

# General Assistance Program

## What is General Assistance?

General Assistance provides temporary assistance to very low income Jasper County residents who are ineligible for or awaiting approval from Federal or State assistance programs. This assistance is provided in the form of a loan. Limited funds are available for crisis situations only.

## Who is eligible for General Assistance?

“Poor” Jasper County residents who are unable to earn a living due to a mental or physical disability;  
Or “Needy” Jasper County residents who meet income guidelines, meet work requirements, and are in a crisis situation not attributable to actions on their part.

## What does General Assistance pay for?

### Poor Category

- Rent
- Utilities
- Medications
- Referrals for food and personal items
- Burial
- Budgeting

If you have applied for and not yet received Social Security Disability (SSD) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you may be eligible for more than one time assistance.

### Needy Category

- Rent to avoid eviction (\$150.00)  
(Eviction notice required)
- Utilities to avoid disconnect (current usage only not to exceed \$150.00)  
(Disconnect notice required)
- Medications one time only  
(No pain medications)

*General Assistance does NOT provide rental or utility deposits, phone bills, first months rent, mortgage payments, storage space rental, gasoline vouchers, bus tickets, propane or fuel oil fills over \$150.00, tank rental, medical bills, or eye glasses*

## How do I apply?

Application packets are available at the Community Services Office. The packet includes the application and verification forms.

Completed applications can be submitted during regular business hours. All supporting documentation must be submitted with the application. Applications will be processed within 5 working days.

General Assistance does not receive state or federal funds. The Jasper County Board of Supervisors approves the General Assistance Budget. Every effort is made to assure funds are used for basic needs only.

**WHAT YOU NEED  
TO KNOW**

State Code requires us to explain the following:

General Assistance Claims are expected to be repaid by the applicant when he/she becomes able.

The County may recover from the father, mother, children, grandparents, or grandchildren, according to their ability to pay, the entire or partial support awarded the applicant.

If an applicant does not cooperate in repaying their loan, a protective payee may be required at a later date by Jasper County General Assistance.

Federal regulations now count general assistance as unearned income for food stamps effective February 1, 1988. Any assistance received must be reported to your food stamp worker.



**JASPER COUNTY  
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

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**JASPER COUNTY  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

**General  
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