



# Eviction Moratorium Info Sheet

## The moratorium has been extended through October 15.

On February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of Emergency for all counties throughout the state of Washington as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State.

A temporary moratorium on evictions and related actions throughout Washington State helps reduce economic hardship and related life, health, and safety risks to those members of our workforce who are impacted by layoffs and substantially reduced work hours or who are otherwise unable to pay rent as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Specifically, a temporary moratorium on evictions and related actions will (1) reduce housing instability, (2) enable residents to stay in their homes unless conducting essential activities or going to work in essential business services, and (3) promote public health and safety by reducing the progression of COVID-19 in Washington State.

Here is the official [proclamation](#) from the Governor's Office

### Important Facts to Note:

1. **This Moratorium does not mean you do not have to pay rent. Under the eviction moratorium, landlords can't increase residential rents and are expected to offer tenants a repayment plan. Landlords also can't charge late fees under the moratorium. People can still be evicted for other reasons, such as property damage or criminal behavior.**
2. **The proclamation, which Inslee signed, also bans retaliation against tenants and creates a legal defense for tenant lawsuits.**
3. **You cannot be evicted during the crisis unless you are causing a threat, or your landlord wants to sell or move into the property.**
4. **If your landlord violates this eviction moratorium, file a complaint with the Office of the Attorney General of Washington State.**
5. **You can use this sample letter to send to your Landlord if your received a pay or vacate notice. You can use this COVID-19 Lease Amendment Toolkit to help navigate conversations with your Landlord.**
6. **There are a number of opportunities for across-the-board COVID Financial Assistance**