Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program for Residents in Dewey and Ziebach Counties, Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation

KEEPING FAMILIES IN THEIR HOMES

Congress passed legislation that created the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program that makes available $25 billion to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds are provided directly to States, U.S. Territories, local governments, and Indian tribes. Grantees use the funds to provide assistance to eligible households through existing or newly created rental assistance programs. Not less than 90 percent of awarded funds must be used for direct financial assistance, including rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utilities and home energy costs arrears, and other expenses related to housing. Remaining funds are available for housing stability services, including case management and other services intended to keep households stably housed, and administrative costs. Funds generally expire on December 31, 2021.

The Cheyenne River Housing Authority (CRHA) is the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) and is the grantee that will administer the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) for the Cheyenne River Sioux Indian Reservation. The formula for these funds is limited to eligible households who reside within CRHA’s service area, which is Dewey and Ziebach counties.

INFORMATION FOR RENTERS

Eligibility
An “eligible household” is defined as a renter household in which at least one or more individuals meets the following criteria:

i. Qualifies for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19;

ii. Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and

iii. Has a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median.

Rental assistance provided to an eligible household should not be duplicative of any other federally funded rental assistance provided to such household.
Eligible households that include an individual who has been unemployed for the 90 days prior to application for assistance and households with income at or below 50 percent of the area median are to be prioritized for assistance.

Household income is determined as either the household’s total income for calendar year 2020 or the household’s monthly income at the time of application. For household incomes determined using the latter method, income eligibility must be redetermined every 3 months.

Income Limits for 2020 (Based on 2020 AMI Income Limits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Persons</th>
<th>60%</th>
<th>80%</th>
<th>70%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>40%</th>
<th>30%</th>
<th>20%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Person</td>
<td>34,020</td>
<td>45,360</td>
<td>38,690</td>
<td>28,350</td>
<td>22,680</td>
<td>17,010</td>
<td>11,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Person</td>
<td>38,880</td>
<td>51,840</td>
<td>45,380</td>
<td>32,400</td>
<td>25,920</td>
<td>19,440</td>
<td>12,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Person</td>
<td>43,740</td>
<td>58,320</td>
<td>51,030</td>
<td>36,450</td>
<td>29,160</td>
<td>21,870</td>
<td>14,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Person</td>
<td>48,600</td>
<td>64,800</td>
<td>56,700</td>
<td>40,500</td>
<td>32,400</td>
<td>24,300</td>
<td>16,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Person</td>
<td>52,500</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>61,250</td>
<td>43,750</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>26,250</td>
<td>17,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Person</td>
<td>56,400</td>
<td>75,200</td>
<td>65,800</td>
<td>47,000</td>
<td>37,600</td>
<td>28,200</td>
<td>18,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Person</td>
<td>60,240</td>
<td>80,320</td>
<td>70,280</td>
<td>50,200</td>
<td>40,160</td>
<td>30,120</td>
<td>20,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Person</td>
<td>64,140</td>
<td>85,520</td>
<td>74,830</td>
<td>53,450</td>
<td>42,760</td>
<td>32,070</td>
<td>21,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Person</td>
<td>68,040</td>
<td>90,720</td>
<td>79,380</td>
<td>56,700</td>
<td>45,380</td>
<td>34,020</td>
<td>22,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Person</td>
<td>71,940</td>
<td>95,920</td>
<td>83,930</td>
<td>59,950</td>
<td>47,960</td>
<td>35,970</td>
<td>23,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Person</td>
<td>75,840</td>
<td>101,120</td>
<td>88,480</td>
<td>63,200</td>
<td>50,560</td>
<td>37,920</td>
<td>25,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Person</td>
<td>79,680</td>
<td>106,240</td>
<td>92,960</td>
<td>66,400</td>
<td>53,120</td>
<td>39,840</td>
<td>26,560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Available Assistance

Eligible households may receive up to 12 months period of assistance, plus an additional three months if the grantee determines the extra months are needed to ensure housing stability and grantee funds are available. The payment of existing housing-related arrears that could result in eviction of an eligible household is prioritized. Assistance must be provided to reduce an eligible household’s rental arrears before the household may receive assistance for future rent payments. Once a household’s rental arrears are reduced, grantees may only commit to providing future assistance for up to three months at a time. Households may reapply for additional assistance at the end of the three-month period if needed and the overall time limit of fifteen months for assistance is not exceeded.

Application Process

An application for rental assistance may be submitted by either an eligible household or by a landlord on behalf of that eligible household. Households and landlords must apply through programs established by grantees. In general, funds will be paid
directly to landlords and utility service providers. If a landlord does not wish to participate, funds may be paid directly to the eligible household.

TRANSPARENCY

CRHA will be responsible for providing financial and program reporting to the Department of the Treasury who will issue public reports quarterly on the use of funds. The Treasury Office of Inspector General will conduct oversight of the program and may recoup funds from CRHA if we fail to comply with the restrictions on the use of funds.

APPLICATION PROCESS

This is a new program for CRHA; there is new information to be collected and supporting documents must be attached. CRHA will begin accepting application on Monday, FEBRUARY 1, 2021. Applications will be accessible by the following means:

- CRHA website – download application
- Faxed to applicant
- Electronic Copy, via email
- Mailed as requested by Applicant
- Social Media, via download from CRHA CARES Emergency Rental Assistance Program Facebook Page
- Drop Box Stand at CRHA Administrative Office, Eagle Butte, SD. This is located by the front entrance door.

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATIONS

Applications will be accessible by the following means:

- Faxed to CRHA at 964-1070
- Electronic Copy, via email to _________________
- Mailed to CRHA, PO Box 480, Eagle Butte, SD 57625
- Drop Box at CRHA Administrative Office, Eagle Butte, SD. Drop box is located on the front entrance door.

US Treasury Guidelines

CRHA is subject to all program guidelines required by the US Treasury Department regarding eligibility of households and eligible uses for the grant funds. In the event the US Treasury issues new guidelines for this Program CRHA will publish a public notice to disseminate new program information.