



RentReliefRI

Program Overview

August 19, 2021



About the Program

- \$352 million in federal assistance available (through two rounds of funding)
- Can be used to pay rent arrearages, forward facing rent, utility arrearages and certain other housing expenses
- Applicants can receive up to 18 months of rent and utility assistance



Eligibility Criteria

- **Income Qualified**

- At or below 80% Area Median Income
(about \$69,200 for a family of four in most parts of the State)

- **COVID Impact**

- Qualified for unemployment or experienced financial hardship due to COVID

- **Risk of housing instability or homelessness**

- Including overdue rent, utility bill or an eviction notice



Available Assistance

- Program may be used to pay:
 - Rent arrears
 - Forward facing rent
 - Utility arrears
 - Forward facing \$50 Internet stipend
- Utility costs include electricity, gas, water, trash removal, and energy costs, such as fuel oil
- Applicants can receive up to 18 months of rent, utility and broadband assistance



Accessing RentReliefRI Resources

- Webpage: www.RentReliefRI.com
- Tenants and landlords apply for assistance through one user-friendly website portal
- Additional program support services including:
 - **Call Center- 1-855-608-8756**
 - In-person assistance for people submitting applications
 - Targeted assistance for tenants in the eviction process
 - Broad outreach campaign to reach at-risk populations



Documents to be Ready With

Tenants:

- **Proof of residency** (ex; bank statement, utility bill, driver's license)
- **Proof of income** (ex; wage statements, unemployment letter, 2020 tax return)
- **Signed copy of your lease agreement or documentation showing tenancy**
(a pattern of rent payment, utility bill)
- **Documentation demonstrating your rental/utility arrearage**
(ex; past due utility bill, eviction notice, 5-day demand letter, communication from landlord)

*If you have received a notice from the court for an eviction proceeding against you, please have that documentation available.

****Even if you do not have these documents, you may still be able to qualify for assistance. Please call 1-855-608-8756 or reach out to one of our partners for help completing the application.**



Documents to be Ready With

Property Manager/Landlord:

- **W9 Form**
- **EIN or SSN Verification**
(ex; tax filing, social security card)
- **Rent arrearage documentation**
(ex; ledger, past due notice)
- **Proof of property ownership**
(ex; mortgage statement, real estate tax bill, water bill)
- **Tenant contact information**
(ex; cell phone, email address)




Partner Outreach

- Outreach and informational materials available:
 - RentReliefRI one-pager
 - Community Engagement Toolkit
 - FAQs
 - How to Apply
 - Facebook page



@RentReliefR

**HELP FOR RENTERS**

AM I ELIGIBLE? Find out if you're eligible and what you need to apply.

- Are you a renter living in Rhode Island?
- Does your household income meet the program income limits? Limits vary by location and household size (see below for income limits).
- Have you qualified for unemployment benefits OR have you experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to COVID-19?
- Are you at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability? This may include owing past due rent or having received an eviction notice or 5 day demand letter.

If you answer yes to all four questions, you may be eligible.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Gather these documents now to make it easier to complete and submit your application.

- Your landlord's name, address and contact information** – We will need to contact your landlord to send payment and confirm the rental amount owed.
- Proof of residency** – Includes bank statement, utility bill, driver's license, etc.
- Proof of income** – Includes wage statements, W2s, pay stubs, unemployment letter, 2020 tax return, etc.
- Signed copy of your lease agreement** – Or documentation showing tenancy (e pattern of rent payment). If you are not on a lease, a document from your landlord or the property owner showing the amount you pay and/or the amount you owe for rent.
- Documentation demonstrating your rental/utility arrearage** – Includes a past due notice, eviction notice, 5 day demand letter, communication from landlord or a utility company.
- A list of all household members** – Includes everyone living with you (adults, children, non-custodial children, people not on the lease, family members you care for in your home). Unrelated adults (roommates) who live together are considered a household. All adults in the household will need to share their income information.
- A form of identification for the head of household** – State-issued, Tribal or other international identification.


Renters may apply for help paying for utilities even if they do not need help paying for rent.

If you do not have these documents, you may still be able to apply. Contact the RentReliefRI Call Center at 855-608-8756 for assistance.

Both landlords and tenants may initiate an application for the program. Information from both the tenant and landlord will be required to successfully complete an application. Important: you will need your landlord's name and email address to complete the application.

READY TO APPLY?
WWW.RENTRELIEFRI.COM
TODAY TO GET STARTED.

About RentReliefRI
RentReliefRI is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number (BA001) awarded to the State of Rhode Island by the U.S. Department of Treasury.



