

A stylized graphic of a house roof composed of several overlapping triangles in shades of blue, set against a solid blue background.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY





WHAT IS SC STAY PLUS?

SC Stay Plus is a \$272 million federally-funded program created to assist South Carolina households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides payments directly to landlords and utility companies on behalf of affected renters. These funds are made available to South Carolinians under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, and South Carolina Act 17 of 2021. This program differs from SC Stay, an earlier mortgage and rental assistance program, and is administered by the South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority (SC Housing).





WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

SC Stay Plus will provide up to:

- 12 months of back rent (arrears), that must have
 - Occurred on or after March 13, 2020
 - Brought on by COVID-19 related financial instability
- Up to 3 months of future rent assistance will be provided to ensure housing stability of those at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability.
- Utility assistance (paid directly to utility providers) for past due utilities and bills.
 - Utilities must have a past-due balance. Future bills will not be paid unless they become past due.





WHO SHOULD APPLY?

In order to be eligible, a renter household in which one or more individuals who qualifies to pay rent on a residential dwelling must meet the following criteria:

- The household is obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling, and
- One or more individuals within the household has:
 - Qualified for unemployment benefits, or
 - Experienced a reduction in household income, or
 - Incurred significant costs, or
 - Experienced other financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to the COVID-19 outbreak, and
- One or more individuals within the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability, and
- The household income is at or below 80% of Area Median Income.





WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Two types of eligible households are to be prioritized for assistance:

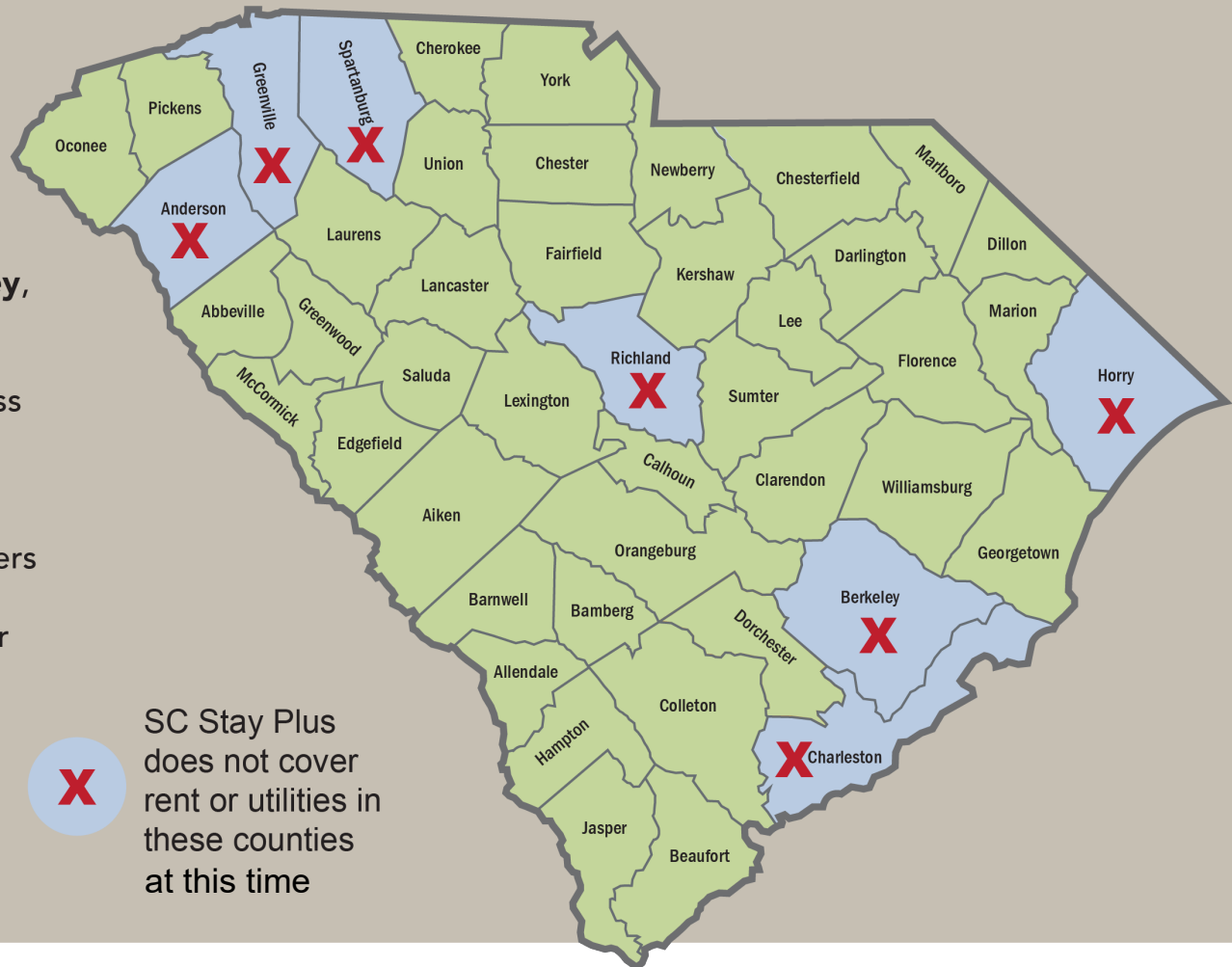
- Eligible households that include an individual who has been unemployed for ninety days or more before applying for assistance
- Eligible households with income at or below 50% of Area Median Income.

