

Program Overview Webinar January 25, 2022



Agenda

- Program Overview
- Who is Eligible
- How to Apply
- Fraud and Scams
- Additional Resources
- How You Can Help
- Questions



Program Overview

Background

- Federal COVID response package included several components to ensure stable housing – rental assistance, forbearance, mortgage relief
- Federal funds to states for rental assistance and mortgage relief
- Emergency rental assistance offered through Housing is Key allocates funds at local and state level
 - CA Rent Relief Program administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development
- \$1 billion in federal funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act's Homeowner Assistance Fund awarded to California
 - These funds were provided to CalHFA directly by US Treasury and will be administered by a special purpose affiliate CalHFA/Homeowner Relief Corporation (CalHRC)



Program Overview

California Mortgage Relief Program

Financial assistance to eligible homeowners who have fallen behind on their housing payments or reverse mortgage arrearages due to the COVID-19 pandemic

\$1 billion in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act's Homeowner Assistance Fund

Grants to pay past-due mortgages; up to \$80,000 per household

Grants never have to be paid back

Grants distributed on a first come first serve basis

20,000 – 40,000 estimated households to be served



Part of the state's Housing is Key Initiative

Who is Eligible

Who is Eligible?

- Applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria:
 - o At or below 100% of their county's Area Median Income
 - Own/occupy and single-family home, condo or permanently affixed manufactured home in California
 - o Behind 2+ payments on their mortgage before the end of 2021
 - o Faced a pandemic-related financial hardship after Jan. 21, 2020
- Must meet ONE of the following requirements:
 - Receiving public assistance; OR
 - Severely housing burdened (more than 40% of income goes to housing costs); OR
 - Have no alternative workout options through mortgage servicer





What is Area Median Income (AMI)?

Area Median Income (AMI)

- AMI are limits developed by HUD to determine eligibility for various government-funded programs.
- AMI represents the midpoint of a region's family income distribution and changes from year-toyear.
- The Homeowner Assistance Fund has its own set of income limits and is listed on the HUD website.
- For the CA Mortgage Relief Program, AMI varies by county and household size.



AMI Calculator



AMI Calculator can be found on <u>CaMortgageRelief.org</u>

 Scroll down website and enter county name and household size



Program Overview – Reverse Mortgages

Mortgage Arrearages

- Homeowners with reverse mortgages can receive assistance.
- Payment of owed taxes and any forced place insurance on reverse mortgage loans to fully reinstate to a "current" status.
 - Exclusions: Any loan already being considered or approved for a partial claim or modification is ineligible
- Homeowners must provide copies of their tax and insurance bills showing the amount due.





How Does the Program Work?

How Does the California Mortgage Relief Program Work?





How to Apply

Homeowners should visit CaMortgageRelief.org and click Apply Now



How to Apply

Homeowners will be asked to complete a simple questionnaire to determine if they may qualify



Application Questionnaire



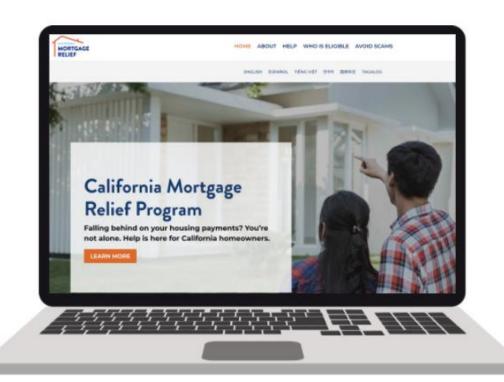
The first step to apply to the California Mortgage Relief Program is to complete the application questionnaire below.
Check all that apply: I/we experienced a COVID-19 related financial hardship after January 21, 2020 I/we missed at least 2 mortgage payments prior to December 27, 2021 I/we only own one residential property This home is my/our primary residence (where you live) I/we are applying for assistance on our primary mortgage loan A business (LLC, LP, LLP) is listed as the homeowner on my mortgage



Required Documentation

Documents needed to apply

- Mortgage statement
- Bank statements
- Utility bill
- Income documentation (i.e. paystubs, tax returns, or unemployment document)



Required Documentation

Additional Documents

Based on applicant's unique circumstance:

- Provide denial of a "work out" option
 - Not required if: housing costs 40%+ of income, receive public assistance (unemployment, Medi-Cal, WIC, SNAP, Section 8, etc.)
- If in active bankruptcy, provide letter from servicer and trustee that funds can be applied to past due mortgage payments







Applicant Support

Where can homeowners receive help?

HUD-Certified Housing Counselor/Mortgage Servicer

If assistance is needed, homeowners should contact their mortgage servicer or a HUD-certified housing counselor at 1-800-569-4287.

California Mortgage Relief Program Contact Center: 888-840-2594

If a homeowner has started an application and needs technical assistance, they can call the California Mortgage Relief Program Contact Center. Phone number will be provided once the application is started.

Info@CaMortgageRelief.org

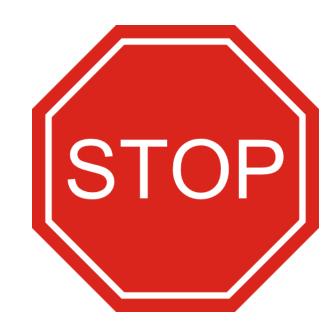
General program questions should be sent via email. All emails will receive a response within 3 business days



Fraud and Scams

Scammer May:

- ✓ Pressure homeowners to act immediately.
- ✓ Ask homeowners to pay by cashier's check or wire transfer.
- ✓ Try to convince homeowners to transfer the deed of their home to them.
- ✓ Use different stories to pressure homeowners into paying them.
- ✓ Ask homeowners to sign papers
- ✓ Say homeowners should start making payments to someone other than their servicer or lender
- ✓ Tell homeowners to stop making mortgage payments altogether







Fraud and Scams

Important Things to Remember:



The California Mortgage Relief Program is provided as a free service, with no application costs or fees.

The financial help received never has to be paid back. The money awarded is in the form of a grant which means it does not need to be repaid.

The money awarded to homeowners will be sent directly from the California Mortgage Relief Program to homeowner's loan servicer to completely reinstate their past-due amount.



Other Resources

Additional resources for those who don't qualify:

- Renters who need help with monthly payments or small landlords, help is available through the Emergency Rent Relief Program as part of Housing is Key
- Other resources can be found here: <u>CaMortgageRelief.org/help/</u>







How You Can Help

#1 Spread the Word via Social Media

- Post, share, and re-tweet California Mortgage Relief Program content
- We can provide your office with content. Email Legislative@CaMortgageRelief.org









How You Can Help

#2 Follow us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter!



#GetCaughtUp

Instagram: @CaMortgageRelief

Facebook: @CaMortgageHelp

• Twitter: @CaMortgageHelp



How Can You Help

#3 Distribute Flyers

• Downloadable PDFs available in the newsroom - <u>CaMortgageRelief.org/newsroom</u>





Questions

Application Information/Resources

CaMortgageRelief.org

Consumer Contact Center: 888-840-2594

Info@CaMortgageRelief.org

