



EMERGENCY

ASSISTANCE

overview

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark curly hair looking up at a young child with dark curly hair. The child is wearing a grey denim vest over a green patterned top. The woman has a gentle expression, and the child is looking down at her. The background is a soft, out-of-focus brownish-orange color.

emergency assistance

If you are in an emergency situation and need help fast, New York City can help you feed your family, avoid eviction, keep heat and power on, and recover from a disaster or other serious situation. You can get emergency help from programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), commonly known as Food Stamps, and Cash Assistance. Qualifying for emergency assistance is based on things like your income, family size, the nature of the emergency, and in some cases what resources you have, like savings. Some emergency assistance grants must be paid back once the situation is resolved.

Emergency Rental Assistance

If you are facing eviction and can't afford to pay your rent arrears, you may be eligible for Emergency Rental Assistance through HRA. To apply, visit the HRA Job Center in your borough of residence and speak with the Homelessness Diversion Unit. If you are facing eviction in Housing Court you can also visit HRA's Housing Office at the court.

Who is Eligible?

Each application is evaluated on its merits.

You may qualify if you:

- are eligible for cash assistance, food stamps, and/or Medicaid or if you meet other income/resource criteria
- have documented rent arrears or need to relocate
- demonstrate future ability to pay rent
- Other factors include reasonable documentation of why you need help, your available resources, affordability of your housing, and risk factors such as disability.

Emergency Food Assistance

If you are in an emergency situation with no food and no money to buy food, you can apply for same-day SNAP (food stamp) benefits at an HRA SNAP Center. If you are in danger of running out of food or money soon, you may also qualify for Expedited SNAP benefits, which you will receive within five days.

Other Emergency Assistance

Help is available for other emergency needs, such as:

- assistance with home energy or utility bills to keep heat and power on
- broker's or finder's fees
- storage fees
- moving fees
- personal care items
- clothing and household items

Disaster-Related Emergencies

Applicants requesting emergency assistance due to disaster situations can apply for assistance with:

- moving expenses
- a modest allowance to replace furniture
- the purchase of personal items for health and safety
- a transportation allowance
- personal hygiene/personal care items
- clothing and household items
- restaurant allowances for those who do not have the ability to cook at home

For more information, including where to apply, please visit www.nyc.gov/hra or call 311 or HRA's Infoline at 718-557-1399



Bill de Blasio
Mayor

**Human Resources
Administration**
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Steven Banks
Commissioner



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