SC Stay Plus will not cover rent or utilities for renters living in **Anderson, Berkeley, Charleston, Greenville, Horry, Richland, or Spartanburg** counties unless there are additional funds remaining. Renters in those counties are encouraged to contact their county's housing office to apply for rental assistance.



WHO SHOULD APPLY?

SC Stay Plus **will not** cover rent or utilities for renters living in **Anderson, Berkeley, Charleston, Greenville, Horry, Richland, or Spartanburg** counties unless there are additional funds remaining after obligating funds to all other eligible residents in the state. Renters in those counties are encouraged to contact their county's housing office to apply for rental assistance.





WHAT DO I NEED?

Renters are required to provide the following information to verify eligibility:

Personal identification (Pick one):

Acceptable identification must include the family member's name and date of birth.

Examples of acceptable identification include a driver's license, state ID card, birth certificate, passport, military ID, student ID, Medicaid or other healthcare coverage card, voter registration card, or other South Carolina-issued identification.

Identification must be valid up to March 13, 2020 (i.e., identification forms that have expired after March 13, 2020, are still acceptable).





WHAT DO I NEED?

Proof of having a lease (Pick one):

- Current lease
- Expired lease (i.e., month-to-month agreement)
- Tenancy agreement
- Landlord certification form

Note: If you do not have a formal, signed lease, you can still apply for SC Stay Plus. Instead of a lease, you must provide evidence that you are regularly making rental payments, such as bank statements, check stubs, or a screenshot from a payment application (e.g., Zelle, Venmo)





WHAT DO I NEED?

**Proof of risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability
(Pick one):**

- An eviction notice
- A past due utility or rent notice
- Living in unsafe or unhealthy living conditions, such as conditions that increase the risk of exposure to COVID-19 because of overcrowding





WHAT DO I NEED?

Proof of income (Pick one):

- One (1) pay stub, at minimum, for wages dated within the last sixty (60) days, demonstrating a full month's worth of consecutive pay
- Social Security Administration (SSA) benefit letter and/or pension or other retirement benefits information dated since January 1, 2020
- Unemployment benefits letter dated since January 1, 2020
- Child or spousal support payment report or other pay statement dated since January 1, 2020 and including copy of the child or spousal support order
- Letter dated since January 1, 2020 confirming child support payments made outside of DSS





WHAT DO I NEED?

Then, provide evidence from one of the four categories below:

1. Proof of unemployment status (Pick one):

- Documentation from SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW)
- Confirmation from DEW database (e.g., screenshots from website)

OR





WHAT DO I NEED?

2. Proof of reduction in household income (Pick one):

- Letter from employer confirming reduced wages, termination, or furlough
- Layoff letter from employer
- Unemployment letter dated from 3/13/2020 to present
- Print-out or screenshot from SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) showing benefits received from 3/13/2020 to present
- Notice of business closure on employer website
- Letter from healthcare provider stating that the applicant was unable to work due to a COVID-related illness
- Letter from local employment search agency

OR





WHAT DO I NEED?

3. Proof of significant costs (defined as proof of any expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic). (Pick one):

- Adverse healthcare impacts such as increased healthcare costs, including at-home care for individuals with COVID-19
- Expenses incurred due to quarantining or social distancing as mandated by employer (computer equipment, internet expenses, etc.)
- Expenses for childcare due to COVID-19 school closures
- Purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Penalties, fees, and legal costs associated with rental or utility arrears
- Payments for rent or utilities made by credit card to avoid homelessness or housing instability
- Alternative transportation for households unable to use public transportation during the pandemic

OR





WHAT DO I NEED?

4. Proof of financial hardship (defined as proof of any negative financial impact that a family has experienced due to COVID-19). (Pick one):

- Documentation listed in previous sections (unemployment, housing instability, or others)
- Documentation of expenses or loss of income related to the death of a family member, such as funeral costs
- If none of the above is available, a written attestation from the applicant, including an explanation of why documentation is not available.





