New York State's COVID-19 Rent Relief Program FAQ

What is the NYS COVID-19 Rent Relief Program?
The COVID-19 Rent Relief Program will provide eligible households with a one-time rental subsidy that will be sent directly to the household’s landlord. Applicants will not need to repay this assistance. Payments start in August.

Who is eligible?
- Renter with primary residence in New York.
- Lived in a rent burdened household (more than 30% of gross income spent on rent) prior to March 1, 2020.
- Household income below 80% Area Median Income before March 1, 2020 and at the time of application.
  - Income includes insurance payments, payments made by family and friends, and PUA (Pandemic Unemployment Assistance).
- Earned less income in any month between April 1, 2020 and July 31, 2020 compared to the income earned before March 1, 2020.
- Household does not currently receive a housing subsidy that covers housing costs that exceed 30% of income.
- Mixed status families are eligible.
- NYCHA or Section 8 housing residents are NOT eligible.
- Check here for an eligibility calculator.

How much will tenants receive?
Tenants will receive assistance for their increased rent burden during the pandemic months (April – July). The one time payment will pay enough so tenants return to their original rent burden % prior to March 1, 2020. This will NOT cover the full cost of rent.

How do I apply?
Online HERE, or by paper in Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Korean, Haitian-Creole, Bengali, and Russian. Be prepared to have your employers verify your income, and have proof of ID (IDNYC and driver licences work!)

When is the deadline to apply?
Thursday, July 30, 6 PM EST.

Where can I get more information?
- For more information, please visit this website, call 1-833-499-0318, or email covidrentrelief@hcr.ny.gov.

For updates, please visit: https://hcr.ny.gov/RRP

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