



# Rental Supplement Program

## **Preface**

Chapter 53 of the Laws of 2021 appropriated \$100 million to provide rental supplements to individuals and families, both with and without children, who are experiencing homelessness or are facing an imminent loss of housing, regardless of immigration status. Local social services districts (districts) were notified of the option to participate in the New York State Rental Supplement Program (RSP) in 21-LCM-24 and were asked to submit to the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) their 2021-2022 Rental Supplement Program Plan detailing the intended use of their allocation.

Districts can receive reimbursement for all costs related to the RSP for the period beginning April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023.

Chapter 53 of the Laws of 2022 continued this funding and also requires OTDA to produce a Report to be submitted to the Legislature on or before November 1 of each year regarding the RSP and participants in the RSP.

This Report to the Legislature covers the period from April 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022.

## Introduction

The RSP is a program established to provide vital rental assistance to individuals and families, regardless of immigration status, who are experiencing homelessness or are facing an imminent loss of housing. The RSP is available to individuals and families both with and without children. Districts are given the flexibility to develop a program that meets the needs of their underserved populations while working within the framework of certain minimum eligibility requirements established by the governing statute.

Mandatory program eligibility requirements include:

- Eligible participants are individuals and/or families, both with and without children, who are experiencing homelessness or facing an imminent loss of housing, regardless of immigration status;
- Households must earn no more than 50% of area median income (AMI) at the time of application based on location and household size, with initial priority given to households who earn no more than 30% of AMI;
- Rental supplement amounts shall be set at 85% of local Fair Market Rent (FMR) values with a district option to pay up to 100% of FMR using local funds;
- At least 50% of the supplements shall be allocated for households who are currently in a shelter or experiencing homelessness, unless sufficient demand does not exist for such households within the district;
- A household's financial contribution will be limited to 30% of their household's total earned and/or unearned income;
- Supplements are to be provided until the household's income reaches a level where their total monthly rent is at or below 30% of their total monthly income, at which point the housing will be considered affordable for the individual/family and the supplement will end; and
- Receipt of Public Assistance (PA) is not a requirement for determining eligibility for the RSP.

While districts have flexibility in determining the overall design of their local RSP, they are encouraged to make extra efforts to ensure prioritization of certain households, such as those with children under the age of six, single individuals with a history of housing instability, veterans, individuals and families experiencing domestic violence (DV) and other victims of violence.

Districts may choose to retain their allocation and use district mechanisms (e.g., direct administration or transfer of funds to county agencies) to operate this program or may delegate the administration, in full or in part, to another public agency, contractor or non-profit organization.

To date, 52 districts outside of New York City have opted to participate in the RSP and have submitted Program Plans in accordance with 21-LCM-24 (Appendix A indicates the districts that opted in and their corresponding initial RSP allocations). Plans are evaluated and approved in the order in which they are received and deemed complete, and districts are in varying stages of RSP implementation. In addition, 21 districts have elected to delegate administration in full to

local nonprofit entities, which requires additional implementation time for districts to comply with local contracting procedures.

Chapter 53 of the laws of 2022 required New York City to use its \$67.9 million RSP allocation for costs related to the Family Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement program (FHEPS) in the first instance. To date, no FHEPS supplements have been funded from RSP.

During this report period, 19 districts were in full operation and reported at least one RSP application. A total of 630 households applied for the RSP program through September 30, 2022. Of those, approximately 36% were approved, 21% were denied, and the remainder were pending review at the end of this reporting period.

**A. RSP Household Breakout by Area Median Income (AMI)**

The table below indicates the number of income-eligible individuals or families under 30% of AMI that applied and received at least one month of an RSP supplement as well as the number of income-eligible individuals or families between 30% and 50% of AMI that applied and received at least one month of an RSP supplement.

<b>District</b>	<b>Households Under 30% of AMI</b>	<b>Households Between 30% and 50% of AMI</b>
Albany	7	0
Allegany	1	0
Broome	0	0
Cattaraugus	41	4
Chautauqua	11	0
Chemung	0	0
Chenango	2	2
Clinton	0	0
Columbia	0	0
Cortland	1	0
Delaware	1	0
Dutchess	0	0
Erie	0	0
Franklin	0	0
Fulton	0	0
Genesee	0	0
Greene	0	0
Herkimer	0	0
Jefferson	11	1
Lewis	0	0
Livingston	0	0
Madison	0	0
Monroe	0	0
Montgomery	0	0
Nassau	0	0

