



# New Mexico Emergency Rental Assistance Program

## College Student Participation

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# New Mexico Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The Emergency Rental Assistance program provides funds to assist households that are unable to pay rent or utilities. Funding and Guidance for the program comes from the U.S. Treasury.

Over \$102M awarded to date. Additional \$220M+ available through September 2025.

## Who is eligible?

- Renters
- Under 80% average median income for each respective county
- Impacted directly or indirectly by COVID-19
- At risk of homelessness or housing instability

## What does it cover?

Past due and up 3-months forward. 15 mo total.

- Rent
- Utilities (includes electric, gas, internet water, sewer, trash, fuel oil, wood, and pellets)
- Other expenses related to housing expenses, such as hotel/motel costs
- No cap on amount provided
- Does not have to be repaid



# New Mexico Emergency Rental Assistance Program

## How are ERAP funds administered?

There are currently three Rental Assistance programs in New Mexico:

- 1.** Bernalillo County program for County residents **outside of ABQ city limits.**  
*Administered by County.*
- 2.** Doña Ana County program for County residents including those within Las Cruces city limits.  
*Administered by County.*
- 3.** **Statewide program for all other New Mexico counties or within the Albuquerque city limits.**  
*Administered by State of New Mexico.*



# Housing Stability Programs

## Eviction Diversion Program

### NM Administrative Office of the Courts

- Provides mediation support to tenants and landlords
- Available to tenants of apartments and other dwellings covered by rental agreements
- Being piloted in Curry and Roosevelt counties. Will be expanded statewide in March 2022

## Legal Services

### NM Legal Aid

- Legal Aid will continue to provide legal representation for tenants in the eviction process. For eviction support, please contact Legal Aid directly.

## Housing Stability Program

### NM Community Trust

- Developing service mobilization plan for housing related services (Ex. Case management services, Housing Counselors, etc.)
- Programs will launch in Spring/Summer of 2022



# Common Questions for ERAP and College Students

## Are college students eligible for rental assistance?

Yes, only if the student is not claimed as a dependent by their parents or legal guardians.

## Can students living in college dorms apply for rental assistance?

No, students living in college dorms (such as Coronado, Hokona) cannot apply for rental assistance.

## Can students living in private partner properties on campus apply for rental assistance?

Yes, students living in private partner properties on and off campus (such as Casas del Rio and Lobo Village) can apply for rental assistance.

## Can college students living off campus apply?

Yes, if they rent from a landlord and are not claimed by their parents as dependents, they can apply for rental assistance.

## Do college students living off campus with roommates take into account their roommates on the application?

ERAP allows one application per household/residence. Applicants must include all individuals living in their household in their ERAP application.

## Can college students be counted in a household if they are away at school?

Yes, a college student may be included as part of their parent or legal guardian's household if they are away at school.



# Recommended Outreach Efforts

## Promote ERAP through Financial Aid Office, Dean of Students, and others

- Share ERAP FAQs, eligibility, and the application: **RentHelpNM.org**
  - Email blasts
  - On relevant websites
- Share ERAP graphic on the TVs in the SUB and other heavily trafficked areas
- Use campus wide outreach via email, intranet, etc.
- Add website content to Covid-19 or Housing page

## Place ERAP Flyers

- Multi-language ERAP flyers

## Encourage private partner properties to share ERAP with their tenants

- Encourage partner properties (such as Casas and Lobo Village) to share information about ERAP with student tenants

# Examples:

The screenshot shows the Penn State Student Affairs website. At the top, there are navigation links for "COVID-19 Support" and "Get Urgent Help", along with a search bar and a menu icon. The main header is "Basic Needs & Support". The central content area features a large blue banner with the text "GUIDE TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS". Below this, there is a sidebar with "Home | Support, Safety & Conduct | Basic Needs & Support | Guide to Public Assistance Programs" and a "Related Department: University Health Services" link. The main text area starts with the heading "Are you facing financial or other challenges?" followed by a paragraph explaining that many students face challenges during their college careers and that the office can help with state and federal assistance programs. A final line of text says "Key questions to ask to determine if assistance programs may help:".

The screenshot shows the Hartnell College Foundation website. At the top, there are navigation links for "contact us", "news & events", "donate now", and a search bar. The main header is "about us | student success | donors | alumni association | support us". The central content area features the Hartnell College Foundation logo and the United Way Monterey County logo. Below this, there is a "En Español" button. The main text area starts with the heading "Are you behind on rent and utility payments?" followed by a paragraph explaining that the Hartnell College Foundation is one of 13 agencies and organizations helping United Way of Monterey County distribute \$28 million in rent and utility assistance to income-eligible individuals and families. A second paragraph says "We want to assist Hartnell students and their families and friends who are facing housing instability because of lost or reduced income due to COVID-19." and a third paragraph says "You may be able to receive thousands of dollars to help you catch up on overdue rent and utility bills." A final paragraph says "Complete the online contact form, below, and a representative from the Hartnell College Foundation will provide you with more information." and a final line of text says "Or, if you are ready, you can immediately apply for emergency rent/utility assistance through Hartnell."