The New Hampshire Housing Relief Program is designed to keep people from losing their housing and to secure or maintain permanent housing. The program has two components: one-time assistance grants; and a short-term rental assistance program.

The program will pay past-due rent and utilities from April 1, 2020 forward, for households that lost income or had increased household expenses as a result of COVID-19. You are still responsible for any rent or utility payments that were past due before March 31, 2020. To determine eligibility, at the time of application you will be asked to provide some documentation, which may include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Income documentation (paystubs, SSI, unemployment, etc.)
- Non-income documentation (Food stamps, other benefits, etc.)
- Lease agreement
- Demand for rent or eviction notice
- Mortgage bill or foreclosure notice
- Proof of loss of employment (furlough/layoff notice, etc.)
- Utility bills including electric, gas, oil, internet
- Any items documenting other COVID-19 related household expenses

There is no income limit to be eligible.

The program can help you in a few different ways:

You can receive a one-time grant of up to $2,500 if you will be able to maintain your housing without needing any more help. If the one time grant is not enough to allow you to maintain your housing, you can receive assistance over the period of a few months. The assistance will gradually be reduced as you become more financially stable.

You can receive assistance finding and maintaining permanent housing if you are leaving a shelter situation. This assistance will also gradually decrease over time as you become more financially stable. Working with a case manager is a requirement to participate in the program, and will include the following:

- Determining with you what part of the program is the most appropriate to help you maintain your housing.
- Meeting with the case manager on a regular basis to evaluate progress, provide support, and modify any plans in place as needed.
- Looking at your income and expenses before the COVID-19 crisis and now to see how much they changed.
- Helping you find suitable housing, if necessary.
- Developing a budget plan for maintaining housing while you are receiving assistance and after it ends.
- Working with you and your landlord to make sure that everyone agrees with whatever plans are developed to maintain the housing.
- Seeing if there are other household expenses which may be eligible for payment.
- If necessary, applying for other benefits and/or services for which you may be eligible.

You do not need to be under an eviction notice to participate in the program.

You will not receive the payments. They will be made directly to the landlord or service provider.