

New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program assists households behind on their rent that have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 and are at risk of homelessness or housing instability. In addition, the program can provide temporary rental assistance and assistance with unpaid utility bills.

DO I QUALIFY?

Eligible residents must meet the following criteria:

- Household gross income at or below 80 percent of area median income, which varies by county and household size.
- **On or after March 13, 2020**, a member of the household received unemployment benefits or experienced a reduction in income, incurred significant costs or experienced financial hardship, directly or indirectly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The applicant owes past due rent at their current residence **for rent owed on or after March 13, 2020**.
- Applicant must be at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability, which can be demonstrated by having **rental arrears owed on or after March 13, 2020**.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

This assistance can pay up to 12 months of past due rent and for some households, pay up to 3 months for future rent. The program can also pay for up to 12 months of overdue electric or gas bills. Please note, payments will always be issued directly to the landlord or utility provider.

HOW CAN I APPLY?

Applications can be submitted online beginning June 1.

For more information or help with applications please contact:

Catholic Charities of Cortland County
Colin Moore – 607-756-5992 ext. 134

For more information, visit otda.ny.gov/ERAP or call **844-NY1RENT** (844-691-7368)



Office of Temporary
and Disability Assistance