<b>District</b>	<b>Households Under 30% of AMI</b>	<b>Households Between 30% and 50% of AMI</b>
Niagara	0	0
Oneida	0	0
Onondaga	10	3
Ontario	0	0
Orange	7	0
Oswego	9	4
Otsego	2	0
Putnam	0	0
Rensselaer	0	0
Rockland	0	0
St. Lawrence	0	0
Saratoga	1	0
Schenectady	0	0
Schoharie	0	0
Schuyler	0	0
Seneca	0	0
Steuben	24	2
Suffolk	0	0
Sullivan	0	0
Tioga	9	1
Tompkins	0	0
Ulster	0	0
Warren	1	1
Washington	0	0
Westchester	0	0
Wyoming	1	0
Yates	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>18</b>

## B. RSP Denials Breakout

A total of 132 applications were denied. The table below indicates the number of individuals or families who applied but were denied due to income exceeding eligibility who would otherwise be eligible for the RSP, and the average annual income of those denied for this reason. In addition to the information presented in the table, districts reported 121 applications that were denied for other locally-established reasons. No applications were denied due to insufficient program funds.

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Households Denied Due to Exceeding Income Eligibility</b>	<b>Average Annual Income of Denied Households</b>
Albany	0	-
Allegany	0	-
Broome	0	-
Cattaraugus	5	\$40,122
Chautauqua	0	-
Chemung	0	-
Chenango	1	\$52,488
Clinton	0	-
Columbia	0	-
Cortland	2	\$23,868
Delaware	0	-
Dutchess	0	-
Erie	0	-
Franklin	0	-
Fulton	0	-
Genesee	0	-
Greene	0	-
Herkimer	0	-
Jefferson	0	-
Lewis	0	-
Livingston	0	-
Madison	0	-
Monroe	0	-
Montgomery	0	-
Nassau	0	-
Niagara	0	-
Oneida	0	-
Onondaga	0	-
Ontario	0	-
Orange	0	-
Oswego	1	\$27,852
Otsego	0	-

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Households Denied Due to Exceeding Income Eligibility</b>	<b>Average Annual Income of Denied Households</b>
Putnam	0	-
Rensselaer	0	-
Rockland	0	-
St. Lawrence	0	-
Saratoga	0	-
Schenectady	0	-
Schoharie	0	-
Schuyler	0	-
Seneca	0	-
Steuben	0	-
Suffolk	0	-
Sullivan	0	-
Tioga	1	\$31,836
Tompkins	0	-
Ulster	0	-
Warren	1	\$31,044
Washington	0	-
Westchester	0	-
Wyoming	0	-
Yates	0	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>\$33,954</b>

### C. RSP Household Demographics

The table below indicates the number of individuals or families who were in shelter at application who went on to receive at least one month of an RSP supplement. The presumption is that some of these individuals and families would not have left shelter without the supplement. The table also shows the number of enrolled individuals or families who were receiving Public Assistance (PA) at the time of application.

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Households In Shelter at Application</b>	<b>Number of Enrolled Households Receiving PA</b>
Albany	5	6
Allegany	0	0
Broome	0	0
Cattaraugus	5	22
Chautauqua	4	7
Chemung	0	0
Chenango	0	0
Clinton	0	0
Columbia	0	0
Cortland	0	0
Delaware	0	0
Dutchess	0	0
Erie	0	0
Franklin	0	0
Fulton	0	0
Genesee	0	0
Greene	0	0
Herkimer	0	0
Jefferson	1	1
Lewis	0	0
Livingston	0	0
Madison	0	0
Monroe	0	0
Montgomery	0	0
Nassau	0	0
Niagara	0	0
Oneida	0	0
Onondaga	2	9
Ontario	0	0
Orange	2	0
Oswego	1	6
Otsego	0	0
Putnam	0	0

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Households In Shelter at Application</b>	<b>Number of Enrolled Households Receiving PA</b>
Rensselaer	0	0
Rockland	0	0
St. Lawrence	0	0
Saratoga	0	0
Schenectady	0	0
Schoharie	0	0
Schuyler	0	0
Seneca	0	0
Steuben	5	5
Suffolk	0	0
Sullivan	0	0
Tioga	0	1
Tompkins	0	0
Ulster	0	0
Warren	2	2
Washington	0	0
Westchester	0	0
Wyoming	0	0
Yates	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>59</b>

#### D. RSP Supplement Information

The table below indicates the number of monthly supplements issued by each district, the average monthly value of supplements issued per district and the average household contribution.