HOW DO I APPLY?

SC Stay Plus applications are now open and are collected online. The application can be accessed from schousing.com/home/sc-stay-plus and can be completed online. Questions can be answered by calling the SC Stay Plus call center at 803.336.3420.

Applicants who are without reliable internet access or who have other accessibility concerns are encouraged to call the SC Stay Plus call center. Representatives are available to assist with applications.

Complete lists of frequently asked questions for renters and landlords are available at the SC Stay Plus main website: schousing.com/Home/SC-Stay-Plus.





HOW CAN I HELP?

Support your community by helping spread awareness and by providing support where you can. By increasing your familiarity of the program, you can be a resource for all things SC Stay Plus.



Troubleshoot Tech Issues

Explore the application

- Understand typical issues and challenges with the application; help applicants address general application concerns



Increase Awareness

Spread the word

- Distribute information via on/offline channels; connect with other community leaders and partners to leverage their networks



Maintain Engagement

Offer program support

- Know eligibility criteria to help applicants organize necessary documentation; provide ongoing communications with target audience to ensure applicants know who to call for support



HOW TO APPLY

1. Access application through schousing.com
2. Begin application by filling out program application.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the South Carolina Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Portal. The header includes contact information (803) 336-3420, email scstayplus@schousing.com, and a language selector. Navigation links include Home, Program Overview and Eligibility, FAQs, Check Application Status, and Upload Documents. A banner image of a city skyline at night features the text 'WELCOME TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA (ERAP) PORTAL' and the 'scStay PLUS COVID-19 HOUSING ASSISTANCE' logo. Below the banner, a section titled 'Steps to Complete the Application' displays five steps in a grid. Step 1, 'Complete Full Application', is highlighted with a red border. Each step includes an icon, a title, a brief description, and a 'More >>' button.

South Carolina
Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Home Program Overview and Eligibility FAQs Check Application Status Upload Documents

Home

WELCOME TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA (ERAP) PORTAL

scStay PLUS
COVID-19 HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Steps to Complete the Application

Step 1: Complete Full Application
Complete the program application
More >>

Step 2: Submit Requested Documents
Upload required program documents.
More >>

Step 3: Owner Documents
Upload required owner documents.
More >>

Step 4: Check Application Status
Click here to check the status of your application.
More >>

Step 5: Need Help? Let us know!
Let us know how we can help. Our team of trained agents are ready to assist you.
More >>

Fill out all requested personal information on all 8 application pages.

☐ Unemployed ☐ Employed

HOW TO APPLY

- Fill out all requested personal information on all 8 application pages.
- Click *Next* to advance to through the application windows.
- Answer all questions fully and truthfully. Answers to questions in pages 2-5 determine program eligibility.

① Applicant Information ② COVID-19 Impact ③ Household Members ④ Income ⑤ Lease ⑥ Utilities
⑦ Prior and Current Rental Assistance ⑧ Applicant Certification

Applicant Information

You must complete the entire application, once started. You will not be able to leave and then return to complete at a later date. Please allow 30 minutes to complete this application.

Name * First MI Last **Date of Birth ***  **Age** **Sex ***

Must be in the following numeric format: Month/Day/Year (mm/dd/yyyy)

Address * Address Line 1
 Address Line 2
 City South Carolina Zip Code

County *

Email * **Phone *** **Mobile Number? *** ☐ Yes ☐ No

Message and data rates may apply if you agree to getting text messages.

Do you have a social security number?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Not providing your SSN will NOT affect Rental Assistance Eligibility.

Preferred Spoken Language * English

Ethnicity * ☐ Hispanic ☐ Not Hispanic

Race *

Disabled * ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you currently renting? * ☐ Yes ☐ No

Current Employment Status *

☐ Unemployed ☐ Employed
☐ Self-Employed ☐ Student

Do you plan to move in the next three months? * ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is someone helping you complete this form? * ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you a Veteran?

☐ Not a Veteran ☐ Active Military ☐ Retired Military ☐ Previously Served

Next

HOW TO APPLY

- If an applicant is behind on utility payments, make sure to select **Yes** on page 6 to apply for utility assistance.

(803) 336-3420 scstayplus@schousing.com English ▾

South Carolina
Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Home Program Overview and Eligibility FAQs Check Application Status Landlord Referral Form Upload Documents

Home >> View >> erap application

ERAP Application

① Applicant Information ② COVID-19 Impact ③ Household Members ④ Income ⑤ Lease **⑥ Utilities** ⑦ Prior and Current Rental Assistance ⑧ Applicant Certification

Do you need assistance with utilities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Back Next

HOW TO APPLY

- If an applicant is behind on utility payments, make sure to select *Yes* on page 6 to apply for utility assistance.
- Ensure that **ALL** needed utilities are selected in this section. Selecting a utility will allow the applicant to apply for assistance.

