

How does HOPE differ from EHA?

The table below outlines the program rules for EHA and the HOPE program. Key distinctions are bolded in the HOPE column. Items in the EHA column that have been crossed out are no longer eligible for EHA as of October 19, 2020.

	EHA	HOPE Program
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange County resident • Earn no more than 60% AMI • Have an urgent need for housing assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic • Lack adequate savings or resources to cover the cost of their housing need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange County resident • Must be a renter • Earn no more than 80% AMI • Have an urgent need for housing assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic • Be late in rent and/or utility payment(s) as of application date
Eligible Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application fees • Security deposits • Utility deposits • Utility payments and arrears • Rent payments and arrears • Mortgage payments and arrears • In certain extenuating situations, other urgent housing-related costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility arrears only (bill must be at least 30 days past due) • Rent payments and arrears
Application Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the Housing Helpline: call 919-245-2655 or email HousingHelp@orangecountync.gov • Apply through a Referral Agency • Apply online (instructions at http://orangecountync.gov/HousingAssistance) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply online: https://nc211.org/hope • Call 2-1-1 <p><i>*Note: Applicants must be the head-of-household (or co-head-of-household) and <u>must be on the lease</u>. If the applicant wishes for another individual (including Referral Agencies) to help complete the application, they must complete a Communication Designee Form or Limited Power of Attorney Form</i></p>
Application Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed application form • Income documentation • Savings documentation • Documentation of the housing expense to be covered (e.g., bill or statement) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed application form • Self-certification of income • Proof of identification (driver's license, state-issued ID card, military ID, U.S. Passport, Medicare or Medicaid card, Social Security card, or birth certificate) • Current, valid lease* • Utility bill(s) (must be at least 30 days past due) if applying for utility assistance • Proof of residence of the rental unit (such as a form of ID that includes your address, utility bill, voter registration, standard piece of mail) <p><i>*Different requirement for people with oral lease or month-to-month lease</i></p>
Requirements for Approval		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landlord must sign a HOPE Program Landlord-Tenant Agreement • Applicant must sign a HOPE Program Grant Agreement