



# City of Gainesville

Department of Financial Services  
Revenue & Receivables

February, 2025

RE: 2025 Fire Assessment Hardship Program (FAHAP)

Dear Neighbor:

The Fire Assessment Hardship Assistance Program (FAHAP) provides a reduction in the non-ad valorem fire special assessment on low-income and senior homeowners' annual property tax bills. The City of Gainesville is accepting applications for the 2025 program. Enclosed with this letter are:

- Income limit table
- 2025 Program Application

If you have previous years' balances for property taxes or assessments, you may be eligible for relief if you qualify for 2025 FAHAP assistance. If tax certificates were issued for your property, you may be eligible for relief from 2018 through 2024. If you have paid the property taxes, you may be eligible for relief for 2022, 2023, & 2024.

The primary FAHAP application period is February 15, 2025 through April 30, 2025. Please be sure your application is *received on or before Tuesday, April 30, 2025*. If you choose to mail your application, please mail it by Monday, April 22, 2025 to give enough time for the post office to deliver. Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed for the August 2025 late application period.

You may return your application with supporting documentation by either method below:

By Mail:	City of Gainesville	In-office:	City Hall
	Attn: FAHAP/Station 47		200 E University Ave, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
	PO Box 490		Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
	Gainesville, FL 32627-0490		

If you have any questions about FAHAP or if you need assistance, please call (352) 334-5024 or send an email to [citybc@gainesvillefl.gov](mailto:citybc@gainesvillefl.gov). Community Builders are available to assist you Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., excluding holidays.

Thank you.

Poverty Thresholds for 2024 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years

Use this Table for Income Limits for FAHAP Qualification

Size of family unit	Related children under 18 years								
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight or more
One person (unrelated individual):									
Under 65 years.....	21,216								
65 years and over.....	19,559								
Two people:									
Householder under 65 years.....	27,308	28,107							
Householder 65 years and over.....	24,649	28,002							
Three people.....	31,898	32,824	32,855						
Four people.....	42,062	42,749	41,356	41,499					
Five people.....	50,725	51,462	49,886	48,667	47,922				
Six people.....	58,343	58,574	57,366	56,209	54,490	53,470			
Seven people.....	67,129	67,549	66,104	65,098	63,220	61,032	58,630		
Eight people.....	75,079	75,742	74,380	73,185	71,490	69,338	67,098	66,530	
Nine people or more.....	90,315	90,753	89,547	88,533	86,869	84,581	82,510	81,998	78,839

This Table reflects 130% of the poverty threshold determined by the U. S. Census Bureau.

## 2025 Fire Assessment Hardship Assistance Program (FAHAP)

**Instructions:** All sections of this application must be completed; if a section does not apply to your household, enter N/A. Refer to page 3 for the required supporting documentation that must be submitted with this application.

### Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Property Details

- 1) Have you occupied the property for the past 12 months?  Yes  No
- 2) Is the property your present primary residence?  Yes  No
- 3) Do you intend to maintain this property as your primary residence for the remainder of the present tax year?  Yes  No
- 4) Do you owe property taxes for the year you are requesting assistance?  Yes  No
- 5) Do you agree to immediately notify the City of Gainesville if you vacate or sell the property?  Yes  No

### Household Income and/or Public Assistance

- 1) Did any adults in your household file a 2024 income tax return?  Yes  No  
If YES, what was the total annual adjusted gross (before taxes) income for 2024 for all adults in the household? \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
If NO, what is the total current monthly gross (before taxes) income for your household (including regular social security payments)? \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Does anyone in the household receive TANF Cash Assistance, Food Stamps, or SSI?  Yes  No  
If yes, what is the amount of the benefit? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Household Members

You must provide the information below for all members of your household.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Asset Disclosure**

- Do you have any bank, credit union, money market, and/or prepaid/benefit card accounts?  Yes  No
- Do you own any other properties?  Yes  No
- Do you own stocks, bonds, or other securities?  Yes  No
- Do you keep cash on hand?  Yes  No

**Applicant Certification**

**Note: If this application is submitted for a property with multiple deeded owners, each owner must sign this application. If anyone signs by Power-of-Attorney (POA), a copy of the POA must be attached.**

Choose hardship type:  Low income Senior Citizen  Low income Non-Senior Citizen

Under penalty of perjury, I/we certify that the information provided in this application, and in any accompanying documentation, is true and correct. I/we further certify that I am the owner of the above-listed residential property, am entitled to a hardship exemption pursuant to the requirements of the Gainesville Code of Ordinances section 11-39.1 , and have the present intent to maintain the residential property as my/our permanent residence throughout the remainder of the fiscal year for which the assessment is imposed.

I understand the completion and submission of this application is not a guarantee of assistance granted by the City of Gainesville. The information provided is subject to review and verification by the City of Gainesville through its employees and/or agents in order to determine eligibility for the hardship assistance. I understand that providing inaccurate or incomplete information will result in a denial of assistance. Furthermore, I understand that all information provided to the City of Gainesville is subject to release to other persons and entities pursuant to the Florida Public Records Law unless such record is otherwise exempt or confidential by law.

Property Owner 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner 1 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner 2 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For City Use Only**

Application received on: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Application status:  Approved  Denied Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If denied, reason: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Application letter sent on: \_\_\_\_\_

## Required Documentation

***Do not submit original documents - only send copies with the hardship assistance application. Documents will not be returned.***

The documents below must be submitted with the hardship assistance application. Missing, illegible, or damaged documents may result in delayed processing or denial of assistance.

**Privacy Note:** When submitting the supporting documentation, please redact any personal protected information (PPI) which includes social security numbers and bank account numbers.

- Photo ID (driver license/state ID card) for all property owners
- Proof of home ownership and homestead exemption - Homestead Exemption Receipt or printout from Alachua County Property Appraiser website ([www.acpafl.org](http://www.acpafl.org)).
- Proof of household income, see below:
  - 2024 Income Tax Return
  - Social Security statements
  - If currently employed, a copy of pay stubs for 1/1/2025-2/28/2025
  - Proof of SSI, SSDI, child support payments, alimony payments, investment returns from 1/1/2025-2/28/2025
  - If applicable, benefit notices for TANF Cash Assistance or food stamps in effect as of 2/28/2025
  - Statements for all bank, credit union, money market, and prepaid/benefit card accounts dated 2/28/2025 or later

To determine income eligibility, the City of Gainesville uses the Poverty Threshold published by the Census Bureau for the calendar year immediately preceding the assistance program year. For example, the 2024 Poverty Threshold for the 2025 assistance program year.