



# Need RAFT Assistance?



Massachusetts has Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) which can provide resources of up to \$4,000.00 for short-term housing and moving assistance.

## What is RAFT?

**RAFT is Massachusetts Residential Assistance for Families in Transition program. RAFT offers flexible financial assistance designed to meet a family's particular needs for rental and moving assistance.**

**Eligible uses can include:**

- Moving cost assistance
- Rent and utility arrears
- Rental stipends
- Utility bills
- Helps families who must move but do not have enough money to pay a security deposit, utility startup costs, or first/last month's rent, and furniture

## Who is eligible for RAFT?

- A family must be homeless or at risk of becoming homeless
- The household must be income eligible between 0%-50% of the Area Media Income (AMI)
- Meet the basic criteria of an assessment targeting tool (RAFT Screen) developed by the Department of Housing and Community Development
- Significant loss of income
- Increased expenses for those with incomes between 30 and 50 percent of AMI

## How can RAFT be accessed?

Completing a Housing Consumer Education Center (HCEC) Intake Assessment is the first step to accessing RAFT. Any family can call the HCEC Resource Center to complete the Intake Assessment form.

To find a regional agency, call 1-800-224-5124. You can also call the Department of Housing and Community Development at 617-573-1150. If you get preliminary approval, the agency will ask you to fill out a RAFT application.

## For More Information

Check out the following websites for RAFT assistance:

[Learn About RAFT](#)

[Apply For Assistance to Keep Your Family Housed](#)

### References

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. (2020). Learn about Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT). Retrieved from <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-residential-assistance-for-families-in-transition-raft>  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts. (2020). Apply for assistance to keep your family housed. Retrieved from <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-assistance-to-keep-your-family-housed>

