

NEWS RELEASE

Department of External Affairs

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FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Fulton County Will Launch COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program for Residents Outside Atlanta

Fulton County is preparing to launch a COVID-19 emergency rental and utility assistance program based on an \$18 million federal funding award through the U.S. Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

Eligible Fulton County renters outside the City of Atlanta who have been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic will be able to apply through an online application in March. Eligible expenses include rent, rental arrears, and utilities resulting from the pandemic.

“At this very moment, there families across Fulton County worrying about how they will keep a roof over their heads,” said Chairman Robb Pitts. “Our team has been working hard to get this program ramped up and get these funds into the community as quickly as possible.”

Residents must meet eligibility requirements established by the federal government including:

- Incomes up to 80% of area median income (AMI) who meet the following criteria are eligible to receive assistance.
- One or more individuals in the household has qualified for unemployment benefits or can attest in writing that they have experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic; and
- One or more individuals in the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability which may include a past due utility or rent notice or an eviction notice; or unsafe or unhealthy living conditions; or any other evidence of such risk.

Households affected by unemployment for 90 days or more, and households with incomes at or below the 50 percent of AMI, will be prioritized.

Payments will be made directly to landlords and utility companies. Additional details will be provided closer to the March 1 launch date. For more information go to

www.fultoncountyga.gov/renthelp

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Are You Behind On Your Rent?

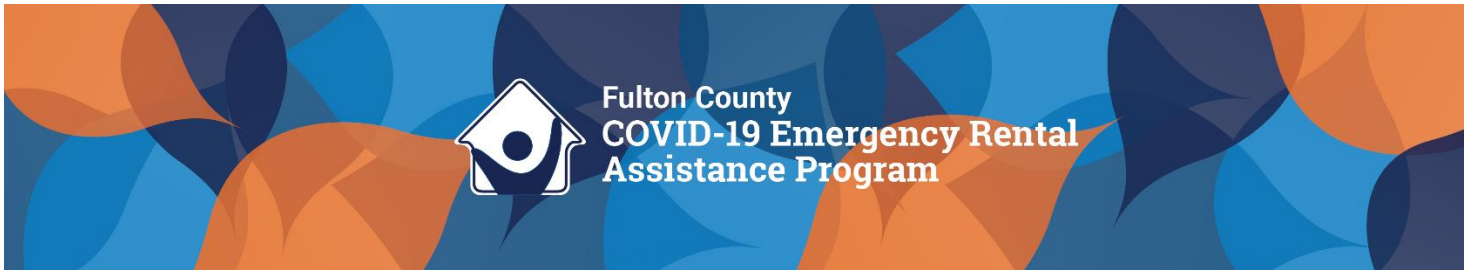
FULTON COUNTY

COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program

For Residents Outside City of Atlanta

- **Online applications** starting in March
- **Rent & utility assistance** for eligible renters affected by the COVID 19 pandemic
- Income limits and other **eligibility requirements** apply

*Payments will be made directly to landlords and utility companies.
Additional details will be provided closer to the March 1 launch date.*



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Fulton County COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program?

Fulton County has received \$18 million through the United States Emergency Rental Assistance program. The purpose of Fulton County's program is to provide financial assistance to eligible households for the payment of rent, rent arrearage, utilities, utility arrearage and other housing costs incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

When can I apply?

Fulton County will launch the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program in March 2021. More information about the application process will be provided at that time.

Who should apply?

The applicant should be an adult tenant in an eligible household.

An eligible household includes:

- one or more individuals who are obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling and
- One or more individuals within the household has qualified for unemployment benefits or has experienced a reduction in household income, or incurred significant costs or experienced other financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to COVID-19 pandemic.

The applicant must be able to attest in writing that one or more individuals within the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability such as

- past due utility or rent notice or eviction notice;
- Unsafe or unhealthy living conditions, or
- any other evidence of such risk as determined by Fulton County.

An owner or landlord renting to an eligible household, as described above, may apply on behalf of the tenant.

What documentation do I need to apply if I am a tenant?

- Contact information including your email and phone number
- Wage Statement or signed declaration
- Copy of the Lease Agreement
- Documentation of Payments made
- Magistrate Court Notice (if applicable)
- Past Due Utility Notice(s)
- Unemployment Documentation
- Any other documentation that indicates risk of homelessness

What documentation do I need to apply if I am a landlord?

- Contact information including your email and phone number
- Lease Agreement
- Documentation of Tenant Payments
- Magistrate Court Notice
- Utility Bills Issued
- Documentation of Rental Assistance Subsidy

What if I am not on the lease, and that person is not able to apply, but I live here and face eviction?

If an adult is living in leased property in Fulton County outside the City of Atlanta and faces the possibility of eviction, you should apply using the Tenant Application. You will be eligible if you meet the financial and other requirements for an eligible household.

I live in Atlanta. May I apply for this program?

No. This program was funded by the U.S. Government specifically for Fulton County residents outside the City of Atlanta. The City of Atlanta received its own funding.

If I have been making partial payments on my rent, may I apply?

Yes

If I was evicted already, may I apply?

Yes

I am not behind on my rent – just my utilities and fees to the LL or utility, may I apply?

Yes

I am not a Tenant – I am a homeowner behind on my mortgage. May I apply?

No. This program only provides assistance for residential dwelling rental obligations.

I am a Landlord – may I apply?

Yes. Landlords may apply on behalf of an eligible tenant.

Please note that a Landlord applicant must obtain the tenant's signature (electronic signature is permissible), provide documentation to the tenant of the application and apply all funds received pursuant to the application to the tenant's rental obligation. Please ensure that both Landlord and Tenant's application are completed to the extent possible.

I am homeless, may I apply for assistance?

Yes. If you otherwise qualify and already lost the occupancy of housing, you may apply to obtain financial assistance to pay the landlord and/or utility companies for the outstanding rental arrears and/or utility arrears.

What if I do not have a written lease, but just pay month to month?

If you are paying rent, you are a tenant for purposes of this application, and you may file an application. However, you may be required to provide other evidence of the landlord/tenant relationship, such as proof of prior payment.

Why do you need my personal information and documents?

This program is funded by the United States Treasury. The Treasury Department requires information and documentation to show that Fulton County has properly used the funds for this program. Required documentation includes information such as income information, social security numbers, and/or other information and documents.

Fulton County may need to provide the information you share with the Treasury Department to facilitate proper tracking use of funds. If you fail to provide any required information and/or documentation, your application may not be processed.

The application period will open in early March and additional information will be available as we get closer.

For updates and additional information about the Fulton County COVID-19 Emergency Rent Assistance Program, please visit www.fultoncountyga.gov/renthelp

