Housing

Programs that may help Westbrook residents with eviction, rent, shelter and vouchers.

Find your situation below — each one lists who can actually help.

Police at your door, or facing eviction today?

Call 211 right now (press 6 for homeless services) — they can connect you to emergency shelter and legal help today, not just program referrals.

In immediate danger?

Call 911.

Follow these steps

STEP 1

Facing eviction

You have a notice or a court summons | 1 program

PRIORITY: COURT SUMMONS FIRST

Eviction Prevention Program (EPP)

[Up to $800/month, 12 months max]

Pays rent arrears directly to your landlord. Priority goes to households with a court summons, then a Notice to Quit, then anyone paying over 30% of income toward rent.

Income at or below 60% of area median income (whole household counts); rent at or below 125% of fair market rent. Apply online or by phone through Project Home of Portland, the statewide administrator. Both you and your landlord must take part in the application.

Call: (207) 274-1240

Email: evictionprevention@projecthomemaine.org

Official page: evictionprevention.mainehousing.org

Source: evictionprevention.mainehousing.org. Last checked Oct 21, 2026.

STEP 2

Behind on rent

Not facing eviction yet, but falling behind | 1 program

BEHIND ON RENT, NOT EVICTED YET

Housing Stability Support Program (HSSP)

[Up to $3,000/year]

Pays up to $3,000 a year for a security deposit or back rent, including up to 10 months of rental help at $300 a month, paid to your landlord.

Household income must be under 30% of area median income. MaineHousing delegates this program locally; in Cumberland County it is run by ProsperityME.

Call: (207) 797-7890

Official page: mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/30-A/title30-Asec4768.html

Source: Maine statute: 30-A §4768. Last checked Oct 21, 2026.

Also see General Assistance for a last-resort municipal safety net.

STEP 3

No place to stay right now

Homeless or about to be | 2 programs

ANYONE, 24/7

211 Maine

[Free referral line]

Free, 24/7 referral line for shelter, warming centers and rent help.

Dial 211 (press 6 for homeless services), or text your ZIP code to 898-211.

Call: 211

Official page: 211maine.org/?p=1431

Source: 211maine.org. Last checked Oct 21, 2026.

MUST BE IN A SHELTER NOW

STEP Rapid Re-Housing

[6–12 months of rental help]

Short-term rental help that tapers down, for people currently staying in a participating emergency shelter.

Offered through shelters in 10 counties, including Cumberland. You need a referral from the shelter itself — start with 211 or your shelter.

Call: (866) 357-4853

Official page: mainehousing.org/programs-services/rental/rentaldetail/stability-through-engagement-program

Source: mainehousing.org: Stability through Engagement Program. Last checked Oct 21, 2026.

STEP 4

Want a housing voucher

Ongoing help paying rent, long term | 2 programs

LONG-TERM, ONGOING HELP

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher

[Caps rent at 30–40% of income]

An ongoing rent subsidy paid to your landlord. Income at or below 50% of area median income (75% of new vouchers go to households at or below 30%).

Apply online through the Maine Centralized Waiting List — one application covers MaineHousing and all 20 local housing authorities.

Call: (207) 626-4600

Official page: mainehousing.org/hcv

Source: mainehousing.org/hcv. Last checked Oct 21, 2026.

FOR PEOPLE WHO ALREADY HAVE A VOUCHER

ReStart (Family Self-Sufficiency)

[5-year savings plan]

For people who already have a Section 8 voucher: a 5-year plan with career coaching that puts matching funds into savings as your income rises.

Ask for the Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator when you call.

Call: (207) 626-4600

Official page: mainehousing.org/restart

Source: mainehousing.org/restart. Last checked Oct 21, 2026.

The newest version is always on the website.

Scan the code, or visit westbrookcurrents.com/help/housing. Phone numbers, rules and dates can change, so check the website before you go.

This guide was made on Nov 5, 2026. Each program shows the date we last checked it.

Please check before you apply.

We worked hard to get this right, but programs, phone numbers and dates change. Check each program or its official page first. Westbrook Currents is independent. It is not run by the City of Westbrook or any agency listed here.

See something wrong? Tell us at westbrookcurrents.com/feedback and we will check it.