

# Get help paying your rent and utility bills

Emergency Rent & Utility Program for Renters Affected by COVID-19



## Don't lose your house or apartment because of COVID-19.

The Housing Authority, on behalf of the City of Bakersfield and County of Kern, has a program to provide financial assistance for your rent and utility bills, including past-due bills. You could receive up to 12 months of assistance, plus an additional 3 months to help you stay in your house or apartment.

The program prioritizes paying late rent or utility bills that could result in your eviction, and grants must be used to reduce any past-due balances before you can receive assistance for future rent payments.

**You don't have to be behind on your rent or utility payments to apply.** If your income has been affected by COVID-19, you may qualify for assistance.

## Eligibility Guidelines

You may qualify for assistance that doesn't have to be repaid if:

1. You are a renter in the City of Bakersfield or Kern County;
2. At least one member of your household qualifies for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19;
3. You demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and
4. You have a household income at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI)

## Income Limits to Qualify for Assistance

| Persons in Family | Income Limit |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 1                 | \$39,150     |
| 2                 | \$44,750     |
| 3                 | \$50,350     |
| 4                 | \$55,900     |
| 5                 | \$60,400     |
| 6                 | \$64,850     |
| 7                 | \$69,350     |
| 8                 | \$73,800     |

Source: HUD FY 2021 Income Limits Documentation System

Apply online or download an application at  
<https://rup.kernha.org>

