

RESOURCES FOR RENT AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE

During these days, the state of Washington has enacted an eviction moratorium if renters are unable to pay. It's still good to make plans to be able to ensure that your rent or utilities can be paid.

If you cannot pay your rent, be mindful of these actions, taken from a [Seattle Times article](#) published on March 31, 2020:

1. Don't panic. Statewide eviction moratoriums mean you're not going to lose your home immediately.

2. Assess your resources and gather your documents. Most tenant advocates agree that if you're able to pay your rent in full, you should.

If you have any documentation that specifically ties loss of income to the COVID-19 pandemic (ie. a letter from your employer, successive pay stubs showing lost hours, or proof of employment in an industry that's been forced to close), gather those to present to your landlord.

If you know you won't be able to cover rent in full, refer to the list of resources at the end of this article.

3. Contact your landlord, in writing. Explain the situation. If you're going to be late on rent, tell your landlord when you believe you can have the payment. If you're not sure, propose a payment plan.

4. Draft a payment plan with your landlord. Establish an agreement on how to pay back rent, whether it is over 3 months, or 6 or 12. And be sure to ask your landlord not to slap on any late fees.

5. Stay in touch with your landlord. If your employment situation has changed due to the current health crisis, keep your landlord up to date about your ability to pay.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Seattle and South King County: (253) 850-2523

Auburn, Burien, Covington, Federal Way, Kent, Renton, and SeaTac: Fridays, 10am -12pm
All other SKC Cities and Seattle: First and Third Thursdays of each month from 2pm – 3pm
All program services are based on funding availability.

East King County: (425) 213-1963 x2

Bellevue, Redmond, and other EKC cities: Wednesdays, 2pm – 4pm
All program services are based on funding availability.

The **St Vincent de Paul Helpline** is still open **206-767-6449** 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday. Requests for help can also be input online at <https://svdpseattle.org/get-help/>

RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Rental assistance resources at the United Way [website](#).

The Rental Housing Association of Washington and the Washington Multifamily Housing Association put together a [link](#) for rental assistance programs in King County.

Residential Evictions are on hold.: This is effective immediately and will last for 30 days or until Seattle's coronavirus emergency ends, pending the council's approval.

St. James St Vincent de Paul is assisting with RENT only
Donations can be made via the [Cathedral website](#). Indicate the gift as "Other" with a special note of "SVdP"

UTILITIES

Comcast: offering 'Internet Essentials' package free for low-income customers for 60 days

Utility Discount Program(UDP): lowers Seattle City Light bills by 60% and Seattle Public Utility bills by 50%. To learn more about enrollment in UDP, call (206) 684-0268.

Utilities will NOT be shut off: Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) and Seattle City Light (SCL) will keep utility services on during the COVID-19 Emergency in Seattle. SPU and SCL customers who have been financially impacted by COVID-19, regardless of background or immigration status, can request a deferred payment plan with the utilities by calling (206) 684-3000.

CCS has a COVID Response Team. Learn more at <https://ccsww.org/your-help-will-save-lives/>.