

State of New Jersey Energy Assistance Programs

The State of New Jersey offers several utility assistance programs for your constituents' use. Eligibility for each program is tiered by income. Please find guidance on each program below.

	<u>USF</u> ¹	<u>LIHEAP</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>Lifeline</u> ²
Utility Type:	Gas and electricity	All heating fuel types & medically necessary cooling	Gas and electricity	Gas and electricity for low-income senior citizens & disabled only
Household Size	Income Range	Income Range	Income Range ³	Household Type
1	\$0 - \$21,245	\$0 - \$24,280	\$24,300-\$58,941	SINGLE
2	\$0 - \$28,805	\$0 - \$32,920	\$32,940-\$77,078	\$0 - \$27,950
3	\$0 - \$36,365	\$0 - \$41,560	\$41,580-\$95,213	MARRIED
4	\$0 - \$43,925	\$0 - \$50,200	\$50,220-\$113,350	\$0 - \$34,267
5	\$0 - \$51,485	\$0 - \$58,840	\$58,860-\$131,487	
6	\$0 - \$59,045	\$0 - \$67,480	\$67,500-\$149,622	
7	\$0 - \$66,605	\$0 - \$76,120	\$76,140-\$153,023	
8	\$0 - \$74,165	\$0 - \$84,760	\$84,780-\$156,425	
When are income limits updated?	October 1	October 1	October 1	
Capped at:	<i>\$1,800 per year for gas and electricity</i>	<i>Cap varies and grant is for all fuel types</i>	<i>\$750 per utility for gas and electricity</i>	<i>\$225 per year for gas and electricity combined</i>

¹ If a household is income eligible for USF, the household is also automatically income eligible for LIHEAP.

² The Lifeline program only differentiates between married and single, not household size.

³ USF, LIHEAP, and PAGE typically use the most recent four weeks of household income to determine eligibility. The PAGE monthly income floor is \$1 over the LIHEAP monthly income limit, so that there are no income gaps between programs.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND (USF)

The Universal Service Fund (USF) is a state-funded program created by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) to help **low-income households** pay for their electric and natural gas utility costs. To be eligible for USF, your household must: 1) Be income eligible, and; 2) Spend more than three percent of household income on gas and/or electricity (or spend more than six percent of household income on electric heating). USF is administered by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA), which can be reached by calling 2-1-1 or by visiting www.energyassistance.nj.gov.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP is a federally-funded program that helps **low-income households** pay for heating costs of all fuel types and medically-necessary cooling costs. LIHEAP is administered by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and can be reached by calling 2-1-1 or by visiting www.energyassistance.nj.gov.

LIFELINE

The Lifeline Utility Assistance Program is a state-funded program specifically designed to help eligible **low-income senior citizens and the disabled** with their electric and natural gas utility costs. Apply for Lifeline with the Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) application. PAAD/Lifeline program administrators can be reached by calling (800) 792-9745. Lifeline is made possible by NJBPU and is administered by the New Jersey Department of Human Services. For more information please visit <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/home/lifeline.html>.

PAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR GAS AND ELECTRIC (PAGE)

PAGE is a state-funded program to help **moderate-income households** (which are over the LIHEAP income limits) that are in crisis pay their natural gas and electric utility costs. Qualified applicants may receive up to \$750 for gas costs and/or \$750 for electric costs. To review eligibility requirements, find a local application agency, print an application, or apply online, go to www.njpoweron.com. If you have questions or would like an application mailed to you, call (732) 982-8710. PAGE is made possible by NJBPU and is administered by the Affordable Housing Alliance (AHA).

WINTER TERMINATION PROGRAM (WTP)

Administered by NJBPU, the Winter Termination Program (WTP) **protects specific categories of customers** from having their gas or electric utilities shut off between November 15 and March 15 each winter. Households enrolled in specific programs, such as SSI, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, USF, LIHEAP and Lifeline, are eligible for protection under WTP. An additional "catch-all" category is included for people who are unable to pay their utility bills because of circumstances beyond their control, such as unemployment, divorce, or illness. For more information about WTP, please call NJBPU at (800) 624-0241.