

RENT RELIEF

Households that have had a reduction in income or became unemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic may be awarded up to 6 months of rental assistance through the NJ Department of Community Affairs. **Enrollment Period is Monday, July 6, 2020 at 9:00 am until Friday, July 10, 2020 at 5:00 pm.** Households will then be chosen by lottery for rental assistance. [For more information...](#)

<https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/cverap.html>

MORTGAGE RELIEF

See website below if you are a **New Jersey homeowner with a federally backed mortgage** (or want to know if your mortgage is covered). Under the new Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (**CARES Act**) there are two protections provided:

1. A moratorium
2. A right to forbearance for homeowners who are experiencing a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 emergency

<https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/blog/guide-coronavirus-mortgage-relief-options/>

N.J. to give homeowners mortgage relief...

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Banks will give **New Jersey homeowners struggling with financial problems caused by the coronavirus outbreak a 90-day grace period** on mortgage payments to ease the burden, Gov. Phil Murphy said Saturday.

Earlier this month, Murphy **ordered evictions and foreclosures to stop** in the state as the number of people infected with COVID-19 continues to rise. He said Saturday that **mortgage lenders have further pledged not to initiate any new foreclosures or evictions for at least 60 days.**

“This 90-day grace period cannot and will not be used to downgrade anyone’s credit rating and lenders will also waive any late fees or other costs that would otherwise arise because of this 90-day grace period,” Murphy said.

Homeowners should contact their lenders, who will discuss with them whether they qualify, Murphy’s office said in a press release. His office noted that the grace period is available to **those who can show a COVID-19-related reason for financial hardship** “supported with available documentation.”

Matt Platkin, chief counsel for the governor’s office, said **the expectation is that banks will add three months onto the end of mortgages instead of making people pay one lump sum after 90 days.** The one **caveat**, he said, is **some of federal loans the state does not have jurisdiction over.** *(For information on federally backed loans, go to: <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/blog/guide-coronavirus-mortgage-relief-options/>)*