



South Carolina Homeownership and Employment Lending Program
300-C Outlet Pointe Blvd., Columbia, South Carolina 29210
www.scmortgagehelp.com

About SC HELP

The U.S. Department of Treasury, in partnership with the SC State Housing Finance and Development Authority and SC Housing Corp., has made over \$295 million available to help eligible South Carolina homeowners avoid serious first mortgage delinquency and foreclosure. The funds were awarded under Treasury's Hardest Hit Fund program and are being distributed through SC HELP.

Types of Assistance

- **Direct Loan Assistance**- for borrowers who have fallen behind on payments during periods of hardship, but have recovered and are now sustainable. This will bring loans current and end fees and penalties. (Assistance Cap: \$20,000)
- **Monthly Mortgage Payment Assistance**- assists homeowners with monthly payments for a defined period of time while they seek employment and a return to self-sustainability. Many homeowners may be eligible to receive both Direct Loan and Monthly Payment Assistance. (Assistance Cap: \$36,000)

While **Direct Loan Assistance** and **Monthly Mortgage Payment Assistance** are made as loans against the property, the loans are fully forgivable and carry no interest or payments. If you continue to live in the home for five years the loan will be forgiven.

- **Transition Assistance**- in cases where the mortgage cannot be salvaged and the homeowner is able to negotiate a short sale or deed-in-lieu of foreclosure, funds may be available to assist families as they transition from homeownership to tenancy. **Transition Assistance** is a one-time grant paid directly to the homeowner. (Assistance Cap: \$5,000)

Qualifications

SC HELP is intended to assist borrowers who are facing first mortgage delinquency or possible foreclosure due to circumstances beyond their control like unemployment, underemployment or significant reduction in self-employment income. For some programs, death of a spouse, catastrophic medical expenses and/or divorce may be considered.

Eligibility Guidelines Include:

- **NO household income limit**
- **The property must be an owner-occupied primary residence**
- **Applicants must have a minimum 24 months homeownership history**
- **Applicants do NOT have to be delinquent**

Other eligibility requirements will apply, and applicants must submit information including a hardship letter, bank statements and tax returns, income information, deed and mortgage account information in order to be considered.

How to Apply

Applicants are encouraged to apply electronically through the application located at:

www.SCMortgageHELP.com

Applicants without access to the Internet may call 1-855-435-7472, a statewide, toll free telephone number, for assistance. There is NO FEE required at any point during the SC HELP process.