



## Missouri State Assistance for Housing Relief (SAFHR) Program

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### Funding Overview

- COVID-19 Economic Relief bill signed December 27, 2020
  - Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021
- Included \$25 billion in emergency rental assistance (ERA)
  - Missouri allocated \$408 million
- Administered by U.S. Department of the Treasury
- No less than 90 percent of ERA funding for direct rent and utility assistance
- No more than 10 percent for housing stability services and administration
- Treasury Department data collection and reporting requirements
- Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2021
- Funding extended through September 30, 2022 by American Rescue Plan





## Funding Overview

- States as well as cities and counties with populations over 200,000 eligible for allocation of ERA funding
- Missouri Counties administering funds:
  - Clay, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, St. Louis
- Missouri Cities administering funds:
  - Kansas City, St. Louis
- MHDC administering ~\$320 million of state allocation through State Assistance for Housing Relief (SAFHR) Program
  - Duplication of Benefits

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## Program Eligibility

- Households with income at or below 80 percent of area median income (AMI)
- One or more individual in household receives unemployment or attests to financial hardship due to pandemic
- One or more individual in household demonstrates risk of homelessness or housing instability
- Federal priorities
  - Households with one or more member currently unemployed and unemployed for most recent 90 days
  - Households below 50 percent of AMI





## Financial Assistance

- Assistance for period beginning April 1, 2020
- Available assistance
  - Up to 12 months of rental arrears
  - Up to 12 months of utility assistance per eligible service
  - Up to 3 months of forward rent assistance
- Total assistance cannot exceed 12 months
- Payments made directly to landlord and/or utility companies

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## SAFHR Program Application

- How to apply
  - Online tenant application portal for direct financial assistance (in collaboration with landlord)
    - launched 2/15/2021
    - [www.mohousingresources.com/safhr](http://www.mohousingresources.com/safhr)
- Coming soon
  - Online application portal for landlords with multiple eligible tenants for direct assistance (in collaboration with tenant)
  - Provide offline application option
  - Engage with housing stability case management and legal services providers

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## SAFHR Program Application

1. Pre-Application: review website materials and confirm eligibility
  - [www.mohousingresources.com/safhr](http://www.mohousingresources.com/safhr)
2. Eligibility checklist: create account, certify household meets program criteria
3. Tenant Portion of Application: provide required information on household, income, and requested assistance
4. Landlord Portion of Application: provide contact and payment information
5. Submit for review, notified of corrections if needed “cure”

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## Required Documentation

- Required documentation\*
  - Primary applicant photo ID
  - Household annual income documentation
    - Zero Income attestation; if income
    - Proof of participation in means tested federal program or supporting income documentation; if not
    - Income based on last 30 days with 2 months of documentation; if not eligible based on this
    - Income based on FY2020 with 1040 tax form upload
  - Demonstration of past-due rent or eviction notice
  - Utility past due notice

\*Subject to Department of the Treasury guidance

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