilities, such as electricity, gas, water and sewer, trash removal and energy costs, such as fuel oil. Telephone and cable are not eligible for utility assistance, and utilities paid by the landlord are considered rent.

Rent payments will be made by direct deposit to the landlord and utility provider. A check will be mailed for the rent if the landlord does not do business with a financial institution.

This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award numbers ERA0302, ERAE0043 and ERAE0321, awarded to the City of San Diego by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



Established in 1979, the San Diego Housing Commission provides a variety of award-winning affordable housing programs and services that stimulate the local economy, revitalize neighborhoods, and impact the lives of low-income and San Diegans experiencing homelessness.

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