



Arundel Community Development Services, Inc.

ACDS Eviction Prevention Program

The **ACDS Eviction Prevention Program (EPP)** provides **financial assistance to help provide housing stability for Anne Arundel County renters who have been affected by the COVID-19 emergency**. Households with incomes **at or below 80% Adjusted Median Income (AMI)** are eligible for EPP assistance upon completion of an application, including submission of documents to support and verification of the application. The EPP provides assistance to eligible households in three primary ways: **1. Payment of past due rent and/or utility bills; 2. Help with future monthly rent; and, 3. Relocation assistance** for those households that must move because their lease has expired or they are living in unhealthy, unsafe or unstable conditions.

Be sure to **read through the information below before applying** for information about eligibility, the types of relief available, and what to expect once you've completed your application.

Are you financially eligible?

Use this chart to determine if your household is financially eligible for the EPP. The maximum household income for households is dependent on household size, so *be sure to check for the correct household size!*

ACDS EPP 2021 Income Limits (multiply total monthly household income by 12)

Number of Household Members	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
80% of AMI Income Limits (\$)	54,950	62,800	70,650	78,500	84,800	91,100	97,350	103,650

How Do You Apply?

The application for the EPP is online. You may **access the application from the ACDS website: www.acdsinc.org**. You will be asked to provide information about your household, your household income and how your household income was negatively affected by the COVID-19 crisis. **Whenever possible, please provide all documentation requested.**

However, **please do not abandon your application if you do not have a requested document!** Your Case Manager may be able to assist you in obtaining the document, or there may be acceptable alternative documentation.

What relief do you need?

1. **Payment of past due rent and/or utilities:** Ask for past due rent and/or past due utilities **if you are currently behind on your rent or utilities**. You will need to have copies of your rent ledger showing your balance and copies of your utility bill(s) showing that you are past due.
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 - **EPP can only cover past due rent or utility bills that were incurred in April, 2020 or later!**
 - The maximum assistance available under this program is 12 months' rent, *including* payments made to cover arrears.
2. **Help with future monthly rent:** Ask for help with future monthly rent **if your household income is not enough to pay your current or next few months' rent.**
 - You can ask for help for a **maximum of three (3) months' rent per application.**
 - Payments for future rent will be paid to your landlord monthly, for up to three (3) months.
 - If you still need help after you have received three months' rental assistance, you will need to submit an Application for Additional Rental Assistance and provide updated household income information. Your Case Manager can provide you with the Application or show you where it is located online.
 - Depending on the monthly income of your household, **you may be required to pay a portion of your monthly rent.**
 - The maximum assistance available under this program is 12 months' rent, *including* payments made to cover arrears.
3. **Relocation Assistance:** Ask for relocation **assistance if you need financial assistance to help you move** because your current housing is unsafe or unhealthy, your lease has expired and your landlord won't renew, or if you must relocate in order to remain safely and stably-housed. This assistance may include:
 - payment of a security deposit;
 - first month's rent in a new property;
 - payment for some other expenses that are necessary so you are able to relocate to stable, safe housing.

What if you need more than one type of assistance?

You may apply for more than one type of assistance on the same application. For example, if you have past due rent *and* you lack enough money to pay rent going forward, you may apply for payment of past due rent and for help with future rent. Similarly, if you need relocation assistance, you may apply for both relocation assistance *and* future rent if your household income isn't enough to cover the rent at your new property.

What's next?

Once you have completed your application and provided all required documentation, your file will be assigned to a Case Manager. An email will be sent to your landlord requesting documentation of the rent due and notifying the landlord of certain requirements they must agree to in order to participate in the EPP. Once we have all required information and documentation from you and your landlord, your application will be reviewed, and if your application meets all necessary requirements, it will be approved. If your application is not approved, you will be notified of the reason why it was not approved.

How does payment work?

Payment will be made directly to your landlord and/or your utility provider(s). If you are approved for future rent, payments will be made to your landlord monthly, as rent comes due.

How long will all this take?

Although the volume of requests for assistance through the EPP is very high, we will process your application as quickly as possible, and we will appreciate your patience. Providing all information and all documents requested when you submit your application, or as soon as possible if requested by your Case Manager, is the most important thing you can do to help us process your application as quickly as possible. Also, please be sure to check your email regularly for communications from your Case Manager!

Do you have to pay this money back?

No! These funds are paid as a grant to your landlord and/or utility provider on your behalf.