

# **STRUGGLING TO PAY YOUR RENT AND/OR UTILITY BILLS?**

You could be eligible for up to 18 months of rent and utility assistance.

# WHAT IS IERA?

#### Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance (IERA)

Applications are now being accepted for the Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance (IERA) program. IERA helps renter households with rent and utility assistance. This includes help with paying your:

- Rent: current and past-due rent
- Home energy expenses: fuel oil, wood, coal, pellets and propane
- · Utilities: electric, gas, water and sewer

Up to 18 months of rent and utility and/or home energy assistance may be provided. This includes past-due balances and late fees accrued after April 1, 2020.

IERA is designed to decrease evictions and increase housing stability.

#### **AM I ELIGIBLE?**

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The IERA program is available to individuals or households that meet all of the following requirements:

- Renter: This program is for renters only.
- **Income:** Household income must be at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) to qualify for this program.
- Housing instability: At least one household member must demonstrate a risk of homelessness or housing instability. No formal documents are required to demonstrate housing instability.
- COVID-19 impact: At least one household member has qualified for unemployment benefits or experienced a reduction in income, incurred significant costs or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19. No formal documents are required to demonstrate COVID-19 impact.
- **Primary residence:** The property you are seeking assistance for must be your primary residence.

### **HOW MUCH ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE?**

Below is a chart of the maximum assistance for different home sizes. IERA will pay the lesser of the amount shown on the applicants lease or the stated maximum assistance amount.

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS	MAXIMUM MONTHLY Rental Assistance	FIFTEEN MONTH Maximum Rental Assistance
Efficiency	\$822.00	\$12,330.00
One-Bedroom	\$842.00	\$12,630.00
Two-Bedroom	\$981.00	\$14,715.00
Three-Bedroom	\$1,369.00	\$20,535.00
Four-Bedroom	\$1,662.00	\$24,930.00

# **HOW DO I APPLY?**

Informational documents in English and Spanish are located at **in.gov/ihcda/homeowners-and-renters/rental-assistance**. You can apply online at the top banner of **IndianaHousingNow.org**. If you're unable to access the technology necessary, call 211 and a representative will help you complete your application over the phone. If you have any general questions, please contact iera@ihcda.in.gov or call 317-800-6000.

Renters living in Hamilton and Marion counties, along with the City of Fort Wayne, should apply to their respective programs unless an eviction case has been filed then renters may apply to IERA for the Pilot Eviction Diversion Program. Information about these programs can be found below:

Hamilton County: hctaindiana.com Marion County: indyrent.org City of Fort Wayne: fwcommunitydevelopment.org/housing/renter-assistance



If someone you know needs rent/utility assistance, please consider sharing this information.