ERAP Application

① Applicant Information ② COVID-19 Impact ③ Household Members ④ Income ⑤ Lease ⑥ **Utilities**
⑦ Prior and Current Rental Assistance ⑧ Applicant Certification

Do you need assistance with utilities?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Utilities

Please provide the following information regarding your utilities.

Please select the Utilities that you pay for.

☒ Gas ☐ Electric ☒ Water ☒ Sewer ☐ Trash

Please provide the names of your utility providers below.

Gas Company *

Account Number *

Total Owed for Gas *

Water Company *

Account Number *

Total Owed for Water *

Sewer Company *

Account Number *

Total Owed for Sewer *

Back

Next

HOW TO APPLY

- Complete page 7. Ensure that any additional housing assistance is declared in this section.

South Carolina
Emergency Rental Assistance Program

[Home](#) [Program Overview and Eligibility](#) [FAQs](#) [Check Application Status](#) [Landlord Referral Form](#) [Upload Documents](#)

[Home](#) » [View](#) » [erap application](#)

ERAP Application

① Applicant Information ② COVID-19 Impact ③ Household Members ④ Income ⑤ Lease ⑥ Utilities

⑦ Prior and Current Rental Assistance ⑧ Applicant Certification

Prior and Current Rental Assistance

You may get rental assistance if you are on Section 8, HOPWA, or another Public Housing Program. The rental assistance will not be more than the amount you are to pay.

You may be required to show evidence of the rent you pay.

Please give us the following information about the housing benefit you are getting.

Since March 2020, have you gotten or are you receiving Section 8, HOPWA, or another Public Housing benefit?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Have you received assistance from any of the below programs? Select all that apply. *

<input type="checkbox"/> SC Stay	<input type="checkbox"/> Anderson County COVID Relief Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Berkeley County Emergency Rental Assistance Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Charleston County Emergency Rental Assistance Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Greenville County Emergency Rental Assistance Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Horry County Emergency Rental Assistance Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Richland County Emergency Rental Assistance Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Spartanburg County Emergency Rental Assistance Program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	

Back

Next

HOW TO APPLY

- Read, answer, and sign the agreement and certifications on page 8.
- Please note, the application is **NOT** submitted until the *Submit* button has been clicked.
- Applications in progress cannot be saved and **must** be submitted in one session.

① Applicant Information ② COVID-19 Impact ③ Household Members ④ Income ⑤ Lease ⑥ Utilities
⑦ Prior and Current Rental Assistance ⑧ **Applicant Certification**

Applicant Certification

I, Test J Test, certify that I rent the property located at 300 Carolina Way, Pawleys Island, South Carolina 48823 for a monthly rent of \$300.00. *

☐ Yes ☐ No

I, Test J Test, certify that I, or my household members, have experienced a financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic and are currently at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability. *

☐ Yes ☐ No

I, Test J Test, certify that the income from all sources reported on this application is correct and that I receive an estimated \$0.00 per year. *

☐ Yes / Agree ☐ No / I do receive other forms of assistance

I, Test J Test, affirm that the tax documents are identical to those I have submitted to the Internal Revenue Service. *

☐ Yes ☐ No

I, Test J Test, affirm that the award and payment of grant funds are subject to the sole and absolute discretion of SCSHFDA without recourse. By submitting this application, I waive any and all claims related to the South Carolina Emergency Rental Assistance Program and specifically agree to indemnify, defend, release and hold the State, its employees, officers, agents, and representatives harmless from any and all claims which may be in any way related to any Program award, payment, and/or denial. *

☐ Yes ☐ No

I, Test J Test, affirm that the rental arrears submitted with my application for the South Carolina Emergency Rental Assistance Program have not been paid from any other COVID-19 related program or from any other federal, state or local program. *

☐ Yes ☐ No

I, Test J Test, consent to the sharing of my information with other agencies for the purposes of ensuring there is no duplication of benefits. *

☐ Yes ☐ No

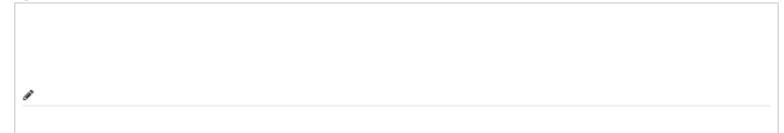
The undersigned being warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements and the like may jeopardize the validity of the application or document or any registration resulting therefrom, declares that all statements made of his/her knowledge are true, and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

