

Application Deadline– Frequently Asked Questions

What is the deadline to apply for assistance?

- The deadline is 9:00 p.m. Central Time on Friday, January 28.
- RentHelpMN will not accept any new applications or re-applications after the deadline.
- Applications must be submitted and in “Pending Initial Review” status.
- Mail-in applications need to be postmarked before the deadline.
- Applications that have been started and are in “Incomplete” status need to be finished before the deadline.

Why is this happening now?

The federal funding for this program was part of emergency COVID-19 relief packages and is limited, requests are approaching the limit of what is available, and we anticipate receiving requests for more assistance than is available by the deadline.

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible, renters must meet the eligibility criteria, owe past-due rent, and apply before the January 28, 2022, 9:00 p.m. deadline.

What about renters who are worried they will fall behind in February?

Because renters must owe past-due rent to apply, they will not be eligible for assistance prior to the deadline.

How do I check the status of my application? Will I know if I have a submitted or pending application?

If you have ever submitted the application and received a notification that your application is Pending Initial Review, then the application is considered submitted. However, if the application was denied and you started a re-application you need to finish and submit that re-application to be considered before the deadline. You can check your status by logging in to your account.

To get to “Pending Initial Review,” follow the steps in the application until you are given the option to click “Complete.” You must click “Complete” and then click “OK” on the following screen.



The screenshot shows the RentHelpMN user interface. On the left, a blue button labeled "Complete" is highlighted with a red arrow. On the right, the "Minnesota Renter's Applications" table is displayed. The table has four columns: Number, Program, Status, and Explanation. A red box highlights the "Status" column, which shows "Pending Initial Review" for application number 524.

Number	Program	Status	Explanation
524	COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance	Pending Initial Review	Your application has been

What if my application is in process? What if it hasn't been paid yet? Is it affected by the deadline?

If your application has already been submitted, it will be processed subject to available resources. The program will continue to operate and applications will be processed for several months. You will still need to respond to questions from the case manager working on your application, but they do not need to be finished before the January 28 deadline. As long as you are responding in a timely way, the deadline will not impact you.

If your application is open for edits because your case manager has asked you for more information, you can still go back in and update and re-submit it. It is still considered submitted.

Are property managers able to access the application system?

Property owners and managers can still go in and set up accounts, see their dashboards, and approve payments. While you may be able to "create applications" for assistance, the renter will receive an error message if they try to complete the application and submit it after applications are closed.

Can I still appeal an application decision if my request is declined?

Applicants can still be declined after applications close. Some denials can be appealed and we will review the appeals that are filed properly.

What if my application was denied or withdrawn?

If your application was denied or withdrawn it will not be reviewed for eligibility. You may have the right to appeal. Check the website. However, if the application was denied and you started a re-application you need to finish and submit that re-application before the deadline to be considered.

Can I still use a mail-in application?

Mail-in applications need to be mailed by the deadline of Friday, January 28, 2022 at 9:00 p.m.

I thought I would receive 15 or 18 months of assistance.

Those are the overall caps in months of available assistance allowed by the federal program. The amount of assistance available ultimately depends on available resources.

What are some other resources for renters who need help with expenses?

Additional resources are listed now at [RentHelpMN](#) and on [Minnesota Housing's website](#). They include:

- Minnesota has a [streamlined application](#) for benefits such as cash, food, emergency housing, and child care assistance.
- If you are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or don't have a place you can stay for very long, contact your local [Coordinated Entry "front door"](#) for additional resources.
- Your local [county](#) or [tribal](#) social service agency can help you connect with other benefits or services, as well as emergency aid.
- Utility assistance is still available through the [Energy Assistance Program](#).