



## **Family Resources, Updated: October 9, 2020**

### **Housing:**

Most eviction proceedings in CT have been placed on hold until January 1, 2021 per the Governor's order. This means that landlords cannot start eviction proceedings until January 1, 2021 unless in the case of a serious nuisance which does not include noise.

In addition, the CDC has suspended all residential evictions for non-payment of rent until December 31, 2020 for renters making less than \$99,000 and who can attest to not being able to pay full rent despite best efforts. You must attest to your difficulties. Legal services are ready and available to answer questions. [CT Law Help](#) has more information.



If you can, continue to pay your rent. If not, there are a few steps to take to let your landlord know that you are struggling to pay rent. [CT Law Help](#) has more information. The state [Temporary Rental Housing Assistance](#) Program may be able to assist with back rent. You can also call 211 for additional resources.



### **Utilities: no shut offs until October 31, 2020**

Connecticut has banned all utility shutoffs, including, gas, electricity and water for residential customers until October 1, 2020 for non-hardship customers and Friday, October 31, 2020 for financial hardship customers. For more information contact your utility or [Consumer Affairs](#). Further, Connecticut state law provides winter protection limiting shutoffs between November 1 and May 1 every year. Customers struggling to pay their bills should call their utility company to be coded as "hardship" to qualify for the protection.

Families facing imminent shutoff notices or whose utilities were shut off should call the Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) at (800) 382-4586.

### **Energy Assistance/Fuel Oil**

The moratorium *does not apply to fuel oil*. However, Operation Fuel is still taking applications and may be reached at (860) 243-2346 or by email at [info@operationfuel.org](mailto:info@operationfuel.org) for fuel deliveries.

Families are still accruing bills and should pay when they can. There are programs to assist with energy costs. If your family needs **energy assistance** to help with back bills contact your local Community Action Agency for an application. 211 has a list of local agencies. The utility companies also offer matching payment programs to help with back bills.

How to get to the websites:

1. Click the link (if looking on a computer or phone), *or*
2. Hold your smartphone's camera over the QR code (a link to the website will pop up), *or*
3. Call 211 Infoline for additional guidance



### **Income Supports:**

#### **Cash Assistance: Temporary Family Assistance limits suspended**

The state temporarily suspended the 21-month lifetime limit on the receipt of Temporary Family Assistance (TFA). The state also allows for good-cause exemptions to the work requirement during the pandemic. Families eligible and interested in applying for ongoing TFA should apply on-line at the [Department of Social Services](#) or call (855) 6-CONNECT.



**Stimulus Checks:** Many Americans have received a stimulus check based on their annual income. It is unclear whether there will be a second stimulus check. If you have not received your check you can go to the IRS website, [Get My Payment](#). For more information please go to the [IRS webpage](#). Non-tax filers must request their payments by November 21, 2020.



### **Food Supports:**

**SNAP (or food stamps):** DSS has suspended work requirements and certain time limits for enrollees. In addition, you can now purchase food online with your SNAP benefits.

**WIC:** offices are closed for walk-in appointments and applications. However, applications and inquiries are still being processed over the phone. Call your [local WIC office](#).



**School Meals Distribution:** public school districts are still providing breakfast and hot lunches to all students regardless of the type of school experience – virtual, hybrid, in-person. The CT [State Department of Education](#) has information about the programs during COVID. If you have any questions, check with your child's school or district office for information specific to your community.

**Food Garage:** provides free food and delivery for those who need food during the pandemic. They serve New Haven, West Haven, East Haven, and Hamden. Fill out an [online request](#) with how often you need help and they will reach out to you with help.



### **General Support:**

**Connecticut's 2-1-1 Infoline:** free hotline that helps you find the resources you need. They are available 24/7 and in any language. Dial 211 or online [here](#).

**CT Mutual Aid** ensures that everyone in our communities can request support during these difficult times. [Fill out the form](#) and say what your immediate needs are. They will reach out to you and connect you with the supports you need. For more information link [here](#).

**Informed Immigrant** has established a [list of resources](#) for the undocumented immigrant community during the pandemic.



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