

STATE OF NEW MEXICO Human Services Department Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

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Applications for economic relief payments open Monday, September 26

State to deliver \$10 million in economic aid this fall

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Human Services Department announced today they will begin accepting economic relief assistance applications for low-income New Mexico residents on Monday, September 26.

The state legislature appropriated \$10 million for the economic relief effort during the 2022 legislative session. Payments of at least \$400 will be provided to qualified households with the lowest incomes first and there will be a limited number of applicants accepted based on funding availability.

The online application will be available at the Yes New Mexico website, <u>yes.state.nm.us</u>, beginning Monday, September 26, at 9 a.m. and must be submitted by Friday, October 7, 2022 at 5 p.m.

The information requested includes the following:

- First name, last name;
- One of the following: New Mexico driver's license number, individual taxpayer identification number or social security number;
- NM residential address and/or mailing address; and
- Direct deposit information (U.S. bank account number and routing number) if available.

"Many low-income New Mexico families have experienced substantial economic and personal losses, "said **Angela Medrano**, deputy Secretary for the New Mexico Human Services Department. "These funds will help people in our communities who need the extra money to help feed and house their families."

Payments will be processed by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department and will be issued by the end of November 2022. Applicants will be notified by mail and electronically the status of their application.

To qualify for the relief, applicants must be a New Mexico resident, and have at least one of the following: New Mexico driver's license number, individual taxpayer identification number or social security number.

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Frequently asked questions:

What is the New Mexico Economic Relief Payment?

The State of New Mexico was appropriated \$10 million to provide financial relief to low-income New Mexico residents. Payments will be provided to qualified households with the lowest incomes first and there will be a limited number of applicants accepted based on funding availability. All applicants must submit their information online by 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, 2022. Payments will be issued by the end of November 2022. Applicants will receive a final communication regarding qualifying status.

Will my other Income Support benefits be impacted?

This one-time benefit amount will NOT be considered in determining your eligibility for any program administered by the Human Services Department. This includes food, cash, energy or medical assistance.

How do I know if I qualify?

To qualify you must:

- Be a current low-income New Mexico resident.
- At the time of submission, you will receive a confirmation number indicating your application appears complete and a final determination is yet to be made.
- A final communication regarding qualifying status and payment amount will be sent to you through email or letter.

Where can I request assistance?

New Mexico residents must submit their information to determine if they qualify via an online portal beginning

at 9 a.m., Monday, September 26, 2022. The portal will remain open until 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 7, 2022. Applicants will only be accepted during this time. To apply please visit<u>ves.state.nm.us</u>.

At the time of submission, you will receive a confirmation number indicating your application was received. This should not be considered a final determination regarding receipt of benefits. If you did not qualify for a payment or if funding was expended, a final communication will be sent to you through email or letter.

How much will I receive?

Payment eligibility and amounts are subject to the availability of funds and will be issued to the lowest income applicants first. Only one payment per household will be issued. Payments will be sent by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

How will I get my payment?

Applicants will have the option to enter a U.S. savings or checking account information to receive a direct deposit. Direct deposit is the fastest and most secure way to get your payment. If an applicant does not provide banking information a check will be mailed to the mailing address provided. Please make sure to enter a valid N.M, mailing address and verify that the name of the application matches your name on your driver's license.

When will I get my payment?

All direct deposits will be completed, and all checks mailed by the end of November 2022. Applicants will receive a final determination, including payment amount from the Human Services Department. If an applicant does not receive a notice of final determination and does not receive a payment via direct deposit or check, please contact the New Mexico Human Services Department at 1-800-283-4465.

We talk, interpret and smile in all languages. We provide written information to our customers in both English and Spanish and interpretation services are available in 58 languages through our provider, <u>CTS Language Link</u>. For our hearing, and speech impaired customers, we utilize <u>Relay New Mexico</u>, a free 24-hour service that ensures equal communication access via the telephone to individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled.

The Human Services Department provides services and benefits to 1,070,231 New Mexicans through several programs including: the Medicaid Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Support Program, and several Behavioral Health Services.