NY Rising
Interim Mortgage Assistance (IMA) Program
Frequently Asked Questions

Revised March 7, 2014

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

What is the IMA program?
Homeowners who are eligible participants in the NY Rising Housing Recovery Program and are paying both payments for their primary home mortgages and temporary housing costs may be eligible to receive assistance from the Interim Mortgage Assistance (IMA) Program. The assistance amount is the lesser of the monthly mortgage payment or the temporary housing payment, up to $3,000 per month, up to 20 months.

How can I obtain an IMA Application?
You can obtain an application in one of three ways:

1. Sign into your Intelligrants account, and download an application online
2. Request that your case manager mails the application to your home.
3. Visit an intake center and request a copy from your case manager.

How can I submit my application?
Your application can be submitted via email, regular mail or hand delivery.
Hand Deliver to any Long Island Intake Center
Mail to: 535 Broad Hollow Road Suite A-2 Melville, NY, 11747
Email: IMA_ACH@nysandyhelp.ny.gov

Where can I obtain more information about the program?
You can request a meeting with your Customer Representative to discuss the IMA Program and procedures.

DURATION

What is the length of the program?
Assistance can include reimbursement for past mortgage/rental expenses. Assistance can be provided for up to 20 non-consecutive months in total, 6 of which can be retroactive from the date of the applicable storm to the date the of submitted IMA application. You cannot receive assistance for months during which you received rental or mortgage assistance from another source.

I am not currently displaced, but will be once construction starts, may I still submit an application?
Yes, you may still submit your application, however you will not receive any payments until you are displaced from your primary residence and incurring both mortgage and temporary rental housing expenses.

I am not currently displaced, but I was in the past. Can I apply to receive retroactive reimbursement?
Yes, you may still apply. The program offers homeowners retroactive assistance for a total of 6 non-consecutive months of incurred rental or mortgage expenses from the date of the applicable storm to the date the of submitted IMA application.

ELIGIBILITY

What documents do I need to submit?

1. A fully completed IMA application.
2. A mortgage statement or letter from the mortgage holder or servicer showing the terms of the mortgage (principal, interest rate, monthly payment, tax & insurance escrows, and time remaining on mortgage).
3. A valid rental lease agreement (Signed by both parties, dated, stating the term of the lease, the monthly rental amount and rental property address)
4. Proof of rental payment for each month displaced and proof of payment for the current month (cancelled checks – Front and Back, bank statements, written receipts, etc.)
5. A completed ACH form with bank information including: Bank Name, Routing Number, Homeowner account number and Name(s) on the account. And a voided personal check should be submitted if requesting payment by Direct Deposit.

What are the eligibility requirements?

1. Homeowner must be actively participating in the NY Rising Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program.
2. Homeowner must have been or continue to be displaced due to Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, or Tropical Storm Lee.
3. Homeowner must have both a mortgage obligation and temporary housing costs during the same month.
4. The damaged mortgaged property must be the homeowner's primary residence.
5. Homeowner must currently own the home and cannot have more than 3 months of mortgage arrears prior to the storm.

Do I have to report other mortgage or rental assistance I've received?
Yes, you will not be eligible for reimbursement for months in which you received other rental and mortgage assistance.

What if I move to a different rental property?

You must submit a valid lease agreement for the new rental property.

Does the program cover other expenses such as Property Taxes & Insurance if my mortgage is already paid off?
No. This program only covers homeowners who are paying mortgages on uninhabitable homes.

I am staying with family/friends and not paying them rent but have been paying for utilities. Are the utilities covered?
No, you must have a rental expense to be eligible.

How will I be notified about the status of my application? Who would be the person to give me that information?
You may contact your Customer Representative to inquire about the status of your application. Once we have received all of the documents required to properly assess your file to determine award eligibility, you will be notified by mail.

Do any documents need to be submitted periodically?
Yes, for each month that you are displaced, and incurring both mortgage and rental expenses, you must provide us with the mortgage statement, proof of payment, and proof of rental payment by the 10th of every month in order to be reimbursed.

How will I receive the funds?
You may choose to either receive the funds by Direct Deposit to your bank account or by check mailed to your home. Direct Deposit provides more rapid funds transfer.