

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)



IndianaHousingNow.org

INDIANA EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE (IERA) PROGRAM

1. What assistance is available?

Assistance is available to renters for rent, utilities, and home energy. Utilities include gas, electric, water, and sewer. Home energy expenses include fuel oil, propane, firewood, or coal.

2. How many months of assistance is available?

Fifteen months of assistance is available to each qualifying household. This includes past due rent, utilities, home energy, and forward-facing rent.

3. Is every community participating in IERA?

No. Four counties and one city are running separate rental assistance programs. If you live in Hamilton County, Lake County, Marion County, St. Joseph County, or the City of Fort Wayne you will need to apply to their program.

Location	Website
Hamilton County	HCTAIndiana.com
Lake County	LakeCountyIN.care
Marion County	indyrent.org
St. Joseph County	sjcindiana.com
City of Fort Wayne	fwcares.org

4. If someone already received assistance from IHCD through other rental assistance programs could they receive assistance from IERA?

Yes. If a qualifying household received assistance from either RAF or ESG the household may be eligible to receive IERA assistance. The assistance provided by IERA cannot duplicate the months of assistance provided by the prior program. If a household received rental assistance in November, December, January, and February they may receive IERA assistance beginning in March.



We encourage and support the nation's affirmative housing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or familial status. This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number ERA0021 awarded to the State of Indiana by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Last updated October 5, 2021

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5. If a renter household receives federal rental assistance through the Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) program, lives in a Project-Based Section 8 unit, or lives in Public Housing, can they receive assistance from IERA?

Yes. A household may receive IERA assistance for the tenant's portion of the rent, however, IERA may not duplicate the rental assistance/subsidy that the household receives. The household may also be eligible for utility and home energy assistance.

6. If a renter household receives LIHEAP can they receive utility assistance from IERA?

Yes. A renter household may have received LIHEAP during the 2020-2021 program year OR applied for LIHEAP during the 2021-2022 program year and still be eligible to receive assistance through the IERA program.

7. Where do I apply?

Interested households should go to [IndianaHousingNow.org](https://www.IndianaHousingNow.org), create an account, and submit an application for rental assistance. Applicants that are unable to access the Internet may contact 211 for assistance in completing and submitting an IERA application.

8. How do I apply?

After accessing the link to apply at [IndianaHousingNow.org](https://www.IndianaHousingNow.org), potential applicants will need to create an account and complete the online application. Applicants should provide the requested documentation as quickly as possible to facilitate the processing of their application.

9. How will I know if I am approved?

Applicants will be notified if they qualify for the program via the email address provided with their application.

10. How much rental assistance should I expect?

The amount of rental assistance is based on the size of the apartment. Below are the maximum rental benefit amounts:

Number of Bedrooms	Allowable Monthly Rent	15 Month Maximum Rental Assistance
Efficiency	\$822	\$12,330
One-Bedroom	\$842	\$12,630
Two-Bedroom	\$981	\$14,715
Three-Bedroom	\$1369	\$20,535
Four-Bedroom+	\$1662	\$24,930

Approved applicants will receive the lesser or either their stated rental amount OR the maximum program benefit.

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11. How much utility assistance should I expect?

Approved applicants will receive a utility stipend corresponding to the size of their rental units for each requested utility.

	0 Bedrooms	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom	5+ Bedroom
Heating - Natural Gas	24	32	43	52	66	75
Heating - Electric	55	78	102	123	152	170
Heating - Home Energy	58	77	103	128	166	178
Electric - Other than Heating	49	57	65	73	83	91
Water	29	36	46	56	70	88
Sewer	54	54	62	71	86	109

12. If I live in Elkhart County where should I apply for rental assistance?

Beginning October 1, 2021, qualified renters in Elkhart County should apply to Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance via [IndianaHousingNow.org](https://www.IndianaHousingNow.org).

13. If I live in a mobile home can I receive an Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance Benefit?

Yes. Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance may pay lot rent, mobile home rent, and utilities for qualified applicants. If an applicant owns their mobile home or is purchasing it IERA may still assist with lot rent and utilities for qualified applicants.

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