



State of GA Rental Assistance Program (GRA)



State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Program

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs is administering the State of Georgia Rental Assistance Program (GRA).

- Help renters with their **past due rent and utilities.**
- Both Tenants and Landlords **MUST** apply

State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Assistance Limits

- Payments include arrearages and future payments of up to 3 months
- Up to \$15,000 per household
- Generally, may not exceed 12 months

State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Eligibility

GRA can serve renter households that have combined incomes less than 80% of Area Median Income

FY 2020 Income Limits Summary

Selecting any of the buttons labeled "Explanation" will display detailed calculation steps for each of the various parameters.

FY 2020 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income Explanation	FY 2020 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Columbus, GA-AL MSA	\$62,300	Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$) Explanation	21,850	24,950	28,050	31,150	33,650	36,150	38,650	41,150
		Extremely Low Income Limits (\$)* Explanation	13,100	17,240	21,720	26,200	30,680	35,160	38,650*	41,150*
		Low (80%) Income Limits (\$) Explanation	34,900	39,900	44,900	49,850	53,850	57,850	61,850	65,850

NOTE: Muscogee County is part of the **Columbus, GA-AL MSA**, so all information presented here applies to all of the **Columbus, GA-AL MSA**.

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Eligibility

Additional eligibility conditions that must be met.

- Qualified for unemployment benefits or has experienced a reduction in household income, or incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due directly or indirectly to COVID-19; and
- Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and
- Has a household income at or below 80 percent of the [Area Median Income \(AMI\)](#), with priority given to: 1) households below 50 percent of the AMI, or 2) households with one or more individuals who have been unemployed 90 days or longer at the time of application

State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Navigation for City of Columbus Residents and Landlords

City of Columbus Residents and Landlords will self apply for the State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Program directly through the State of Georgia's Department of Community affairs website.

- <https://georgiarentalassistance.ga.gov>
- 833-827-RENT or 833-827-7368

State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Navigation Barriers

- Accessibility – Equipment
- Accessibility – Programmatic Knowledge
- Accessibility – Internet Access

To Mitigate the barriers, the Community Reinvestment Department has worked to create:

- Navigation Stations
- Navigators

State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Barrier Mitigation

Navigation Stations –Spaces that will offer Computer and Internet Access Only, FAQ's and Flyers about the Program

- J. Barnett Woodruff Boys and Girl's Club – 3220 Cusseta Road
- Mildred L. Terry Public Library– 640 Veterans Parkway
- Columbus Public Library – 3000 Macon Road
- North Columbus Public Library – 5689 Armour Road
- South Columbus Public Library – 2034 South Lumpkin Road

State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Barrier Mitigation

Navigators – These are social service agencies that will case manage clients through the application process including the collection and submission of required documentation.

- St Anne Community Outreach – 706-568-1592
- Enrichment Services - Jamie Thomas – 706-221-6704
- United Way Chattahoochee Valley – 706 327 3255 ext. 1016
- The Salvation Army – 706-327-0275
- Homeless Resource Network – 706-571-3399
- Access 2 Independence – 706-405-2393
- Georgia Legal Services– 833-457-7529

State of Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) Barrier Mitigation

Landlords - Sheriff and Clerk of Municipal Court Partnership

- Landlords Who have filed an eviction since March of 2020
- Developed Correspondence to invite landlords to Informational Meeting
- Addresses restitution through the program.
- More than 100 Landlords attended