

City of Jacksonville

COVID-19 Financial Hardship Assistance Program

Purpose and Scope

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) signed into Public Law (116-13) on March 27, 2020 has made available the use of limited funding to the City of Jacksonville to be used to assist Jacksonville residents who are experiencing a financial hardship as a result of the Coronavirus. The City of Jacksonville will make available limited, temporary assistance to low income residents of Jacksonville who have a demonstrated financial hardship due to temporary or permanent loss of employment income due to the effects of COVID-19 pandemic.

Objectives

1. **Establish regulatory compliance.** For all grant allocations related to this funding, therefore criteria is established to ensure that all grant allocations meets the regulatory requirements detailed in 24 CFR Part 570 or additional guidance as developed by US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
2. **Maintain fairness in the allocation and review of application process.** All financial hardship applications for assistance will undergo a technical review by Community Development staff qualifying the applicant's application in accordance with guidelines established for the program. Staff will use the same set of objective measures for all applicants.
3. **Maintain information transparency.** Information about the grant requirements and selection criteria are fully accessible to all potential applicants.

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The City of Jacksonville will utilize CDBG-CV funding for the utility and rental assistance. This assistance is limited to a maximum of three consecutive months and must be made directly to the provider of such services on behalf of an individual or family no more than three months of assistance payments per applicant that is determined eligible for the program. Utility assistance will consist of water, electric and/or gas only.

Who is Eligible

- Households who experienced job loss directly related to COVID-19
- Households who has been laid off as a result of COVID-19
- Households who have been furloughed as a result of COVID-19
- Households who experienced a reduction in salary as a result of COVID-19
- Households with incomes at or below 50% AMI (See table below)
- Households who are delinquent in their rent, electric, water, and/or gas bills

Process & Review of Application Procedures

The City of Jacksonville Community Development developed a financial hardship application that details and describes the need for possible assistance with utilities and rent that can be paid on the behalf of income eligible applicants that were directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants must demonstrate a financial hardship due to loss of income, reduction in income, or for persons who either contracted the coronavirus or had to quarantine because of the coronavirus **and** suffered a financial hardship.

Starting Monday, November 9, 2020 all applications will be accepted via email at: twatson@cityofjacksonville.net or in-person at Community Development office located at 109 S. 2nd Street, Jacksonville, AR. Applicants will be notified via email if proper documentation is missing and be given a timeframe to return the information. Until all required supporting documentation is received from applicant, the applications will be considered incomplete.

If applicants needs copies made of their documents, an appointment must be made by calling (501) 982-0026. If you have your copies, then you can send your application and copies of your documents by email or drop them in our mail slot in the front door at Community Development, 109 S. 2nd Street, Jacksonville, AR. A list of needed documents is listed in the application

Funding Process

Once processed and determined eligible for COVID-19 financial hardship assistance, the City of Jacksonville will process assistance payments according to our financial policies and accounts payable process. The City will issue payment to the utility company and/or landlord/property manager on behalf of the eligible applicants. No payments will be issued to the applicant directly.

	1 PERSON	2 PERSON	3 PERSON	4 PERSON	5 PERSON	6 PERSON	7 PERSON	8 PERSON
30% MEDIAN INCOME	\$15,200	\$17,350	\$21,720	\$26,200	\$30,680	\$35,160	\$39,640	\$44,120
50% MEDIAN INCOME	\$25,300	\$28,900	\$32,500	\$36,100	\$39,000	\$41,900	\$44,800	\$47,700

INCOME GUIDELINES – according to household size