

HOUSTON-HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Administered by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and BakerRipley



Application Selection Process

The Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program operates to ensure fairness and equitable treatment of all applicants.

The program uses random selection of applications, rather than selecting them on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no guarantees that an applicant will receive funding, nor is there a way to project exactly when an application could be selected.

The program uses a prioritization process to ensure that individuals who have the highest need (based on level of income and household financial circumstances) are selected before households with more resources or better household financial circumstances.

Process Overview

At this time, a tenant must be in active eviction proceedings to apply.

The program evaluates and sorts applications into three groups, or priority tiers, and assigns a random number to each application within each tier. This sorting process happens every month, using applications that are received in the previous month

Applications are then selected for processing based on the month the application was submitted, prioritized based on tier, and in order of the randomly-assigned number. For example, all March tier 1, tier 2, and tier 3 applications must be selected before program eligibility specialists receive applications from April.

Priority Tier Criteria

Tier 1: Households with reported income at or below 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI) OR unemployed for the 90 days prior to application date AND monthly rent below area Fair Market Rent (FMR)

Tier 2: Households with reported income at or below 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI) OR unemployed for the 90 days prior to application date AND monthly rent above area Fair Market Rent (FMR)

Tier 3: Households with reported income between 51%-80% of the Area Median Income (AMI)

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Note: the program utilizes the AMI (Area Median Income) and FMR (Fair Market Rent) rates established by HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) for the 2022 program year; FMR is determined using rental unit assumptions based on household size.

Household Size	50% Annual AMI Income	80% Annual AMI Income
1	\$31,050	\$49,600
2	\$35,450	\$56,700
3	\$39,900	\$63,800
4	\$44,300	\$70,850
5	\$47,850	\$76,550
6	\$51,400	\$82,200
7	\$54,950	\$87,900
8	\$58,500	\$93,550