

# NEWS

FROM THE WASHINGTON MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Rental assistance is now available and accessible in some counties, including Pierce County.

In order to qualify for the Department of Commerce's Eviction Rent Assistance Program, a tenant must earn 50% AML or less within the prior 60 days, have at least one month of rent that is unpaid or partially unpaid since March 2, 2020, and meet one of the following:

- Rent burdened: 50% or more of current monthly income is needed to pay rent.
- Previously homeless within last five years. This includes experiences of couch surfing/double up.
- Eviction history within last seven years.
- Housing disrupted due to household member's race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or religion.
- At risk of severe illness as per CDC (62 or older, underlying condition).
- Disability of any household member. Includes a physical, developmental, mental, or emotional impairment, including impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury. A person with HIV/AIDS is considered disabled.

Landlords must accept a maximum of three months rent at 80% of total rent due or Fair Market Rent rate. In King County the program requires a waiver of any rent owing beyond three months.

For more information about each county's available rental assistance funding, please visit the following County links.

- [King County](#)
- [Pierce County](#) or call (253) 798-7171
- [Kitsap County](#) call Housing Solutions Center at (360) 473-0235
- [Clark County](#) or call (360) 695-9677 (Spanish (360) 952-8318, ext. 386)
- [Thurston County](#) or call (360) 438-1100
- [Whatcom County](#)

For additional information and for information for additional counties, please [visit this website](#). For questions about any rental assistance program, please contact the Human Services Department in the County where you are seeking rental assistance.