

Resources for Massachusetts Residents Unable to Pay Rent

Important "To Knows"

"14 Day Notice to Quit"

- Do not ignore these!!!
- This does not mean that you need to leave your house or apartment
- A Landlord cannot evict you, **only a judge can**
- If you do not move out the Landlord can begin a court process to evict you
- The court case that a landlord files to get a court order is called a summary process (the legal term for an eviction).
- The court order that allows a landlord to evict a tenant is called an execution. Even if your landlord gets an execution, only a sheriff or constable can move you and your belongings out of the property.

EMERGENCY RIGHT TO COUNSEL BILL

A surge of evictions is expected, and the state of MA has put in place a preventative plan. Tenants with income below 200% of the poverty state guidelines qualify for free legal aid in dealing with evictions due to non-payment.

Legal Resources

- **Mass Legal Help (Resource Guide)**
<https://www.masslegalhelp.org/>
- **Eastern Region Legal Intake Helpline (Legal Aid)**
(617)-603 1700 | <https://vlpnet.org/get-help/>
- **Greater Boston Legal Services (Legal Aid)**
(617) 371-1234 | <https://www.gbls.org/>
- **Community Legal Aid (Legal Aid)**
(855)-252-5342 | www.communitylegal.org
- **Harvard Legal Aid Bureau (Legal Aid)**
(617) 495 4408 | <http://www.harvardlegalaid.org/>

There is a federal ban on evictions effective through March 2021 to prevent eviction for non-payment for qualified tenants who submit a written declaration to their landlord.

*Declaration form can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/declaration-form.pdf>

Financial Resources at The Brookline Center: Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

This program helps families or individuals that are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.

Requirements are as follows:

- Residing or homeless in Brookline, Waltham, Watertown or Newton
- Household must meet GROSS income guidelines
- Required documentation must be provided

Resources/Support provided:

- Case management and referrals to community resources
- Financial assistance such as rent, security deposit, moving costs, utility assistance, realtor's fees

For more information about ESG, please contact:
Phone: 857-707-3525 | brooklinecenter.org/ESG-intake