



PRESS RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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SACRAMENTO EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE (SERA2) PROGRAM ONLINE APPLICATION OPENS ON MAY 11

Sacramento, Calif. | Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency announces that online applications will be accepted for the Sacramento Emergency Rental Assistance (SERA2) program beginning Tuesday, May 11, at 12:01 a.m. Applicants can go to the Agency's website at www.shra.org/sera to apply. The SERA2 program helps low-income renters who have been unable to pay rent and utility payments due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Landlords can apply for assistance on behalf of their tenants and tenants may also apply on their own behalf. There is no closing date to file applications.

The Agency launched the SERA2 program in February and accepted applications until March 19. Almost 13,000 applications were submitted and are currently being processed for rental assistance payments to eligible applicants. Agency officials advise that if you applied for rental assistance during this time frame, do not apply again. Applicants can check the status of their application at www.shra.org/sera using their original log in for access.

To be eligible for the emergency rental assistance, applicants must be renting housing in the City or County of Sacramento; have household gross annual income at or below low-income limits ranging from \$50,750 for a household of one to \$95,700 for a household of 8; and must have at least one household member that is unemployed, or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or has experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19. Eligible applicants must also demonstrate a risk of being unhoused or housing instability. Applicants may use the funds for back rent and/or utility bills in arrears from April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021. Families can also apply for prospective rent assistance through June 2021. Families that applied for the first phase of SERA last year and did not receive assistance can apply again.

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SHRA (www.shra.org) is a Joint Powers Authority created by the City and County of Sacramento to represent both jurisdictions for affordable housing and community redevelopment needs. SHRA has a FY 2021 budget of \$214 million and 250 employees. The Agency owns and/or manages approximately 3,200 units of affordable housing and is one of the largest landlords in Sacramento. SHRA also administers approximately 13,200 rent assistance vouchers per month.

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This project is being supported in whole or in part, with federal funding (Assistance Listing Number 21.023) awarded to the City of Sacramento and the State of California by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. SHRA is administering \$33.7 million awarded to the city from the U.S. Department of the Treasury and state funding from SB 91 for emergency rent and utility assistance. The Agency is also administering the county's \$68 million award of federal and state funding for emergency rental assistance. A new round of federal funding under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2020 is expected to be awarded to Sacramento which will provide additional funding to help more families under the SERA2 program. More details are available at www.shra.org/sera.

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