

WHAT IF I CAN'T PAY RENT?

1 Contact Your Property Manager IMMEDIATELY!

Contact your property manager by he/she's preferred method of contact immediately if you know you are unable to pay rent. Be calm, explain the situation, and inform he/she of the steps you are taking to relieve the issue.

Follow up the conversation by sending a letter to your property manager of what was discussed and/or agreed upon in the initial conversation. Be sure to include in the letter what steps you are taking to receive rental assistance. This letter does not protect you from eviction but helps memorialize the conversation.

2 Apply for SD Cares Rental Assistance.

Apply for SD Cares Rental Assistance immediately. This process takes time but may be able to provide you with catching up on back rent and future rent payments.

Refer to this [handout](#) for more information.

3 Find Other Help in Your Area.

Call your [local 211](#) or use their [find help tool](#) to learn about what other agencies offer emergency rental and/or eviction assistance in your area.

4 Still have questions?

Review [The SD Landlord/Tenant Handbook](#) if you have questions about your rights and obligations as a tenant.

Refer to the [SD Law Help Webpage](#) for more information and resources.