

Has COVID-19 made you unable to pay rent?

If so, we may be able to help.

COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) can provide rental and utility assistance for eligible renter households so that they retain their housing stability. See the other side of this flyer or eligibility info.

How to apply

The best way to apply is by using the online portal:

ONLINE PORTAL

(DIRECT LINK TO PORTAL: <https://ceraapp.michigan.gov/>)

(MORE INFO: www.oaklandhomeless.org/cera)

Other options include:

You can call
1-888-441-1742



OR

You can pick up a
paper application
and drop off



OR

You can print it
yourself and drop
off the application



You can pick up and drop off your applications at the following agencies:

- OLHSA - 196 Cesar E Chavez Ave, Pontiac, MI 48342
- Community Housing Network - 5505 Corporate Dr #300, Troy, MI 48098
- Lighthouse MI - 18505 W 12 Mile Rd, Lathrup Village, MI 48076

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Eligibility

CERA can serve renter households that have incomes less than 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) who meet the following conditions:

- Individual(s) in the household has qualified for unemployment benefits or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or has experienced other financial hardship due directly or indirectly to the coronavirus outbreak; and
- Individual(s) in the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability evidenced by a past due utility or rent notice.

Documents Needed:

- Completed CERA Tenant application.
- Copy of past-due rent notice, a notice to quit or a court ordered summons, complaint or judgement.
- Copy of state ID or passport for the tenant applicant (with proof of residency if address does not match the unit).
- Most current copy of lease agreement in tenant's name (if a written lease was completed).
- Provide all proof of earned and unearned income for household members that live at the property and that are over the age of 18.
- Household income/benefits (unemployment, SSI, etc.) for one month, OR
- Copy of submitted 2020 IRS form 1040 (first two pages) OR
- Food Assistance Program Notice of Case Action form (only applicable for households with 3 or less people).
- Copy of ALL utility statements the tenant is responsible for, if applicable.
- Copy of Internet bill/statement, if applicable.

If eligible, you also can get help with utilities and internet!

Please call 1-888-441-1742 for assistance

Legal services for renters will be provided by local legal aid organizations funded by grants made through the Michigan State Bar Foundation.