

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How are applicants eligible for East Orange COVID-19 Rental Assistance PHASE II Grant?

- Applicants must be East Orange Residents.
- Household income at time of application must be at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI).
- Employment/Income must have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning April 1, 2020 or later.
- Applicant must be PAST DUE a minimum of one month on rent.
- The applicant CANNOT currently receive any subsidized rental assistance.

What documents do applicants submit?

- A New Jersey resident photo identification (driver's license or a state ID)
- An active rental/lease agreement in their name.
- A landlord affidavit.
- Proof of a decrease in income due to the pandemic. (Must have documentable evidence of loss of income, reduction in hours or unemployment as a result of COVID-19 pandemic that contributed to the missed payments).
- Source of all income (i.e. pensions, alimony, child support, worker's compensation, veteran benefits statements and unemployment check stubs or proof of unemployment deposit).

When can applicants apply for East Orange COVID-19 Rental Assistance Grant and when is the deadline?

- Applicants can apply beginning Monday, December 13, 2021 at 11am until funding is expended. All applications must include all required documents before the application is deemed complete and considered for approval and award. However, the applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, and funding will be distributed to complete and eligible applications until funds are exhausted.

How are applications processed?

- By completing ONLY ONE application and submitting the same to ONLY ONE agency provider either: NJSHARES, Isaiah House or the East Orange Community Development Corporation. Only one completed and eligible application per household will be accepted. Duplicate applications will be discovered and discarded.

Is an income requirement for the grant?

- Applicants' household income at the time of application must be at or below 80% of the Area Median Income.

How much assistance is awarded?

- Eligible households will receive assistance of up to \$3,500 or three months' rent in arrears in a one-time, lump-sum payment made directly to property owners or management companies. Only one application will be reviewed for each household.

Who is the financial source and who will administer the grant?

- This grant of \$1,200,000 is funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program is provided by the City of East Orange and administered in partnership with NJSHARES and the Civic Cares Foundation dba Isaiah House and the East Orange Community Development Corporation.

Must I have lost my job to qualify for the grant?

- Applicants who are working may be eligible for the grant as long as employment/income has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning April 1, 2020, or later and all other eligibility requirements are met.