



RentReliefRI

Program Overview

September 10, 2021



About the Program

- \$352 million in federal assistance available
- Can be used to pay rent arrearages, forward facing rent, utility arrearages, Internet stipend and certain other housing expenses
- Funding available until September 30, 2022
- Applicants can receive up to 18 months of rent/utility assistance



Eligibility Criteria

- Income Qualified:
 - At or below 80% Area Median Income (about \$69,200 for a family of four in most parts of the State)
- COVID Impact:
 - Qualified for unemployment or experienced financial hardship due to COVID
- Risk of housing instability or homelessness:
 - Including overdue rent or utility bill or eviction notice



Accessing RentReliefRI Resources

- Webpage: *www.RentReliefRI.com*
- Tenants and landlords apply for assistance through one user-friendly website portal
- Additional program support services including:
 - Call Center- 1-855-608-8756
 - In-person assistance for people submitting applications
 - Outreach to difficult to reach populations
 - Targeted assistance for tenants in the eviction process




Outreach

- Outreach and informational materials available:
 - RentReliefRI one-pager
 - Community Engagement Toolkit
 - FAQs
 - How to Apply
 - Facebook page

Rent Relief RI

@RentReliefRI · Housing Assistance Service



AM I ELIGIBLE? Find out if you're eligible and what you need to apply.

- Are you a renter living in Rhode Island?
- Does your household income meet the program income limits? Limits vary by location and household size (see below for income limits).
- Have you qualified for unemployment benefits OR have you experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to COVID-19?
- Are you at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability? This may include owing past due rent or having received an eviction notice or 5 day demand letter.

If you answer yes to all four questions, you may be eligible.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Gather these documents now to make it easier to complete and submit your application.

- Your landlord's name, address and contact information** – We will need to contact your landlord to send payment and confirm the rental amount owed.
- Proof of residency** – Includes bank statement, utility bill, driver's license, etc.
- Proof of income** – Includes wage statements, W2s, pay stubs, unemployment letter, 2020 tax return, etc.
- Signed copy of your lease agreement** – Or documentation showing tenancy (a pattern of rent payment). If you are not on a lease, a document from your landlord or the property owner showing the amount you pay and/or the amount you owe for rent.
- Documentation demonstrating your rental/utility arrearage** – Includes a past due notice, eviction notice, 5 day demand letter, communication from landlord or a utility company.
- A list of all household members** – Includes everyone living with you (adults, children, non-custodial children, people not on the lease, family members you care for in your home). Unrelated adults (roommates) who live together are considered a household. All adults in the household will need to share their income information.
- A form of identification for the head of household** – State-issued, Tribal or other international identification.

Renters may apply for help paying for utilities even if they do not need help paying for rent.



If you do not have these documents, you may still be able to apply. Contact the RentReliefRI Call Center at 855-608-8756 for assistance.

Both landlords and tenants may initiate an application for the program. Information from both the tenant and landlord will be required to successfully complete an application. **Important: you will need your landlord's name and email address to complete the application.**

READY TO APPLY?
WWW.RENTRELIEFRI.COM
TODAY TO GET STARTED.

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About RentReliefRI
RentReliefRI is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number ERIA0013 awarded to the State of Rhode Island by the U.S. Department of Treasury.



RentReliefRI

Data Dashboard

	Distinct count of Case#	Total Approved Amount
Providence	888	\$6,584,706
Woonsocket	278	\$2,078,804
Pawtucket	277	\$1,940,007
Cranston	171	\$1,307,494
North Providence	139	\$1,035,316
Central Falls	124	\$824,016
West Warwick	110	\$813,229
Warwick	92	\$939,726
East Providence	86	\$720,271
Johnston	50	\$385,203
Coventry	44	\$295,328
Lincoln	44	\$322,302
Newport	43	\$268,122
Cumberland	33	\$267,768
Burrillville	31	\$235,495
North Kingstown	28	\$230,877
Warren	26	\$207,746
Smithfield	24	\$186,038
Westerly	21	\$213,732
South Kingstown	17	\$162,017
Bristol	16	\$134,924
Middletown	16	\$105,232

North Smithfield	15	\$105,989
Portsmouth	14	\$118,745
Narragansett	11	\$78,965
East Greenwich	10	\$90,032
Exeter	9	\$62,004
Barrington	7	\$80,344
Richmond	7	\$43,058
Hopkinton	6	\$62,525
Charlestown	5	\$50,103
Scituate	5	\$48,083
Tiverton	3	\$32,514
Foster	2	\$12,036
Glocester	2	\$24,300
Null	1	\$2,979
Jamestown	1	\$1,802
Little Compton	1	\$1,070
West Greenwich	1	\$10,399



Coming Soon- Homeowner Assistance Fund of RI

- \$50 million to assist owner occupants of 1-4 unit properties
- Households earning up to 150% AMI are eligible (*about \$116,850 for a family of three in most parts of the state*)
- Up to \$50,000 for up to 24 months of assistance
- Eligible expenses include
 - Mortgage and utility arrearages
 - Ongoing mortgage assistance
 - Principle reduction
 - Other housing related costs like property taxes, condo fees, mortgage insurance, etc.
- Website portal: Register for program updates:
<https://www.rihousing.com/hafri/>



Opportunity to Partner with Cities and Towns

- Post information regarding RentReliefRI and Homeowner Assistance Fund on municipal websites
- Share information on the programs in e-newsletters, through social media or other communications
- Host community events
- Make program materials available in City/Town Hall
- Other opportunities?

