

OFFICE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

Emergency Assistance Relief Payments

May 13, 2020

Emergency Assistance Relief

Montgomery County's Emergency Assistance Relief Payment (EARP) provides financial assistance to households in need. EARP seeks to fill the gaps for those who are not eligible for federal or state aid and unemployment benefits. Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services ([DHHS](#)) has more information [on the process, eligibility criteria, selection](#) timeline.



Financial assistance for those who qualify will come in three phases:

- **Phase I:** DHHS will automatically send you a letter about the **checks** to families enrolled in the Care for Kids program. Residents will not have to [open a Paypal](#) accounts to receive funds.
- **Phase II:** DHHS will partner with nonprofits in the community to identify additional families in need of assistance. Please verify with DHHS that the nonprofit you are working with is a partner. Phase II will require an application process. Only the application provided by DHHS should be used.
- **Phase III:** DHHS will open an application process for residents who did not receive



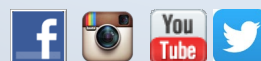
*Ensuring Integrity in
our Marketplace*



If you have been a victim of a scam, or if you have any questions about a merchant's activities, please contact the Office of Consumer Protection.

100 Maryland Avenue
Suite 3600
Rockville, MD 20850
Main: 240.777.3636
Tip Line: 240.777.3681
Fax: 240.777.3768

You can also file a complaint
online by clicking [HERE](#)



assistance through Phases 1 and 2. Again, only use DHHS supplied applications.



+ Government Imposter Scams

As the [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) and [Federal Trade Commission](#) have warned, there are rampant reports that scammers are pretending to be the government, contacting people by robocall, text message, WhatsApp, email and other methods claiming they can get people financial help during the COVID-19 pandemic. Government imposter scams are always after money or personal information.



+ Who to Contact

If you have any questions about whether someone contacting you is legitimate or a scammer, you can contact the Office of Consumer Protection at MC311 or consumer@montgomerycountymd.gov Questions regarding EARP should be directed to DHHS at MC311.

