

# COVID-19 EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CERAP)

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## WHAT IS IT?

The COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program (CERAP) will provide up to 12 months of rental and/or utility arrears assistance and up to three months of prospective rent assistance to eligible tenants affected by the pandemic. Rental assistance may be provided for arrears accrued from March 13, 2020.

## WHEN WILL THE APPLICATION PORTAL OPEN?

Applications will be accepted starting **June 1, 2021 at 9 A.M.**

## ELIGIBILITY

A household, **regardless of individuals' immigration status**, is eligible for emergency rental and/or utility assistance if it:

- is a tenant or occupant obligated to pay rent in their primary residence in the state of New York,
- includes an individual who has qualified for unemployment or experienced a reduction in household income or experienced other financial hardship due to the COVID-19 outbreak;
- Has a household income at or below 80% of the area median income, adjusted for household size.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Renters will need to provide:

- Personal identification for all household members.
- Social Security number of any household members who have been issued one.
- Proof of rental amount, signed lease, even if expired.
- Proof of residency and occupancy.
- Proof of Income to document income eligibility:
  - Pay stubs, bank account deposit verification, unemployment benefits letter, W-2 tax form from an employer, an annual statement of earnings, or a copy of a completed income tax return, such as a 1040, 1040EZ, 1099 tax form, or other proof
- Copy of gas or electric utility bill, if applying for help paying for utility arrears at the same rental unit.

## WHERE DO I APPLY?

<https://nysrenthelp.otda.ny.gov/en/>

Please contact Assemblymember Mitaynes' office at [ad51@nyassembly.gov](mailto:ad51@nyassembly.gov) or (718) 492-6334 if you need assistance.