By signing below, I, Test J Test,

1. certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the income provided in this application provides an accurate projection of annual household income and is correct as of the date of application.
2. affirm that any other funds I receive for rent assistance has been reported to the Program or shall be reported as soon as any future assistance is received.
3. acknowledge that SC Stay Plus assistance may be subject to adjustment based on any rent assistance or other duplication of benefits ("Duplication of Benefits" or "DOB") received by me regardless of when those benefits are received.
4. assign to SCSHFDA all of my rights to all payments and assistance previously received for the same Property and time period that was provided through the SC Stay Plus Program that are determined by the Program to be a DOB. Any DOB which I receive after SC Stay Plus assistance is given may result in the recovery or partial recovery of my award.
5. understand that if SC Stay Plus assistance does not cover total rent owed, I may owe Landlord rent that is not covered by SC Stay Plus assistance.

I acknowledge that the South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority (SCSHFDA) and its designees may exercise whatever remedies available to seek repayment or recover SC Stay Plus assistance from Landlord or myself, as appropriate and at SCSHFDA's discretion, if there is an error in calculation of the assistance, misapplication of funds, where there is a violation of SC Stay Plus program policies, breach of this Agreement, and/or fraud, waste or abuse is committed by the Landlord or myself. I acknowledge that the designated SC Stay Plus Program Processing Agency and SCSHFDA make no representation or warranty regarding the condition of any property or rental unit for which SC Stay Plus Program funds or assistance is received. The issuance of SC Stay Plus Program funding on behalf of any tenant to any landlord or property owner should not be construed as the designated SC Stay Plus Program Processing Agency's or SCSHFDA's acceptance of any property condition(s) or approval of the terms of any lease that has been provided as a part of the application. SCSHFDA and the designated SC Stay Plus Processing Agency further have no liability or responsibility in enforcing the provisions of this agreement on behalf of either party, and shall not pay any other claim by either party to either party. SCSHFDA and the designated SC Stay Plus Processing Agency shall not be required to join any proceedings to enforce the provisions herein against either party.

