

# What Tenants Need to Know During COVID-19

The Arizona Governor has issued an Executive Order delaying eviction actions for tenants affected financially or medically by COVID-19

## Does This Executive Order [EO] Protect You From Eviction?

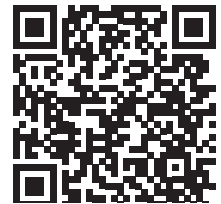
If you notify your landlord of a qualifying COVID-19-related reason, you may remain in your home until a court orders enforcement of the eviction, or the Governor's order expires (July 22, 2020, unless extended), whichever occurs sooner. This is true even if your landlord has received an eviction judgment against you from the court.

*NOTE: Your landlord cannot physically remove you from your home; only a county constable or sheriff may do that. But if your landlord files an eviction action in court, you still need to appear at the hearing by phone or in person.*

## While the EO is in effect, you cannot be evicted if you answer YES to one of more of these 5 questions:

1. Are you quarantined because you tested positive for COVID-19?
2. Were you told by a licensed medical professional to self-quarantine based on COVID-19 symptoms (as defined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention)?
3. Are you quarantined because someone in your home has been diagnosed with COVID-19?
4. Do you have a health condition, as defined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, including:
  - You are 65 or older
  - You have moderate to bad asthma, chronic lung disease, or COPD
  - You are obese with a body mass index [BMI] of 40 or more (you can find a BMI calculator online)
  - You have HIV or AIDS
  - You have liver disease
  - You have diabetes
  - You require dialysis
  - You've had a bone marrow or organ transplant
  - You are being treated for cancer
  - You have an immune deficiency or disease
  - You take steroids or other medicine that compromises your immune system
  - You have a compromised immune system for some other reason.
5. Have you suffered a substantial loss of income resulting from COVID-19, because:
  - You lost your job, were furloughed, or were laid off?
  - Your place of employment was closed?
  - Your pay was cut?
  - You have to stay home to care for a home-bound school-age child?
  - Your income has been substantially cut for another reason related to COVID-19 (for example, you own a business, or work in a field that was ordered closed or where demand dropped)?

Get a form letter at [jp.pima.gov](http://jp.pima.gov) or use this QR code



## If you answer YES to one of these questions, notify your landlord immediately:

Write your landlord that you have a problem (from the list of 5 questions above) and you can't pay your rent right now.

- **The letter MUST INCLUDE this statement:** "I am mailing or delivering this letter and the papers supporting my reason to my landlord or property manager today. I agree that all requirements of my lease remain in effect."
- Date and sign the letter, and include your printed name and address.
- Include documents proving your claim from the list above: doctors notes, termination notice, pay stubs, or e-mails.
- Keep a copy of everything you are sending. Mail (registered mail is best) your letter to the address for your landlord on your lease, or hand-deliver it to your landlord or property manager.
- Take a photo or have someone witness you delivering the letter. Some courts will accept e-mail proof, so keep a copy of any e-mails you sent. Ask your landlord/property manager if they received it and keep a copy of the answer.
- Tape a copy of the letter inside your window so it can be seen from the front door. Write your phone number on it so a constable can call you if they need to. Take a photo showing you can see it from your front door.

## The Executive Order Does NOT Change Your Lease.

Even if you are protected by the EO, your unpaid rent will be due in the future. You will have to make up the missed rent, including costs and late fees. And you can still be evicted if:

- You cannot pay rent for a reason unrelated to Covid-19.
- You violate any other term of your lease.

Questions? Call Pima County Community Services at (520) 724-6701 or visit <http://pima.gov/EndingPoverty>



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# Resources for Tenants

Resources are limited • Application does not guarantee assistance • If you need to copy, scan, or fax documents, Office Depot, OfficeMax, and Staples are offering free services

## ➤ COVID-19 Rental Eviction Assistance Program

The COVID-19 Rental Eviction Assistance Program is funded by the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH). Eligible households are responsible for paying 30% of their total gross month's income to their landlord. The program may provide a supplement for the remaining rent due, paid directly to the landlord, up to a maximum of \$2,000/month. Apply online at <https://housing.az.gov> or call 211 or (520) 724-2505.

All funding is based on eligibility and require specific documents for assistance applications. You will need:

- Your state-issued photo I.D.
- A copy of your current lease
- Proof of your current income (pay stubs)
- Proof of your prior income (pay stubs)
- Documents proving the crisis that caused you to get behind on your rent

## ➤ Pima County rent and utility assistance information is available at <https://bit.ly/3bAry8F>

Call to schedule an appointment. Due to COVID-19, many agencies are offering video/telephone meetings. You may also qualify for utility or other assistance for which additional documents will be required.

## ➤ Contact one of these Pima County Emergency Services Network agencies

- Chicanos Por La Causa (520) 882-0018
- Interfaith Community Services (520) 297-6049
- Portable, Practical Educational Preparation, Inc. (520) 622-3553
- Pima County Community Action Agency (520) 724-2667
- Primavera Foundation (520) 395-6420
- Salvation Army (520) 795-9671

## ➤ AJO, AZ ONLY: International Sonoran Desert Alliance (520) 387-3570

## Other Resources

### ➤ For foreclosure assistance: Pima County Housing Center (EL Banco)

Visit <https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/one.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=23529> or call (520) 724-2460

### ➤ To find a food pantry near you: text FOOD or COMIDA to 877877

or visit the Community Food Bank's website: <https://www.communityfoodbank.org/Get-Help/Find-Food>

### ➤ Meals for children under 18: call AZ Hunger Hotline (602) 528-3434 or (800) 445-1914

### ➤ For other needs visit Pima County Regional Resources at: <http://www.pimacountyhelp.org>

### ➤ For employment and financial assistance visit: <https://des.az.gov/services/coronavirus>

### ➤ For information on jobs and unemployment benefits: call (520) 724-5735 or go to [www.PimaWorks.com](http://www.PimaWorks.com)

### ➤ For more information about COVID-19 in English or Spanish: dial 211

### ➤ To find more resources: <https://arizonatogether.org>

### ➤ Legal assistance for eligible applicants: go to <http://www.stepuptojustice.org> or <https://www.sazlegalaid.org>

