

Sarasota County

Emergency Rental Assistance Program



Eligibility and documentation requirements – effective May 5, 2021

Household income must be at or below 80%. One of the following is needed:

1. 2020 1040 tax return **AND** evidence of submittal to the IRS.
2. Determination letter from another government agency that verifies household income for another program on or after Jan. 1, 2020.
3. Income documentation for all household members for the most recent two months.

One or more household members must have an impact due to COVID-19. COVID-19 impact can be shown by providing one of the following:

1. Proof of unemployment or a reduction in income due to COVID-19:
 - a) Pay stubs 30 days prior to the start of COVID impact and 30 days during the impacted period.
 - b) Letter from employer documenting loss or reduction of income (must be a signed letter on company letterhead).
 - c) If unemployed, documented approval for unemployment benefits from Employ Florida.
 - d) If self-employed, two consecutive bank statements during the impacted period from all business accounts and all personal accounts.
2. A signed COVID-19 Impact Affidavit describing your incurred costs or financial hardship due to COVID-19.

One or more household individuals must demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability by providing one of the following:

1. Past due utility, rent or eviction notice.
2. Unsafe or unhealthy living conditions.
 - a) Acceptable documentation may include: Inspection documentation from a city or county, a department of health or department of children and families OR a letter from Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC) or other similar organization.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

1. Government-issued photo identification (if the ID displays a different address than your rental address, a utility bill in the applicant's name is needed).
2. Fully executed lease or rental statement for rental property in Sarasota County.

If requesting RENTAL ASSISTANCE

- a) In addition to a current and fully executed lease, a rental statement from the landlord that includes the household member or applicant's name(s), address, amount of rent due, and the time period for rent owed.
- b) The applicant's landlord will need to complete a landlord application and provide a copy of their W-9.

If requesting UTILITY ASSISTANCE

- a) Most recent invoice **OR** past due notice reflecting service at the rental location.
 - a. Eligible utility costs include: electricity, natural gas, propane, water, sewer, trash and removal for service at the rental location.

If requesting MOVING ASSISTANCE

- a) Applicant must be moving into a **new** apartment. The lease must show the amount owed for the security deposit.

This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number CFDA 21.023, Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance awarded to Sarasota County by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Sarasota County prohibits discrimination in all services, programs or activities. View the complete policy at scgov.net (keywords ADA compliance).