



## This program is only for renters and their landlords.

Rhode Island has received \$200 million in rent relief funds from the federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program. This program provides rental and utility relief payments to help eligible renters maintain housing stability.

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program can pay for rent and utilities owed back to April 1, 2020. The program also covers up to three (3) months of upcoming rent. Utilities may include electricity, water, sewer, trash, and heat. Renters may apply for help with paying for utilities even if they do not need help paying for rent. Applicants are eligible for up to a total of 12 months of assistance. In some instances, an additional 3 months may be available.

There is no monthly cap on eligible rent relief. The monthly amount is determined by the rent payment agreed to in the lease.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Tenant applicants **must meet all** of the following criteria to be considered for rent relief:

- **Household income must meet certain income limits.** Limits vary by location and household size. Income Limits are available online at RentReliefRI.com.
- **You must have qualified for unemployment benefits or have experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, OR experienced other financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to COVID-19.**
- **Applicants must show they are at risk for becoming homeless or loss of housing.** This may include submitting past-due rent and utility bills or eviction notices at application.

### APPLICATION AND PAYMENT PROCESS:

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through September 2022 via an online portal. Both landlords and tenants may initiate an application for the program. Information from both the tenant and landlord will be required to successfully complete an application. Assistance completing applications is available through a network of partners throughout the state.

### Applicants will need the following documents:

#### Tenants

- Proof of residency  
(ex; bank statement, utility bill, driver's license)
- Proof of income  
(ex; wage statements, unemployment letter, 2020 tax return)
- Signed copy of your lease agreement or documentation showing tenancy  
(a pattern of rent payment)
- Documentation demonstrating your rental/utility arrearage  
(ex; past due utility bill, eviction notice, 5 day demand letter, communication from landlord)

#### Property Managers/Landlords

- W9 Form
- EIN or SSN Verification  
(ex; tax filing, social security card)
- Rent arrearage documentation  
(ex; ledger, past due notice)
- Proof of property ownership  
(ex; mortgage statement, real estate tax bill, water/sewer bill)
- Tenant contact information  
(ex; cell phone, email address)

\*If you have received a notice from the court for an eviction proceeding against you, please have that documentation available.



**Visit [RentReliefRI.com](https://rentreliefri.com) for additional details and information.**

#### About RentReliefRI

RentReliefRI is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number ERA0013 awarded to the State of Rhode Island by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

