Seattle Hospitality Worker Emergency Relief Fund
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Help for low-income workers in bars, restaurants, hotels, and motels

The City of Seattle has partnered with Wellspring Family Services to provide one-time cash assistance to help meet the basic needs of workers in the hospitality industry impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. The Hospitality Worker Emergency Relief Fund serves low-income, hospitality workers who live and work in Seattle and have lost their jobs or experienced a pay reduction due to employment changes and business closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Apply in English or Spanish here:** [https://hospitality.wellspringfs.org/](https://hospitality.wellspringfs.org/)

1. **How do I know if I am eligible to apply for the Seattle COVID-19 Hospitality Relief Fund?**

   **Eligibility:**
   - Must live in Seattle
   - Employed or lost employment due to COVID in Seattle
   - Presently work or worked in Hospitality in Seattle
   - Must be at or below 60% AMI in Seattle
   - To meet income qualifications, households must make 60% or less of area median income (AMI) which is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$50,160</td>
<td>$57,360</td>
<td>$64,500</td>
<td>$71,640</td>
<td>$77,400</td>
<td>$83,160</td>
<td>$88,860</td>
<td>$94,620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **When are applications due?**

   The application period: **January 11 - February 1, 2021.** You can submit your application at any time during this period. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

3. **Will everyone who applies receive financial assistance?**

   Due to limited funds, we are unable to serve everyone. Some eligible applicants might not receive financial support.
4. Do my family members or I need to be worried about public charge?

According to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), “disaster relief” benefits, such as this program, will not be considered in determining whether an individual is a public charge. You can also read this USCIS Public Charge Fact Sheet for more information. If you have questions about your immigration status and/or use of benefits, you should speak with an immigration attorney or DOJ-accredited representative.

5. Will receiving this financial aid impact my family members’ or my ability to become a U.S. citizen?

If you are a lawful permanent resident/green card holder, receiving financial aid from the Seattle COVID-19 Hospitality Relief Fund will not impact your ability to become a U.S. citizen. It will also not impact the ability of a lawful permanent resident/green card holder family member to become a U.S. citizen. If you have questions about your immigration status and/or use of benefits, you should speak with an immigration attorney or DOJ-accredited representative.

6. Is the information I provide in the application confidential?

Wellspring Family Services is responsible for collecting the personal information you voluntarily submit on the online application for the Seattle COVID-19 Hospitality Relief Fund. To help prevent unauthorized access, maintain data accuracy, and ensure the correct use of information, Wellspring Family Services has established appropriate procedures to safeguard and secure the information they collect. They do not voluntarily share your data with government entities, including the City of Seattle.

7. I do not have a computer or access to the Internet. Are there other options for me to apply?

We are only able to offer the application through the online portal.

8 Is this a one-time payment?

Eligible applicants are only able to receive a one-time payment.

9. How can I receive payments and how long will it take?

Wellspring expects to have checks out by May 1st but could be sooner.

10. I am married, and my spouse and I both qualify for funding. Should we both apply?

Yes

11. My household consists of multiple families. How should we apply?

Each family should submit one application for that family.

12. My household consists of multiple single adults. How should we apply?

Each adult should submit one application for themselves.
13. Can I apply on behalf of my children who are under the age of 18?

Yes. Children should be included in your application, if you are eligible, as per the criteria listed in Question #1.

14. I currently do not have stable housing. Can I still apply, and how can I receive financial aid without a mailing address?

Eligible applicants without permanent housing should still apply. Wellspring is prepared to guide you to what is the best way to get this cash assistance to you. Please confirm this on your application to better serve you.

15. What happens if my household submits a duplicate application by mistake? Are we then disqualified as a result?

If your household submits multiple applications by mistake, Wellspring Family Services will be able to identify that multiple applications from the same household were submitted and will review the application that conveys the higher need. They may also contact applicants via phone or text if they detect application issues.