

Emergency Rental Assistance Available Through HOPE Program + \$100 Cards Available for First-time COVID Vaccinations



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COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) NC UPDATE

Aug. 6, 2021

[Governor Cooper Urges Vaccinations, Highlights HOPE Program, and Announces Third Cash Drawing Winner](#)



HOPE

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES + PREVENTION OF EVICTIONS

During this week's COVID-19 Task Force briefing, Governor Cooper urged North Carolinians to get vaccinated, amid [rising COVID-19 numbers](#) statewide.

Laura Hogshead, Director of the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency, gave an update regarding the progress on emergency rental assistance through the [HOPE program](#). The program is helping people across the state stay in their homes with the lights on. Since the HOPE Program opened last fall, more than \$328 million has been

awarded to help North Carolina families, with more than \$234 million already paid to landlords and utility providers statewide.

The HOPE Program has recently implemented changes that will expand landlord participation and increase the amount of assistance going to families across the state. As of Aug. 1, HOPE is accepting landlord referrals of tenants who need assistance. If you are a landlord whose tenant is struggling to pay rent, you can submit their name and contact information at the [HOPE website](#).

The governor also announced the third winner of North Carolina's [Your Shot at \\$1 Million Summer Cash Drawing](#). Winston-Salem resident and incoming Fayetteville State University freshman Audrey Chavous received the \$1 million prize as part of the cash drawing that includes North Carolinians 18 and over who have received a COVID-19 vaccine.

[\\$100 Cards Available for First-time COVID-19 Vaccinations, \\$25 Cards for Drivers](#)



To help more North Carolinians protect themselves against COVID-19 and the highly contagious Delta variant, North Carolina is [now offering](#) \$100 [Summer Cards](#)* at some vaccine sites across the state to offset the time and transportation costs of getting vaccinated.

From Aug. 4 through Aug. 31, the \$100 Summer Cards* are available to anyone 18 and older who gets their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine at a participating site—while

supplies last.

In addition to providing a \$100 Summer Card* to those who get their first dose of vaccine, North Carolina continues to offer \$25 Summer Cards to those who drive others to their vaccination appointment.

Those interested in the \$100 Summer Card* for first-time vaccinations and \$25 Summer Card* for drivers should call 888-675-4567 or find a participating location [here](#), locations are only offering cards on the dates shown.

Due to demand, many of our participating providers have run out of \$100 Summer Cards.* We will have more cards available next week and will continue updating our list of events. Check back frequently for updates.

**Summer Card is in the form of a Prepaid Mastercard®. Prepaid card is issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC.*

[\\$413 Million in Summer Food Assistance Being Offered for 1.1 Million Children](#)

NCDHHS has [begun issuing](#) \$413 million in food assistance payments to an estimated 1.1 million eligible children through the Summer Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer food assistance program. Children who are eligible for the summer receive a one-time payment of \$375 on their family's P-EBT card.

Summer P-EBT is available to North Carolina students who were eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals at school as of the last month of the school year and to children under age 6 who receive [Food and Nutrition Services](#) benefits. North Carolina was [recently approved](#) by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue P-EBT through the summer as an extension of the 2020-21 school year. Families do not need to apply for P-EBT.

As of July 28, 2021, NCDHHS, in partnership with the NC Department of Public Instruction, has provided more than \$1.7 billion in critical food assistance benefits to more than 1.2 million children across the state.

[Get Vaccinated to Help Stop the Spread of the COVID-19 Delta Variant](#)



The Delta variant, which is more contagious than other strains, makes up most of North Carolina's COVID-19 cases. You can protect yourself from hospitalization and death and help stop how quickly severe cases are rising in our state. Don't wait to vaccinate. Find your spot at myspot.nc.gov.

Other COVID News

- NCDHHS [has selected](#) two medical testing vendors with experience operating K-12 testing programs, MAKO Medical and Concentric by Ginkgo, that will be available to provide COVID-19 testing services to all North Carolina schools.
- The COVID-19 [vaccine data dashboard](#) now [includes](#) county-level vaccination information from federal providers, including the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Department of Defense, Federal Bureau of Prisons and Indian Health Service.

[COVID-19 Testing](#)

With COVID-19 cases on the rise it's important that anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, has been around people outside of their household or thinks they have been exposed to the virus should get [tested](#). You can find testing sites by using the [Find My Testing Place](#) tool online.

For an up-to-date list of no-cost community testing events, visit the [No-Cost Testing Events](#) webpage. Additionally, all North Carolinians can request a free at-home COVID-19 testing kit. [Learn more](#).

[Get the Latest Information](#)

- Visit the [NCDHHS COVID-19 website](#) for information, a [data dashboard](#), [updates](#), [live briefings](#) and more.
- Go to [North Carolina's COVID-19 Information Hub](#) for resources, information and assistance across state government, including the latest [news releases](#).
- Check out [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](#) to learn more about [finding your spot](#) to get your shot, [videos](#) about the COVID-19 vaccine, and other resources.
- Follow NCDHHS on [social media](#) for advance notice of press briefings and a recap.



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