
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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IOWA EVICTION AND FORECLOSURE PREVENTION PROGRAM — COVID-19 — JUNE 11, 2020

Program. The Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) has established the [Iowa Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Program](#) to assist Iowans who have been economically impacted by COVID-19 and may be facing housing hardships. The Program includes:

- **Rental Assistance.** Rent payment assistance beginning April 1, 2020, for up to four months (\$3,200 maximum).
- **Mortgage Payment Assistance.** Mortgage payment assistance (\$3,000 maximum) beginning April 1, 2020.

Eligibility. The general [eligibility](#) requirements are as follows:

- Current renter or homeowner.
- At risk of eviction or foreclosure due to a documented COVID-19-related loss of income (either job loss or reduction in employment hours and/or pay) on or after March 17, 2020.
- Household income not exceeding [80.0%](#) of the median family income (MFI) for the applicant's county of residence at the time of application.
- Not currently receiving Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) Program assistance, the \$600 additional monthly federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act ([H.R. 748](#)) stimulus unemployment benefit.
- Can show pay stub or other appropriate documentation prior to and after loss of income.
- Can show latest mortgage statement (for mortgage payment assistance only).

Funding. The CARES Act provided the State with \$1.250 billion for COVID-19-related expenses. Governor Kim Reynolds has allocated \$22.0 million of the federal funding for the Program. The IFA will use \$20.0 million of the funding for awards and \$2.0 million for external administrative expenses. The IFA estimates that 20,000 applications will be received and that the funds will assist approximately 6,500 households. The funds will go directly to the landlord or mortgage provider. The Program will operate as long as funds are available, and awards will be made to the first applicants who are ready to proceed. As of June 11, 2020, the IFA has received 469 applications for Rental Assistance, 208 verifications from landlords, and 45 applications for Mortgage Payment Assistance. The IFA has not issued any awards.

Assistance. Legal assistance for those at risk of eviction or foreclosure is available from Iowa Legal Aid at no cost by phone at 800.332.0419 or [online](#). The Housing Recovery Help Line can be reached by phone at 855.300.5885.

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