

HOUSEHOLD ELIGIBILITY

i. Eligible Household:

1. A household of one or more individuals who are obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling and with respect to which the eligible grantee involved determines:

2. That one or more individuals within the household has:

a. **qualified for unemployment benefits, or**

b. **experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to the COVID-19, which the applicant shall attest in writing.**

c. That one or more individuals within the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability, which may include: i. a past due utility or rent notice or eviction notice;

ii. unsafe or unhealthy living conditions; or

iii. any other evidence of such risk, as determined by the eligible grantee involved; and

3. The household has an annual or monthly household income that is not more than 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) for the household size.

4. Tenants must be U.S. citizens, or qualified noncitizens with an unexpired immigration status.

5. Youths 17 years of age and younger, living as part of a family unit, and not emancipated, are not eligible to apply for ERAP services.

6. An individual is considered an emancipated minor and may apply for ERAP services if he or she is 17 years of age or younger and not living as part of a family unit and is married or separated from a spouse or is a parent caring for children.

7. Counties should respect client confidentiality and seek permission for release of information from the client. Counties must maintain the releases in the client record.

8. In reviewing applications for financial assistance to eligible households, a. the grantee shall prioritize consideration of the applications of an eligible household that satisfies any of the following conditions:

i. The income of the household does not exceed 50 percent of the AMI for the household.

ii. One or more individuals within the household are unemployed as of the date of the application for assistance and have not been employed for the 90-day period preceding such date, **AND**

iii. Rental assistance may not be duplicative of other federally funded rental assistance provided to households.