



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Application Period for City of Mountain View’s Elevate MV Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program Opens This Friday, Sept. 16**

*Opportunity for extremely low-income Mountain View families to elevate their basic income for more financial security*

**Mountain View, Calif.** — The City of Mountain View’s guaranteed basic income pilot program, Elevate MV, has officially launched with the application period for eligible Mountain View families opening 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 16 and running through midnight Sunday, Sept. 25. Apply at [MountainView.gov/ElevateMV](https://MountainView.gov/ElevateMV).

“With inflation exacerbating financial hardship, our Elevate MV guaranteed basic income pilot program will provide desperately needed relief for many extremely low-income families in our community,” said Mayor Lucas Ramirez. “Through the two-year-long pilot, we aim to empower these families by improving their financial security through monthly direct cash payments of \$500. Breaking the cycle of poverty isn’t simple, and that’s why Mountain View is on the forefront of trying innovative approaches to solve difficult issues.”

The two-year-long Elevate MV pilot involves:

- Aiding extremely low-income Mountain View families and custodial caregivers with at least one child under age 18 or pregnant at the time of application. Income eligibility is set at 30% Area Median Income (AMI).
- Restricting eligibility to Mountain View residents without regard to immigration documentation and/or housing status.
- Providing participants with direct cash payments of \$500 per month for 24 months (\$6,000 per year), serving approximately 166 families.

The verification process for the Elevate MV program criteria will take a couple months. The City anticipates the 166 randomly selected qualifying recipients will begin receiving direct cash payments sometime in December 2022.

Elevate MV is operated through the City’s partner Community Services Agency (CSA) of Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, supported by the YMCA, and working with the payment processor, Community Financial Resources.

“CSA is delighted to partner with the City of Mountain View on this exciting new endeavor, which will advance collective knowledge about how to effectively address poverty,” said Brandi Jothimani, Director of Client Programs. “The more financial empowerment that low-income individuals and families have, the closer we get to a more equitable community.”

"Mountain View now adds its name to a growing list of communities across the country that are committed to providing direct cash to its most vulnerable neighbors," said Dr. Amy Castro, co-director of the Center for Guaranteed Income Research at the University of Pennsylvania and assistant professor at Penn's School of Social Policy and Practice. "CGIR is pleased to serve the City of Mountain View as the evaluation partner for their guaranteed income pilot."

Mountain View's pilot program is part of a national study conducted by the University of Pennsylvania Center for Guaranteed Income Research along with participants from other cities across California and the United States. In addition, [Mayors for a Guaranteed Income](#) is also providing the City with no-cost, one-on-one technical assistance for the pilot program.

"Guaranteed income is an innovative way to build economic resilience swiftly and simply," said Michael Tubbs, Special Advisor for Economic Mobility and Opportunity to Governor Gavin Newsom and former Stockton mayor on behalf of Mayors for a Guaranteed Income. "Mountain View's pilot will provide important evidence to help us build the case for a national program — finally creating an economy that works for all."

Senator Josh Becker, California Senate District 13, also praised the City of Mountain View for its efforts.

"I congratulate Mountain View, your City Council and residents on Elevate MV, the guaranteed basic income pilot program," said Senator Becker. "The participants in Elevate MV are encouraged to make their own decisions on how best to spend their dollars, resulting in residents that are financially empowered and educated. I am so proud to see this happening in my Senate district."

Assemblymember Marc Berman, California Assembly District 24, expressed his support for Mountain View's pilot program.

"I want to applaud the City of Mountain View and Community Services Agency on the launch of Elevate MV," said Assemblymember Berman. "Not only will this exciting pilot program provide desperately needed assistance to 166 families in my district, it will also provide important data that can be used to help unlock the immense potential that guaranteed basic income programs offer."

Over a 10-day period, applications for Elevate MV will be accepted through an online portal in multiple languages: English, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin), and Russian. Applications can take up to one hour to complete due to an optional survey that will assist with the pilot's research component.

In addition, the City is providing multilingual application support at the following drop-in hubs, with [preregistration for laptops/devices](#) available online:

Location	Address	Dates/Times	Languages & Tech Available
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Mountain View Public Library	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Program Room  585 Franklin St. Mountain View	Friday and Saturday Sept. 16-17 1-6 p.m.  Friday and Saturday Sept. 23-24 1-6 p.m.	English, Spanish, Mandarin, and Russian  15 laptops available by reservation
Mountain View Community Center	Willow Room  201 S. Rengstorff Ave. Mountain View	Fridays Sept. 16 and 23 1-6 p.m.  Saturdays Sept. 17 and 24 9 a.m. -1 p.m.	English and Spanish  5 laptops available by reservation
Rent Stabilization Program Office	298 Escuela Ave. Mountain View	Fridays Sept. 16 and 23 1-6 p.m.	English and Spanish  2 iPads and 1 laptop available by reservation
Community Services Agency	Lobby  204 Stierlin Road Mountain View	Fridays Sept. 16 and 23 1-6 p.m.  Saturdays Sept. 17 and 24 9 a.m. -1 p.m.	English and Spanish  2 iPads available by reservation
YMCA	Lobby  2400 Grant Road Mountain View	Fridays Sept. 16 and 23 1-4 p.m.  Saturdays Sept. 17 and 24 1-4 p.m.	English only  1 computer available by reservation

In 2022, the City Council approved over \$2 million in funding for the pilot program for two years. In addition, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant for Elevate MV.

For more information including how to apply, visit [MountainView.gov/ElevateMV](https://MountainView.gov/ElevateMV).

#### **About the City of Mountain View**

Located between the Santa Cruz Mountains and San Francisco Bay, Mountain View is a diverse community with an estimated population of 83,864. Mountain View covers just over 12 square miles, featuring over 1,000 acres of park and wildlife areas including the 750-acre wildlife and recreation area called Shoreline at Mountain View. In the heart of Silicon Valley, Mountain View is home to a vibrant downtown and headquarters to many nationally and internationally known

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corporations including Google, LinkedIn, Intuit and NASA's Ames Research Center. For more information, visit [MountainView.gov](http://MountainView.gov).

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