

**Overview**

The COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program (CHAP) provides housing assistance to prevent homelessness and help maintain housing stability of individuals and families impacted by the public health-related emergency. CHAP is funded with federal dollars through the Coronavirus Relief Fund, which is authorized by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The program will assist households that have been impacted by COVID-19 through unemployment, illness, or other COVID-19 related circumstances. Funds will be awarded to administrators to assist households that have a rent payment, mortgage payment, homeowner association dues, contract for deed payment, homeowner insurance payment, utility payment or other housing related expenses incurred after March 1, 2020 that is past due.

**Eligible Uses**

To qualify for CHAP, households must meet all of the criteria listed below:

- Be a Minnesota resident.
- Renters with incomes at or below 300% of federal poverty guidelines, with a preference for those at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines; and homeowners with incomes at or below 300% of federal poverty guidelines.

FY 2020 Federal Poverty Guidelines		1-Person Household	2-Person Household	3-Person Household	4-Person Household	5-Person Household
<b>Poverty Threshold</b>	Annual	\$12,760	\$17,240	\$21,720	\$26,200	\$30,680
	Monthly	\$ 1,064	\$ 1,437	\$ 1,810	\$ 2,183	\$ 2,557
<b>201%-300%</b>	Annual	\$38,280	\$51,720	\$65,160	\$78,600	\$92,040
	Monthly	\$ 2,658	\$ 4,310	\$ 5,430	\$ 6,550	\$ 7,670
<b>Low 51%-200%</b>	Annual	\$25,520	\$34,480	\$43,440	\$52,400	\$61,360
	Monthly	\$ 2,127	\$ 2,873	\$ 3,620	\$ 4,367	\$ 5,113
<b>Very Low 31%-50%</b>	Annual	\$ 6,380	\$ 8,620	\$10,860	\$13,100	\$15,340
	Monthly	\$ 532	\$ 718	\$ 905	\$ 1,092	\$ 1,278
<b>Extremely Low 0%-30%</b>	Annual	\$ 3,828	\$ 5,172	\$ 6,516	\$ 7,860	\$ 9,204
	Monthly	\$ 319	\$ 431	\$ 543	\$ 655	\$ 767

- Have a rent payment, mortgage payment, homeowner association dues, contract for deed payment, homeowner insurance payment, utility payment or other housing related expenses incurred after March

1, 2020 that is past due. CHAP funds may only be used for expenses incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020.

- Be unable to make the payment(s) owed because of the public health emergency due to unemployment, illness, or another COVID-19 related issue.

### Eligible Activities

The eligible expenses include the following if needed to maintain housing security and avoid displacement:

- Rent payments
- Mortgage payments (including property taxes and insurance)
- Contract for deed payments
- Manufactured home park lot rents
- Manufactured home payments
- Utility payments
- Association fees
- Homeowner's insurance
- Additional housing-related costs approved by Minnesota Housing.

Funds must be paid directly to the following:

- Landlord or leasing agent for a rental unit;
- Servicer for a mortgage or the entity who owns the mortgage for a homeowner;
- Contract for deed vendor or seller;
- Utility company;
- Manufactured home park owner; or
- Any other identified entity to which payment for the aforementioned direct financial assistance is owed.

### Administration:

Up to 15% percent of the total grant funds awarded to an applicant to administer CHAP can be used for the following:

- Costs associated with processing program applications, determining eligibility and making payments on behalf of program participants
- Costs of providing supportive services for program participants including assessment and landlord negotiation
- Mileage or travel costs to assist participants
- Other costs associated with administering the program (e.g. financial, program management, data/reporting costs).

**NOTE: In general, property tax payments would not be an eligible use of funds, but exceptions may be made by grantees in cases of foreclosure prevention.**

### Questions

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