

# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Help with rent/mortgage and utilities during COVID-19.



You may be concerned about interruptions in your income and paying your bills. Blue Earth County is here to help with Emergency Assistance Programs.

Emergency Assistance Programs help with shelter costs, such as past due rent/mortgage, or a damage deposit. Emergency programs also help pay for utilities, including electricity, heat and water, when there is threat of disconnection.

Temporarily, these programs may also help to cover costs associated with transportation repairs and related expenses, as well as some child care costs.

## ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY

You may be eligible for Emergency Assistance Programs if you do not have enough resources to resolve your crisis and you can show that you have enough income to pay bills moving forward.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR EMERGENCY HELP

There are multiple ways for you to receive and return an application for assistance.

To receive an application:

- Call 507-304-4335 to request an application to be sent to you by mail, fax, or email.
- Pick up one at 410 S 5th Street in Mankato. Please enter Door A.
- Apply online at [applymn.dhs.mn.gov](http://applymn.dhs.mn.gov)

To return the application:

- Email it to [financialassistance@blueearthcountymn.gov](mailto:financialassistance@blueearthcountymn.gov)
- Fax them to 507-304-4336
- Drop off or mail to 410 S 5th Street, PO Box 3526, Mankato MN 56002

Once the application is received, an appointment will be set up, and a phone interview will be required.

## EMERGENCY PROGRAMS ELIGIBILITY UPDATES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2020

- ✓ **Emergency programs have suspended the rule about how often assistance may be obtained (usually only once in a 12 month period).** You can apply for emergency programs even if you have already received help within the past 12 months.
- ✓ **Emergency programs have maximum limits of what dollar amount can be paid; these amounts have been temporarily increased.** Please speak with your financial worker about what you need; if it is still more than emergency programs can help with, we can refer you to other community agencies who may be able to assist with additional funds.
- ✓ **Some other regular eligibility requirements have also been suspended. Your worker can explain these to you in detail.**

For general questions about the programs, feel free to call the Blue Earth County Human Services Office at 507-304-4335. If you already have a financial worker, you may also reach out to them directly.