Signature *

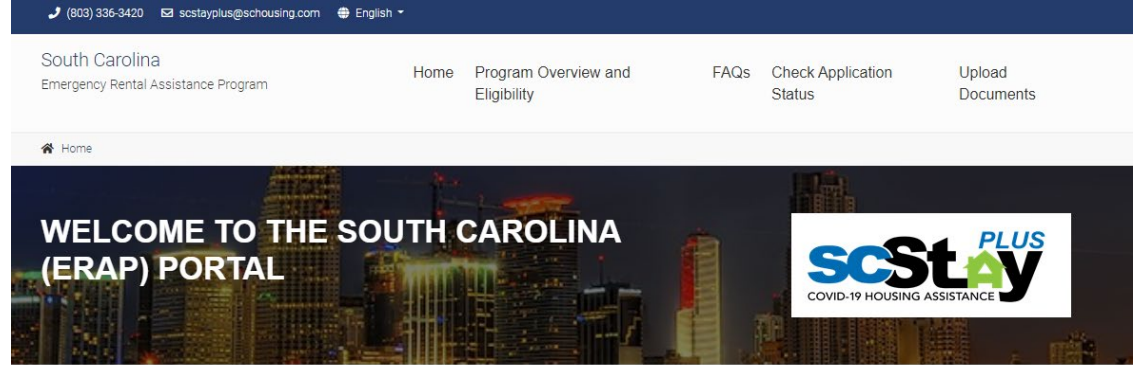


Back

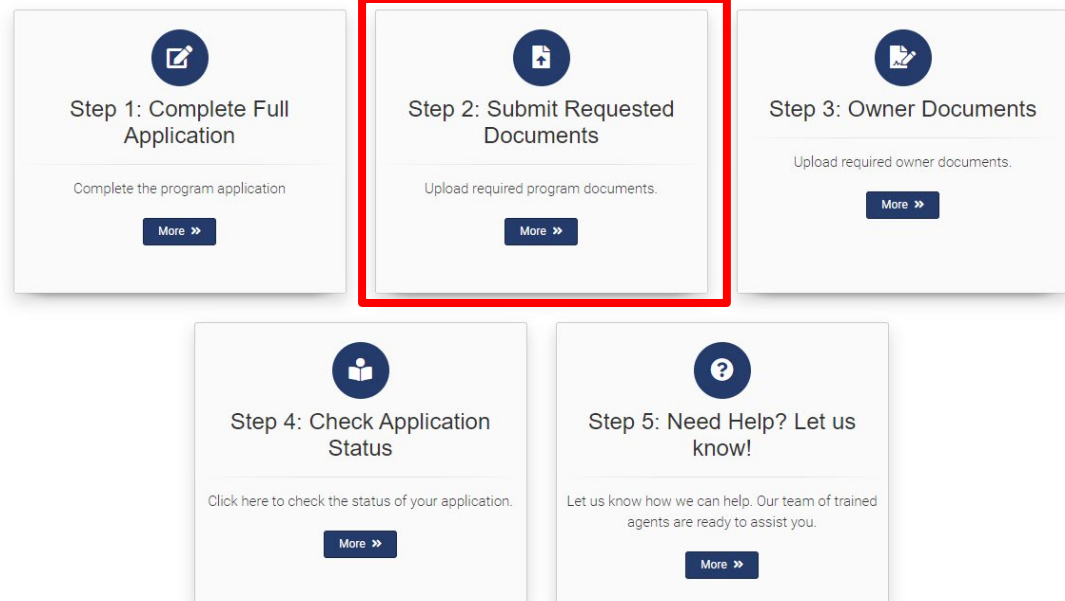
Submit

HOW TO APPLY

1. Access application through schousing.com
2. Begin application by filling out program application.
3. Submit all required documentation.



Steps to Complete the Application



HOW TO APPLY

- Enter Application ID provided upon submission of Section 1.
- Select the type of document being uploaded. It is important to select the correct documents, otherwise processing will be delayed.

(803) 336-3420

scstayplus@schousing.com

English

South Carolina
Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Home

Program Overview and
Eligibility

FAQs

Check Application
Status

Upload
Documents

Home » Upload

UPLOAD DOCUMENT

Upload Documents for Tenants

Upload Documents for Owners / Property Managers

Upload Documents for Tenants

Enter the information below

Your Client ID / Entity ID or Application ID

Date of Birth

Document Type

-- Please Select --

Select Document


Choose Files

Please Note: The maximum file size is 4MB. Acceptable files: PDF, JPEG and JPG

Captcha Validation

This question is to test whether you are a human visitor or a robot. The reason for this validation step is to prevent automated spam submissions.

☐ I'm not a robot


reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

Submit Tenant Documents

Instructions for Tenants

Entity/Client ID:
This is the Client ID you have in the program. Please note that you might not have a Client ID. If that is the case, please use the Application ID.

OR

Application ID:
After submitting your Application Form, you will receive an Application ID that you can use as a reference for your application.

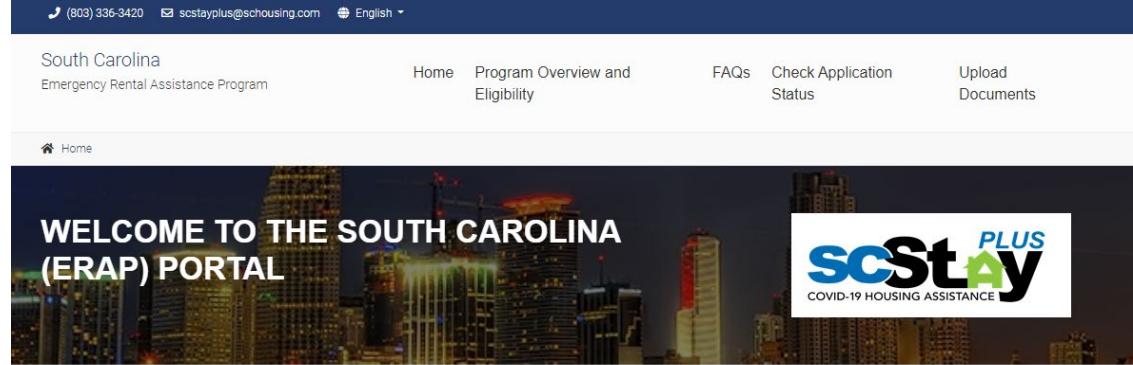
Date of Birth:
If applicable, you may need to enter the Date of Birth.

Documents:
Select the documents you would like to submit. Important:

