

COURT NOTIFICATION TO PARTIES ON TEXAS EVICTION DIVERSION PROGRAM (TEDP)

A program called the Texas Eviction Diversion Program has been created that may be helpful to both parties in eviction cases where the eviction is for nonpayment of rent. There are certain eligibility requirements, including that neither the landlord nor the tenant are receiving federal housing assistance, that the tenant's household income is 200% or less of the poverty level, and that the tenant's ability to pay rent has been impacted by COVID-19. TDHCA will ultimately determine if the case is eligible, and can also assist with referring cases not eligible for this program to other sources of rental assistance.

If your case is eligible for the program, rental assistance will be provided for up to fifteen months of back or future rent. This benefits both parties. The landlord will receive rental payments that they are otherwise not receiving. The tenant gets the benefit of staying in the residence and avoiding months of rent becoming due all at once when the current pause on nonpayment evictions ends. Also, eviction case records are confidential if participating in the program, which can be very beneficial in securing future housing.

If both parties agree to participate, the court will pause this case for 60 days. If the program does not work to resolve the issue, the landlord may request in writing to resume the case, including sending a copy of that request to the tenant. The court will then issue a written order resuming the case as long as there is not a moratorium order in effect at that time that requires the court to keep the case paused. If there is a moratorium in effect at that time, the eviction case will resume once the moratorium no longer applies.

If no request is made to resume the case within the 60 day period, the case will be dismissed and the records will remain confidential.

For more information on the program, please see <http://txcourts.gov/programs-services/eviction-diversion-program/>, including the informational brochure, and <https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/TEDP.htm>.