

BC TEMPORARY RENTAL SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM FACTSHEET FOR TENANTS

About the BC Temporary Rental Supplement Program

The BC Temporary Rental Supplement Program gives tenants and landlords temporary support towards rent payments for low- and moderate-income renters who have lost income as a result of COVID-19. Payments are made directly to the landlords of eligible households.

The program has been available since April, and has been **extended for July and August 2020**. Those who applied in April, May or June and whose files were still active in June, do not need to complete a new application. Instead they will receive an email with a link to a simple form where they need to confirm if they plan to continue living at the same address for July and August. Tenants who are moving in July or August can complete the form to close their original application and then can submit a new application for their new address if they still require assistance.

New applications will be accepted until August 31, 2020. Eligible applications received in June will get the supplement for June, July and August. Eligible applications received in July will get the supplement for July and August. Eligible applications received in August will get the supplement for August.

The program gives \$300 per month for eligible households with no dependents, and \$500 per month for eligible households with dependents.

ELIGIBILITY

Do I qualify for the BC Temporary Rental Supplement?

Your household needs to meet all of the following criteria to qualify for the BC Temporary Rental Supplement:

1. Have a 2019 household income of less than:
 - \$74,150 for singles and couples without dependents
 - \$113,040 for households with dependents
2. As a result of COVID-19:
 - Be receiving or eligible for Employment Insurance; or
 - Be receiving or eligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit offered by the federal government; or

- Have experienced, and be able to provide evidence of, a drop of 25% or more in your monthly household employment income.
3. Be paying more than 30% of your current household income towards rent.

Is my home eligible?

You must be renting a primary residence in British Columbia.

You are not eligible if your rent is subsidized by any other government program. Other government programs include: subsidized housing; rent supplements such as Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters (SAFER) or the Rental Assistance Program (RAP); Income Assistance; and Disability Assistance.

Members of housing co-ops can get the benefit if they meet all other eligibility criteria. These criteria include paying the full market housing charge, and the co-op cannot be getting any ongoing operating funding from government.

Even if you do not qualify for the BC Temporary Rental Supplement program, you may be eligible for other BC Housing programs. Please visit bchousing.org to learn more.

APPLICATION PROCESS

How does the application process work?

1. Tenants Start the Application

You must start the application process at bchousing.org/BCTRS. Your landlord cannot apply for you.

Please have all needed information with you when you apply. You cannot pause or save your application. You will need to submit your application all at one time. The documentation needs to be in digital format for uploading. The following file types will be accepted: PDF, TIFF, JPG, JPEG, and PNG.

You will be asked to provide the following information:

- Proof of address, such as a driver's license or utility bill
- Proof of your monthly rent amount, such as a signed tenancy agreement, rent receipt, or notice of rent increase
- Your landlord's details and contact information, including their email address
- For every household member who is age 19 or older:
 - Identification, such as a driver's license or BC identification card

- Proof of 2019 income (2019 Notice of Assessment or T-Slips)

- Proof of 2020 income loss related to COVID 19, and current income (Employment Insurance, Canada Emergency Response Benefit, Record of Employment, or a letter from employer)

Note: Other documents will be considered. Please provide whatever documents you have that prove who you are, where you live and can support that you have lost income as a result of COVID-19. If we require any additional information or documentation, we will contact you.

2. Landlords Complete the Application

Once your application has been reviewed and assessed as eligible, an email will be sent to your landlord asking them to complete the application process. You should tell your landlord that you are applying for the BC Temporary Rental Supplement Program so that they can watch for this email.

Your landlord will be asked to confirm details around tenancy, rental address and monthly rent amount.

They will need to provide their mailing address and banking information to receive payment by direct deposit.

Once the landlord has completed their part of the application, both the tenant and landlord will receive a final confirmation email.

For more information, including a factsheet that you can provide to your landlord, please visit <https://www.bchousing.org/BCTRS>

BC Housing collects information from applicants in accordance with Section 26c of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the FOI Act) in order to assess eligibility for assistance. We do not disclose your information to other public bodies or individuals except as authorized by law. We keep the information only for the length of time necessary to fulfil the purpose(s) for which it was collected.

For general information and support around COVID-19:

For the latest medical updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing, visit: www.bccdc.ca

For provincial health officer orders, notices and guidance, visit: gov.bc.ca/phoguidance

For non-health related information, including financial, childcare and education supports, travel, transportation and essential service information, visit: gov.bc.ca/covid-19. Or call 1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319) between 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m., seven days a week.