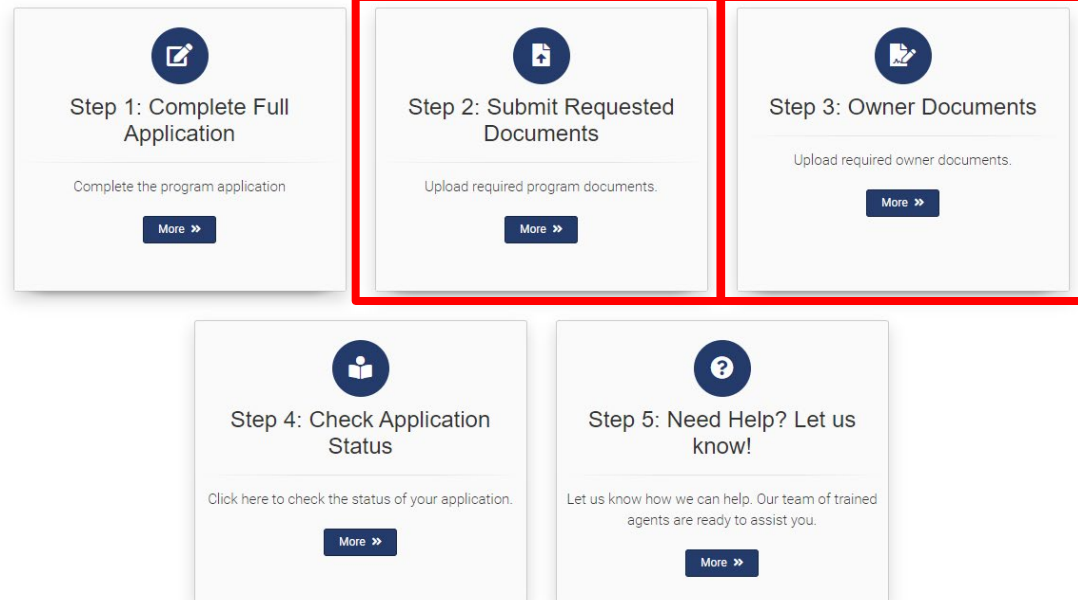
- You can upload up to 5 documents at a time.
- The maximum size per document is 4MB.
- The only acceptable file formats are PDF, JPEG and JPG.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Access application through schousing.com
2. Begin application by filling out program application.
3. Submit all required documentation.
4. Submit Landlord and Owner Documentation. (To be done by landlord)



Steps to Complete the Application



HOW TO APPLY

- Enter Application ID provided upon submission of Section 1.
- Select the type of document being uploaded. It is important to select the correct documents, otherwise processing will be delayed.

(803) 336-3420scstayplus@schousing.comEnglish

South Carolina
Emergency Rental Assistance Program

HomeProgram Overview and EligibilityFAQsCheck Application StatusUpload Documents

Home » Upload

UPLOAD DOCUMENT

Upload Documents for TenantsUpload Documents for Owners / Property Managers

Upload Documents for Owners / Property Managers

Enter the information below

W-9 Confirmation Number / Owner ID or TIN

Reference Tenant ID or Application ID

Document Type
-- Please Select --

Select Document


Choose Files

Please Note: The maximum file size is 4MB. Acceptable files: PDF, JPEG and JPG

Captcha Validation

This question is to test whether you are a human visitor or a robot. The reason for this validation step is to prevent automated spam submissions.

☐ I'm not a robot


reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

Submit Owner Documents

Instructions for Owners

W-9 Confirmation Number or TIN:
After submitting your W-9 online, you will receive a confirmation number. You can use this confirmation number to submit documents. You can also use the Tax Identification Number used on your W-9 form submission. If you have not submitted your W-9, please Submit your W-9 here!

OR

If applicable, you can also use the Owner ID.

Documents:
Select the documents you would like to submit. Important:

- You can upload up to 5 documents at a time.
- The maximum size per document is 4MB.
- The only acceptable file formats are PDF, JPEG and JPG.

Reference Tenant ID or Application Number: This is the number the tenant received after submitting the application. This field is optional, but strongly recommended.

Owner Forms

Please select the form you would like to submit.

[Complete the W-9 Form](#)

[Complete the Direct Deposit Request Form](#)

[Upload Owner Documents](#)



Appendix: Community Outreach Toolkit

Infographics are available and can be downloaded from
<https://schousing.com/Home/SC-Stay-Plus>.





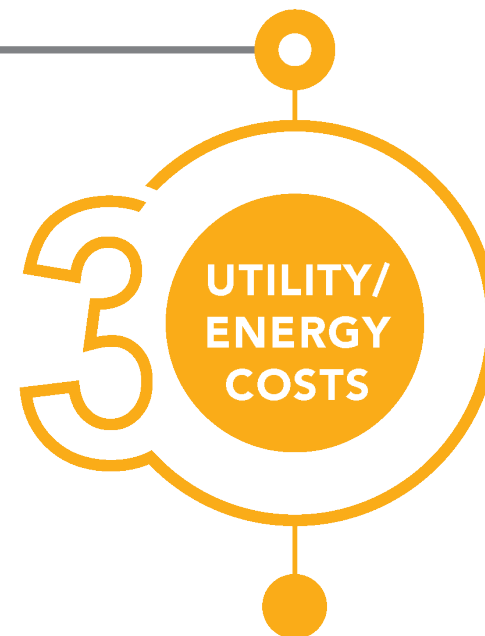
WHAT'S AVAILABLE?



