



sassa  
SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY



## WHAT IS THE QUALIFYING CRITERIA FOR THE SPECIAL COVID-19 SOCIAL RELIEF OF DISTRESS GRANT?

### Applicants must be:

- ✓ South African Citizens, Permanent Residents or Refugees registered with Home Affairs;
- ✓ Resident within the borders of the Republic of South Africa;
- ✓ Above the age of 18;
- ✓ Unemployed;
- ✓ Not receiving any income;
- ✓ Not receiving any social grant;
- ✓ Not receiving unemployment insurance benefit and does not qualify to receive unemployment insurance benefit;
- ✓ Not receiving a stipend from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme;
- ✓ Not receiving any other government COVID-19 response support; and
- ✓ Not resident in a government funded or subsidised institution.



## HOW TO APPLY FOR THE SPECIAL COVID-19 SOCIAL RELIEF OF DISTRESS GRANT?

Applications for the special COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress grant are **only electronic**. DO NOT VISIT SASSA OFFICES TO APPLY FOR THIS GRANT. If you need assistance to apply, SASSA staff and appointed volunteers can assist.

- ✓ No paper based applications will be accepted.
- ✓ Applications can be received through one of the following channels:
  - Whatsapp Number: **082 046 8553**
  - USSD Number: **\*134\*7737#**
  - Email: **srd@sassa.gov.za**
  - Call centre IVR: **0800 60 10 11**
  - Website: **https://srd.sassa.gov.za**
- ✓ Payment will be effected through a channel of your choice.
- ✓ Citizens without bank accounts can also apply. In this case payment will be effected through a money transfer, once all the necessary validations have been completed.
- ✓ Once applications are approved, SASSA will request confirmation of bank account through a secure site – this will also be done electronically.
- ✓ Any applicant has the right to request confirmation that this request is from SASSA to protect themselves.
- ✓ **APPLICATIONS ARE FREE:** There is no charge to apply – applicants are cautioned not to buy “application forms” – these are not genuine and will not be processed.



## SPECIAL COVID-19 SOCIAL RELIEF OF DISTRESS GRANT APPLICATION PLATFORMS - **NOW ACTIVE**

Applications can be received through one of the following channels:

- ✓ Whatsapp Number: **082 046 8553**
- ✓ USSD Number: **\*134\*7737#**
- ✓ Email: **srd@sassa.gov.za**
- ✓ Call centre IVR: **0800 60 10 11**
- ✓ Website: **https://srd.sassa.gov.za**

#SASSACARES  
#KeepSouthAfricaHealthy

Toll free: 0800 60 10 11  
www.sassa.gov.za

f SASSA News @OfficialSASSA

*“paying the right social grant, to the right person,  
at the right time and place. NJALO!”*





## WHAT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE NEEDED TO APPLY FOR THE SPECIAL COVID-19 SOCIAL RELIEF OF DISTRESS GRANT?

- ✓ We only require the residential address to be provided on the application.
- ✓ SASSA does not require any applicant to scan in supporting documents such as ID, proof of address or bank statements.



## WHAT IS THE AMOUNT AND FOR HOW LONG WILL THE SPECIAL COVID-19 SOCIAL RELIEF OF DISTRESS GRANT BE PAID?

- ✓ The Special COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress amount is R350 per month, from the date it is approved.
- ✓ The grant will only be paid for a period from May until October. However, if applicants only apply in July, they will be paid from the month in which they apply – **there will be no backpay.**



## VERIFICATION OF APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL COVID-19 SOCIAL RELIEF OF DISTRESS GRANT

- ✓ By lodging an application, applicants give consent for SASSA to validate the financial and other information against data sources held by government and financial institutions – including SA Revenue Services and banks.
- ✓ The provision of false information in an effort to qualify for the grant is an offence and will result in prosecution.