4/21/21

Current Statistics as of 8/19/2021

Accounts Created

8,874

Incomplete Applications

5,118

Submitted Applications

3,756

Total Approved Applications

1,971

Approved

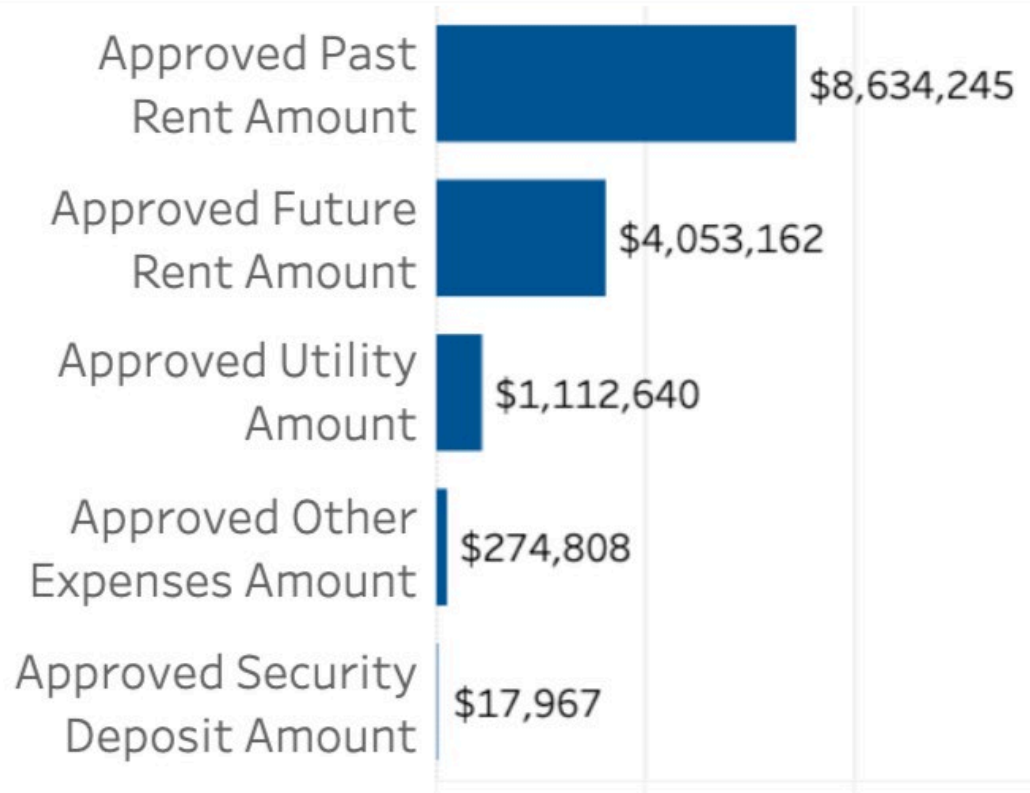
\$14,096,052



RentReliefRI

Current Statistics as of 8/19/2021

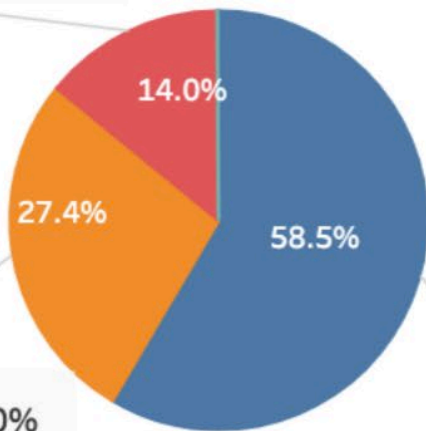
Approved Assistance by Category



Current Statistics as of 8/19/2021

Households Assisted by AMI

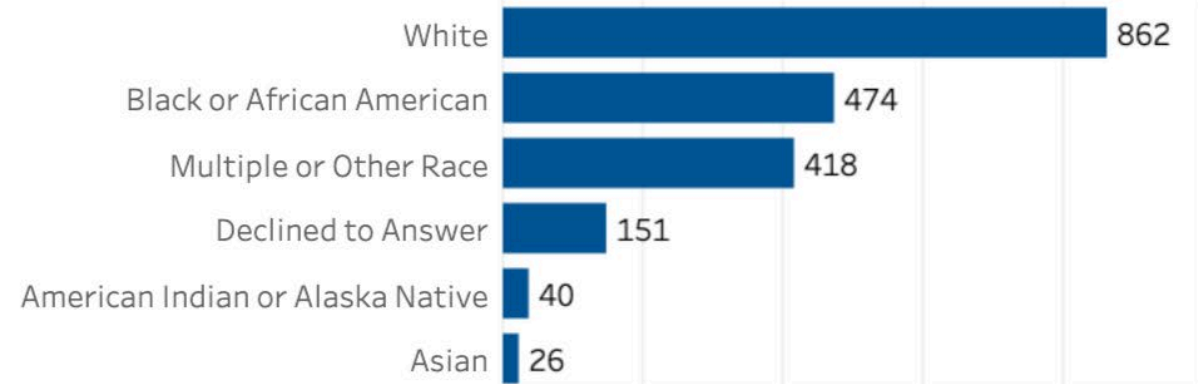
AMI Group: 50% to 80%
Approved: 276



AMI Group: 30% to 50%
Approved: 540

AMI Group : 30% and under
Approved: 1,153

Race of Approved Tenants



Ethnicity of Approved Tenants



Coming Soon -

Homeowner Assistance Fund of RI

- \$50 million to assist owner occupants of 1-4 unit properties
- Households earning up to 150% AMI are eligible
(about \$116,850 for a family of three in most parts of the state)
- Up to \$50,000 for a maximum of 24 months of assistance
- Eligible expenses include:
 - Mortgage and utility arrearages
 - Ongoing mortgage assistance
 - Principle reduction
 - Other housing related costs like property taxes, condo fees, mortgage insurance, etc.

