

Factsheet on COVID-19 Housing Supports

Rent Supplement

Rent supplement is available as a short term option if you are renting in the private rental market and have become suddenly unemployed. Rent supplement is a means-tested payment for people living in **private rented accommodation**. A registered full-time student is not eligible. Rent supplement is calculated based on the amount of rent payable on your tenancy and your income. It will be paid for as long as your circumstances require it.

Further details regarding eligibility and the application form can be found [here](#).

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

HAP is designed for people with a long-term housing need. There have been no changes to the HAP scheme in light of COVID-19. If you are a HAP tenant, your rent will continue to be paid to your landlord and your differential rent collected as normal.

If you are a HAP tenant and have experienced a loss of income or employment due to COVID-19, you are encouraged to apply for the supplementary COVID-19 payment below. Once you are receiving this, you can contact your local authority to have your differential rent contribution reduced, if applicable, to reflect your current income. More information for HAP tenants can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment

If you had a loss of income or employment due to the current situation, you may be eligible for the new COVID-19 Pandemic Payment. This payment is open to anyone aged between 18-66 who has lost employment due to COVID-19, including students, part-time workers and non-EEA nationals. The payment is €350 per week for the duration of the pandemic.

The application form and more details can be found [here](#).

Further Information and Advice:

- Focus Ireland can provide advice, information and support if you are worried about losing your home. Email help@focusireland.ie or call (01) 671 25 55
- [Citizens Information](#) has details on all COVID-19 related social welfare payments and precautions
- You'll find online application forms for the COVID-19 payment and other social welfare payments at Mywelfare.ie Applications can be made at your local [Intreo office](#). Opening hours are reduced so check before you go.