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Supplements Issued by the District</b>	<b>Average Value of Supplements Issued</b>	<b>Average Household Contribution</b>
Albany	7	\$858	\$348
Allegany	2	\$389	-
Broome	0	-	-
Cattaraugus	72	\$936	\$195
Chautauqua	12	\$451	\$145
Chemung	0	-	-
Chenango	10	\$273	\$455
Clinton	0	-	-
Columbia	0	-	-
Cortland	1	\$548	\$251
Delaware	0	-	-
Dutchess	0	-	-
Erie	0	-	-
Franklin	0	-	-
Fulton	0	-	-
Genesee	0	-	-
Greene	0	-	-
Herkimer	0	-	-
Jefferson	15	\$1,087	\$204
Lewis	0	-	-
Livingston	0	-	-
Madison	0	-	-
Monroe	0	-	-
Montgomery	0	-	-
Nassau	0	-	-
Niagara	0	-	-
Oneida	0	-	-
Onondaga	28	\$508	\$299
Ontario	0	-	-
Orange	7	\$776	\$282
Oswego	47	\$650	\$123
Otsego	2	\$1,650	-
Putnam	0	-	-
Rensselaer	0	-	-

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Supplements Issued by the District</b>	<b>Average Value of Supplements Issued</b>	<b>Average Household Contribution</b>
Rockland	0	-	-
St. Lawrence	0	-	-
Saratoga	1	\$598	\$252
Schenectady	0	-	-
Schoharie	0	-	-
Schuyler	0	-	-
Seneca	0	-	-
Steuben	23	\$318	\$285
Suffolk	0	-	-
Sullivan	0	-	-
Tioga	21	\$993	\$301
Tompkins	0	-	-
Ulster	0	-	-
Warren	5	\$456	\$255
Washington	0	-	-
Westchester	0	-	-
Wyoming	1	\$625	-
Yates	0	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>\$726</b>	<b>\$270</b>

## **Summary**

Overall, the RSP has been well-received statewide. During this reporting period, 630 RSP applications were received by those 19 districts currently accepting applications. Through September 30, 2022, a total of 254 monthly supplements were issued for 157 households by 16 districts, totaling over \$195,000. Six districts opted to issue supplements at a rate above 85% of the local FMR.

As more districts implement their programs, it is expected that outcomes will be more robust in future reporting periods.

These rental supplements are of great value in helping districts house those who may otherwise be subject to homelessness and help improve housing stability for residents across the State. OTDA is grateful for the opportunity to administer the program.

## Appendix A: Districts Participating in the RSP and Corresponding Initial RSP Allocations

<b>District*</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Albany	\$1,125,750
Allegany	\$120,210
Broome	\$899,827
Cattaraugus	\$282,026
Chautauqua	\$645,332
Chemung	\$290,178
Chenango	\$139,789
Clinton	\$240,580
Columbia	\$129,741
Cortland	\$141,026
Delaware	\$121,902
Dutchess	\$727,515
Erie	\$3,874,658
Franklin	\$164,265
Fulton	\$116,749
Genesee	\$143,394
Greene	\$116,986
Herkimer	\$154,406
Jefferson	\$402,505
Lewis	\$100,000
Livingston	\$190,065
Madison	\$120,038
Monroe	\$3,035,181
Montgomery	\$154,608
Nassau	\$2,028,294
Niagara	\$742,819
Oneida	\$857,846
Onondaga	\$1,916,038
Ontario	\$256,173
Orange	\$920,321
Oswego	\$432,808
Otsego	\$125,940
Putnam	\$100,000
Rensselaer	\$497,493
Rockland	\$713,032
St. Lawrence	\$309,135
Saratoga	\$322,466
Schenectady	\$536,305

<b>District*</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Schoharie	\$100,000
Schuyler	\$100,000
Seneca	\$100,000
Steuben	\$325,926
Suffolk	\$2,640,308
Sullivan	\$240,957
Tioga	\$124,850
Tompkins	\$461,767
Ulster	\$494,918
Warren	\$126,379
Washington	\$131,444
Westchester	\$3,029,553
Wyoming	\$100,000
Yates	\$100,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$31,271,503</b>

\*Five districts outside of New York City elected not to initially participate in the RSP but may consider participating in the future. These districts are Essex, Hamilton, Cayuga, Orleans and Wayne.