



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor



NM Emergency Rental Assistance Program
www.RentHelpNM.org



DEPARTMENT OF
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Awards Over \$12M to New Mexicans for Rental and Utility Assistance

SANTA FE – The state of New Mexico and the city of Albuquerque have distributed more than \$12M through the state’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP); the program helps renters experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. To date, recipients have come from every county in New Mexico.

“My administration will keep looking out for New Mexicans and finding more and more ways to reach families and workers and help them wherever and however we can,” said Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham. “Fifteen months of rent and utility assistance can be a really meaningful game-changer, and we have more work to do; in the meantime, we will keep getting dollars out the door.”

"We know many New Mexicans require a variety of aid as a result of the pandemic, and as we acquire more funds, we will get the money to New Mexicans as quickly and efficiently as possible," said Finance and Administration Secretary Debbie Romero. "Our team worked diligently on building this program from conception to launch and now we are processing awards at a quick pace."

"The federal government gave us some breathing room with the deadline of getting 65% of the funds allocated by September," said ERAP Director Donnie Quintana. "Still, we knew we needed to make a big push now to help the applicants in the queue, so we took an all-hands-on-deck approach at DFA to award \$12M for renters in need."

In addition to the current allocation process, the state is working on bulk distribution payments to utility and property managers. This new process will streamline the application process to its simplest form while still maintaining federal guidelines. Bulk distribution will help protect qualified renters from eviction or from having utilities disconnected.

Renters across the state are eligible for the program and receive up to 15 months of rent and utility assistance from the state. Those seeking assistance should review the current FAQ at www.RentHelpNM.org to learn more about eligibility and documentation needed for their application.

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