040 APARTMENTS
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Help Paying Rent

For renters in Hollis, Sanford and Limerick, Maine | Updated October 2026

How to apply

1. **Call or apply early.** You can apply to more than one program. Most take 1-3 weeks and pay your landlord directly.
2. **Gather your documents:** photo ID, your lease, proof of household income (pay stubs or benefit letters) and your past-due notice or rent ledger.
3. **Ask your landlord** for a rent ledger and a W-9 if the program needs them, and let them know you applied so they can finish their part.

1. Help with past-due rent

MaineHousing Back-Rent + Ongoing Rent Assistance OPEN NOW

Pays your back rent, then up to 12 more months of rent (up to $800/month). Up to $9,600 total.

Who qualifies: you rent your main home in Maine, you're behind on rent, and household income is at or below 60% of area median income. Examples: York County $55,860 (1 person) / $79,740 (4 people); Hollis $58,440 / $83,460. You can't already have a Section 8 voucher or live in subsidized housing, and rent limits apply.

Good to know: funding is limited and goes to households with a written past-due notice first. Payment goes straight to your landlord.

How to apply: apply online through the portal linked from **mainehousing.org** (Rental programs) or call Project Home at **(207) 274-1240** (interpreters available). Your landlord then finishes their part.
Bring: photo ID, signed lease, proof of household income, proof of past-due rent (ledger or notice). **Landlord gives:** W-9, lease, ledger, proof of ownership or management, signed attestation.

Town General Assistance (GA) EVERY TOWN

Helps residents who can't cover basic needs. Rent is paid to your landlord by voucher. Ask if past-due rent can be covered in your situation. You reapply each month, and the town must give you a written decision within 24 hours of a complete application.

How to apply: call your town to book an appointment (Sanford: appointment only), then apply at the town office. **Bring:** the towns don't list documents online, so ask what to bring when you call.

- **Hollis:** Town Office, 34 Town Farm Rd | **207-298-0271** | Tue, Thu, Fri 9-4; Wed 11-7
- **Sanford / Springvale:** City Hall, 919 Main St | **207-324-9110** (appointment only) | Mon-Thu 7:30-5:30
- **Limerick: 207-793-4475** or selectboardadmin@limerickme.org | after hours 207-292-8805
- Questions or a problem with your town? State GA hotline **1-800-442-6003** (option 2).

DHHS Emergency Assistance FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

For households with a child under 21 and very low income (or getting TANF, SSI or SNAP). Up to **$250 toward back rent**, paid to your landlord, once every 12 months. Apply within 30 days of your landlord's written notice.

How to apply: apply online at **MyMaineConnection.gov** (Emergency Assistance), or email, fax or mail the application to DHHS. Questions: **1-855-797-4357**.
Bring: your landlord's written notice or statement of the rent owed. Other documents are unknown, so ask DHHS.

More back-rent help	How to apply
Veterans' Emergency Financial Assistance Up to **$2,000** for Maine veterans (Honorable or General discharge) in a hardship. Can pay back rent.	**Call** Veterans Forward **844-653-0316** (maineveteransforward.org) or Maine Veterans' Services 207-287-7020. **Bring:** proof of Maine residency, DD-214, lease, your landlord's notice of rent owed and W-9, last 2 months of bank statements, proof of hardship.
Salvation Army - Sanford One-time emergency rent help. Funds are limited.	**Call ahead** for an appointment: **207-324-3134**, 871 Main St, Sanford. **Bring:** unknown, so ask when you call.
Catholic Charities Maine - Relief & Hope Small one-time help for an urgent need after other options are used.	**Email** reliefandhope@ccmaine.org or **call 207-523-2770** / 1-800-781-8550. **Bring:** papers that show your situation and how much you need, and what other help you've already tried.
School-based family help (YCCAC pilot) Up to $750 for rent or a deposit for families with school-age children who are losing their housing.	**Ask** your child's school family/homeless liaison for a referral, or call YCCAC **207-324-5762**. **Bring:** unknown.

2. Ongoing rent subsidies

Program	How to apply
Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Long-term help: you pay about 30-40% of your income and the voucher pays the rest to your landlord. The list is always open.	**Apply online** at **maine.affordablehousing.com** or call **866-466-7328**. One application covers 20 Maine housing authorities. Update it every year or you'll be removed. MaineHousing: (866) 357-4853. **Bring:** nothing to apply. When you're selected: birth certificates, Social Security cards and income proof for everyone in the household.
Sanford Housing Authority Vouchers, public housing and project-based units in Sanford.	**Apply** at affordablehousing.com, **call 207-324-6747 ext. 115** to have an application mailed, or stop by 17 School St (Mon-Thu 9-12, 1-3). **Bring:** unknown, so ask the office.
Veterans: SSVF and HUD-VASH SSVF (Preble Street) helps with first month's rent and deposits. HUD-VASH is a long-term voucher for veterans without stable housing.	**SSVF:** call **207-956-6556** / 1-800-377-5709 or email vhs@preblestreet.org. **HUD-VASH:** there's no application. Call the VA at **207-623-8411 ×2892** and a VA case manager refers you. **Bring:** unknown.
Youth 18-24 who were in foster care Foster Youth to Independence vouchers: up to 3 years. You pay 30% of income or $50/month.	**Call DHHS first** to check eligibility: **207-446-4227**, Dulcey.Laberge@maine.gov. The housing authority then contacts you. **Bring:** unknown.
People living with HIV Frannie Peabody Center housing assistance (confidential).	**Call 207-774-6877** or email info@peabodycenter.org to ask how to apply. **Bring:** unknown.
People without stable housing Stability Through Engagement (MaineHousing) gives short-term rent help. Permanent Supportive Housing (DHHS) is for households with a member who has a disability.	**By referral only**: ask the program staff or caseworker working with you. Permanent Supportive Housing needs an application plus disability verification. **Bring:** otherwise unknown.
People in recovery Short-term rent help (60-90 days) in certified recovery residences (MARR).	**Apply** to a participating MARR-certified residence and ask about the subsidy (mainerecoveryresidences.com). **Bring:** unknown.

Programs, amounts and funding change often, so call ahead to confirm. Information was checked against official program sources in October 2026.

Questions? Visit **040apartments.com**