12 months of back rent
(arrears) brought on by
COVID-19 related
financial instability



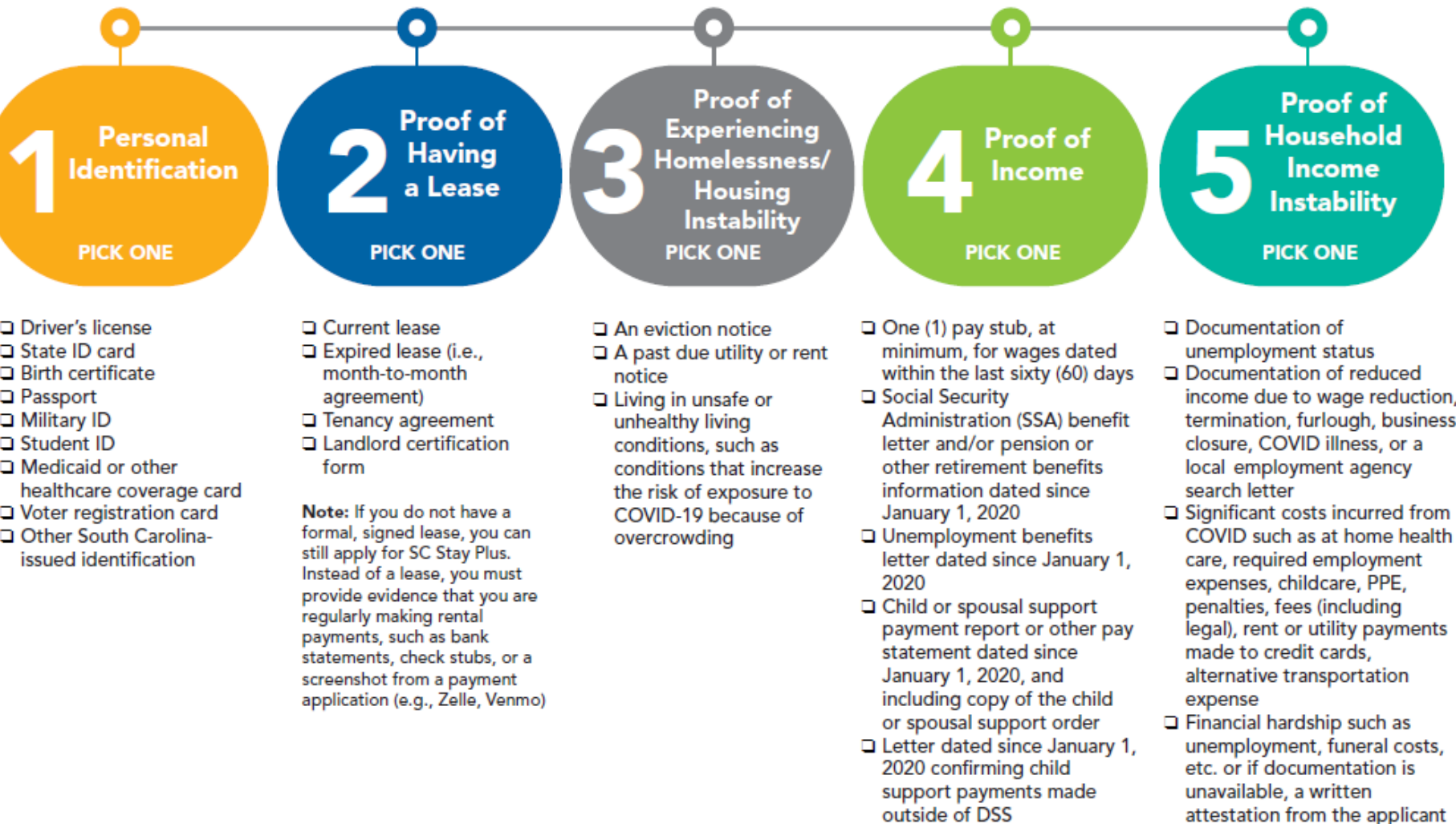
**Up to (3) additional months of
future rental assistance**
for those at risk of homelessness
or housing instability (eviction)



Utility assistance
paid directly to the utility
companies for past-due utility
and energy costs



WHAT DO I NEED?



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1 YOU MUST BE A RENTER

The household must be obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling in South Carolina



2 A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER IS AT RISK OF HOUSING INSTABILITY

One or more members of the household can demonstrate risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability



3

YOUR INCOME MEETS FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

The total household income is at or below 80% of the Area Median Income as defined by the Federal Government



4

YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED FINANCIAL HARDSHIP DUE TO COVID-19

One or more household members either:

- Qualified for unemployment
- Experienced a reduction in income
- Incurred significant costs, or
- Have other financial hardship **DUE TO COVID**

