

# 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, home energy, and internet expenses. Utilities include gas, electric, water, sewer, and trash. Home energy expenses include fuel oil, propane, firewood, or coal.

### 2. How many months of assistance is available?

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

### 3. Is every community participating in IERA?

No. Five counties and one city are running separate rental assistance programs. If you live in Elkhart County, 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
Elkhart County	<a href="http://elkhartcounty.com/rentalassistance">elkhartcounty.com/rentalassistance</a>
Hamilton County	<a href="http://HCTAIndiana.com">HCTAIndiana.com</a>
Lake County	<a href="http://LakeCountyIN.care">LakeCountyIN.care</a>
Marion County	<a href="http://indyrent.org">indyrent.org</a>
St. Joseph County	<a href="http://sjcindiana.com">sjcindiana.com</a>
City of Fort Wayne	<a href="http://fwcares.org">fwcares.org</a>

### 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



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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.

**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 rent, however, IERA may not duplicate the rental assistance/subsidy that the household receives. The household may also be eligible for utility/home energy and internet assistance.

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

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

**7. Where do I apply?**

Interested households should go to [IndianaHousingNow.org](https://IndianaHousingNow.org), create a Submittable account, and submit an application for rental assistance.

**8. How do I apply?**

After accessing the link to apply at [IndianaHousingNow.org](https://IndianaHousingNow.org), potential applicants will need to create a Submittable account and complete the online application. Applicants will receive a request for additional documentation at the email address they provided with their application. Applicants should provide the documents requested as quickly as possible to facilitate processing and approval 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
Efficiency	\$678
One-Bedroom	\$781
Two-Bedroom	\$946
Three-Bedroom	\$1248
Four-Bedroom	\$1455

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#### 11. How much utility assistance should I expect?

The full amount of past due utility bills, up to 12 months past due incurred after April 1, 2020, may be paid for qualified applicants. The program is unable to pay disconnect or reconnect fees. Those fees will be the responsibility of the applicant.

[IndianaHousingNow.org](https://IndianaHousingNow.org)



Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority



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.

*Last updated March 1, 2021*