



# Expanded COVID-19 Rental Relief Program

The Expanded COVID-19 Rental Relief Program is for renters who cannot afford to pay their rent due to COVID-19. **You can apply for this expanded program even if you got help from the first COVID-19 Rental Relief Program.**

How can this program help me?

**This program pays up to \$1,000 per month for a maximum of three (3) months for rent not covered by other federal, state, or local programs.** The three month period can be for prior months or the current month. The renter applies and the benefit is paid to the landlord.

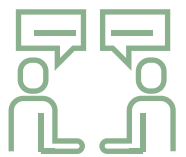


How do I apply?

Go to [mainehousing.org/covidrent](https://mainehousing.org/covidrent) and click on the “Complete Online Application Here” button. You may apply for each month’s rent you cannot pay up to three (3) months. You may apply for past months and the current month at the same time. You will need to apply again if you need help for future months and have not reached the maximum \$3,000 limit.

What happens after I apply? How will my landlord get paid?

Your local Community Action Agency (CAA) will process your application. They will contact you to confirm your information. Then they will contact your landlord. If your landlord agrees to accept the payment, they cannot evict you for any rent remaining due that month. Once the landlord fills out required paperwork, the CAA will make a payment to your landlord. Please remember that payments cannot be made until the CAA has all the needed documents.



Do I tell my landlord that I am applying?

Yes! Communication between you and your landlord is important. Most landlords do not want to lose good tenants and good communication can only help. It is also important for them to know that you’ve applied because they must fill out and return paperwork for these funds.

What if my landlord won’t participate?

We hope landlords will participate and accept these payments. However, we cannot make a landlord participate.



My rent is more than \$1,000. What about the rest of it? Will I be evicted?

Please work with your landlord. This benefit can help, but you still must pay the rest of your rent. You will not be evicted for the month that your landlord accepts the payment. By accepting payment, they agree not to evict you for non-payment for the month for which the payment is made. This protection does not include evictions for other reasons or failure to pay rent for other months’ rent not covered in this program.

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# Expanded COVID-19 Rental Relief Program, Continued

## Who can get help?



### Income & Assets

Income limits apply and are based on your household size and county. Find information about income limits at [mainehousing.org/covidrent](https://mainehousing.org/covidrent). If you can afford to pay your rent from income of any sort or from savings or other liquid assets, you cannot apply for this program.



### Job & Life Changes

You may qualify if you are unable to pay your rent due to COVID-19. Examples include but are not limited to:

- being laid off;
- having your place of employment closed;
- reduction in hours of work;
- having to stay home to care for your children because your day care or school has closed; or
- other loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



### Location

Lewiston and Cumberland County (except Brunswick) have their own program. If you live in Brunswick, apply for this program. If you live in Lewiston or Cumberland County, you must apply for those programs. If those areas stop running their program, you can apply for this one.



### Type of Housing

If you live in housing that receives any kind of subsidy, you cannot get help from this program. Ask your landlord or property manager about other rent relief options. You are not eligible if you:

- get a Housing Choice (Section 8) Voucher, live in a Section 8 apartment, or get rental assistance from USDA Rural Development;
- live in housing developments with mortgages financed by MaineHousing or a federal agency;
- live in a development/property using low-income housing tax credits; or
- live in public housing.

If you own a mobile home and rent space in a mobile home park you may be eligible for this program. Money from this program is only for lot rent or mobile home rent. Park fees may not be included.



### How long do I have to apply?

Please apply as soon as you can so you can start the process. The program will run until funds run out or until the program ends.

For more information about this program and to apply,  
please visit [mainehousing.org/covidrent!](https://mainehousing.org/covidrent)



**MaineHousing**  
MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY

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