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Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 6:54 AM
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Subject: New CDC Eviction Moratorium Announced & Resources

Good morning,

This week the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced a new [targeted moratorium on evictions](#) through **October 3, 2021** to provide states more time to distribute funds for rental assistance. This moratorium is expected to cover 90% of renters and will halt evictions in counties experiencing “substantial and high levels of community transmission” as defined by the CDC.

This moratorium will cover any tenant, lessee, or resident of residential property who provides their landlord a signed [declaration](#) indicating:

- Their income level qualifies them to be protected;
- They are unable to make housing payment in full due to loss of income, wages, or hours of work, were laid off or have extraordinary out-of-pocket medical expenses;
- They have done their best to make partial housing payments and obtain housing assistance;
- Eviction would render them homeless; and
- They live in a U.S. county experiencing substantial or high rates of community transmission levels of SARS-CoV-2 as defined by the CDC. To identify the rate of transmission in a given county, view the CDC’s [COVID Data Tracker](#).

Calling a local expert is the best way to figure out all the help that is available. Find a listing for a local HUD-approved housing counselor by calling (800) 569-4287.

The new CDC moratorium is set to expire October 3, 2021. Please use this time to connect those who may be behind on housing payments with the following resources:

Statewide Programs

[Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance \(WERA\)](#) is accepting applications to provide up to 12 months assistance for current and/or overdue rent and utility payments to people who experienced financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see [WERA frequently asked questions](#) for more information.

[Emergency Assistance](#) is available to low-income caretaker relatives of dependent children experiencing a housing emergency. The Emergency Assistance program provides a one-time payment to qualified families.

Milwaukee-Area Program

[Milwaukee Emergency Rental Assistance \(MERA\)](#) offered through the Social Development Commission (SDC), provides rent assistance to those experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19 in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties.

Tribal Community Members

[Ho-Chunk Nation Emergency Rental Assistance](#)
[Menominee Indian Tribe COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance](#)
[Oneida Emergency Rental/Utility Assistance Program](#)
[Red Cliff Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#)
[Bad River Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#)

Additionally, calling **2-1-1** will connect people in need to a 24/7 service line where the individual's needs can be matched to available non-profit and government resources in their community from housing support to food and healthcare assistance.

Action Steps for Renters Facing Eviction:

1. After the moratorium expires, households facing eviction should be encouraged to attend the initial hearing to get a court date established.
2. Not attending the hearing will result in a default judgement in favor of the landlord and tenant removal will occur much sooner than if the tenant attends the hearing.
3. If a household is facing an eviction or has questions about their legal options and rights as a renter, the following are free legal resources for low-income Wisconsinites:
 - [Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc.](#)
 - For civil legal services, call (855) 947-2529.
 - [Wisconsin Judicare, Inc.](#)
 - For legal help, call (715) 842-1681.
 - Civil legal service provider for Wisconsin's northern [33 counties](#) and [11 federally recognized Indian tribes](#).
 - The American Bar Association also maintains a [directory of organizations](#) that can connect individuals with free legal services.

This email will be posted to the [BWF Work Programs Help Desk Home Page](#).



Eviction Protection Declaration

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued an order that may protect you from being evicted or removed from where you are living. **This means that you may be able to stay at the place where you live through October 3, 2021, if you qualify.**

How to use this form

1. See if you qualify for eviction protection under the CDC order. If you'd like help from an expert, contact the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at (800) 569-4287 or go to <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/housing-counseling/rental-eviction/> to get contact information for a local housing counselor.
2. Sign the declaration that you qualify, on the next page.
3. Give the signed declaration page to the individual or company you rent from (for example, building management, landlord, etc.). Keep a picture or copy for your records and call your expert back if there's a problem.

If your landlord violates the CDC order, they could be subject to criminal penalties, including fines or a term of imprisonment.

1. Do I qualify?

If you can check at least one box in each column, you qualify.

Column A

I received a stimulus check (Economic Impact Payment) in 2020 or 2021

I was not required to report any income to the IRS in 2020

I am receiving **any** of the following benefits:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Supplemental Security Disability Income (SSDI)

In 2020 or 2021, I earned (or expect to earn) **less than** \$99,000 as an individual or **less than** \$198,000 as a joint filer

None of the above — You do not qualify.

AND

Column B

I cannot pay my full rent or make a full housing payment because:

My household income has gone down substantially

I have been laid off from work

My work hours or wages have been cut

I have extraordinary out-of-pocket medical expenses¹

None of the above — You do not qualify.

You checked at least one item in each column? Your income level qualifies.

[Check the first box on the next page]

¹Defined as 7.5% or more of my adjusted gross income for the year

2. My Declaration that I qualify

By checking the boxes below, I declare that each statement is true.

My income level qualifies for the reasons explained above.

I live in a U.S. county experiencing substantial or high² rates of community transmission levels of SARS-CoV-2.

I have done my best to make timely partial payments that are as close as possible to the full payment and to get government assistance in making my rent or housing payments.³

If I were evicted, I have no other available housing options, so I would:

- Probably become homeless, **or**
- Have to move to a homeless shelter, **or**
- Have to move in with others who live in close quarters.

I understand that after I sign:

- Unless I come to an agreement with my landlord, I am still responsible for rent, back rent, and any fees, penalties or interest under my lease.
- I must still follow the conditions of my lease.
- Unless I come to an agreement with my landlord, if I fail to make my required payments, I could be evicted when this temporary halt of evictions ends.
- I can still be evicted for reasons other than not paying rent or not making a housing payment.

I sign this declaration⁴ under penalty of perjury. That means I promise that the statements above are the truth and that I understand that I can be criminally punished for lying.

You sign here:

X _____

Date: _____

3. Give this signed page to the individual or company you rent from.

ATTN LANDLORDS: Thank you for your compliance. If you violate the CDC's Eviction Order, you and/ or your business may be subject to criminal penalties, including fines and a term of imprisonment.

Troubleshooting tools for tenants

Find emergency rental financial assistance

Call (800) 569-4287 to find a listing for local HUD-approved housing counselors

Report problems with debt collection

Submit a complaint to CFPB cfpb.gov/complaint

Report discrimination

Submit a complaint.
Call HUD at (800) 669-9777

² See COVID-19 Integrated County View: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view/>

³ Calling a local expert is the best way to figure out all the help that is available to you. Find a listing for a local HUD-approved housing counselor by calling (800) 569-4287.

⁴ If you have already signed an eviction moratorium declaration, you do not need to submit another one.