



Home Relief Grant

Overview

The state of Ohio will allocate \$50 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund from the CARES Act to 47 Community Action Agencies to help Ohioans that have experienced economic hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Each Community Action Agency will receive a portion of the funding based on their Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) CARES Act allocation.

Ohioans who are behind on rent, mortgage, and water and/or sewer utility bills may be able to receive assistance. Assistance can be applied to outstanding rent, mortgage, water, and/or sewer bills back to April 1, 2020. Ohioans can receive monthly assistance until the program ends on December 30, 2020.

For utility bills that include more than the water or sewer services, assistance can be provided to maintain service or prevent shut off only.

The Community Action Agencies will make direct payments on behalf of the applicant to the landlord, bank, or water and/or sewer company. A household can receive assistance in more than one category.

Application Process

Ohioans will apply for assistance through their local Community Action Agency starting November 2, 2020. Ohioans can find their local Community Action Agency by visiting BusinessHelp.Ohio.Gov.

Ohio households with an annual income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines will be eligible for assistance. For a family of four, that is an annual income up to \$52,400. Individuals that are currently unemployed will only need to provide proof of income for the last 30 days for verification purposes. Additionally, any federal unemployment stipend is excluded from determining a household's benefit.



Ohioans will need to provide the following information when they apply:

- Names of all household members
- Date of Birth
- Social Security Number
- Current or Previous address
- Copies of Social Security cards, or verification for each household member
- Proof of income for all household members 18 years or older for a minimum of the past 30 days
- Any supporting documentation to demonstrate need
- Hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic

To receive Rental Assistance, they will also need to provide:

- Eviction or past due rent notice. Notice should include total amount due (including fees)
- If moving to a new location, justification for the move (i.e. currently homeless, living with another family and not sufficient space etc.)
- Landlord verification/proof of ownership and agreement to receive funds
- Lease agreement

To receive Mortgage Assistance, they will also need to provide:

- Notice of late mortgage payment (including taxes and insurance)

To receive Utility Assistance, they will also need to provide:

- Copy of utility bill demonstrating the account has been shut off, is in disconnect status or is past due

Assistance Available

The funding may be distributed among rental assistance (homeless/eviction prevention, re-housing assistance, or security deposit assistance), mortgage assistance, and water and/or sewer utility assistance.



**Development
Services Agency**

For more information, visit
BusinessHelp.Ohio.Gov