

LOCAL HOUSING PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS



FUNDING SOURCE AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) Program is funded entirely by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), which is funded through congressional Appropriation.

It helps low-income households and individuals lessen the burden of their home heating, whether by gas, electric, fuel oil, propane gas, or firewood. It also helps with medically necessary cooling costs.

The program also provides help in the form of emergency assistance (currently \$800) to avoid being shut off, and (\$100) for a reconnection fee where there has been a shut off.

The assistance mentioned above depends on the availability of funds from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for Home Energy Assistance benefits, a household must meet the following eligibility requirements:

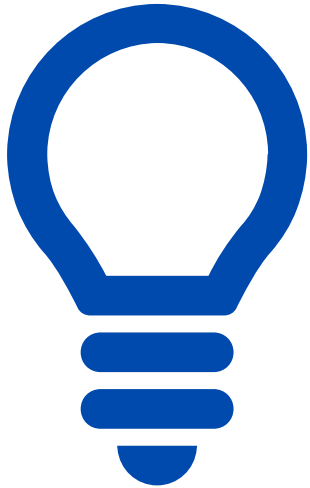
1. The household members must be residents of New Jersey.
2. The household must pay its own heating/cooling costs or be eligible as a renter who pays their landlord according to usage or whose heating/cooling costs are included in their rent.
3. The household's gross income must not exceed 60% of the State Median Income (for example, for a family of 4, the gross income should not be more than \$7,676.00 monthly or \$92,112.00 annually).
4. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is exhausted.

APPLICATIONS

Automatic Enrollment Households eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled (PAAD)

Direct Application:
Either via mail our online portal at www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid or through one of our grantees/agencies in each county though some counties have two agencies. The list of agencies can be found at: www.energyassistance.nj.gov





NJ211

The NJ 211 is also available 24/7 as the USF/LIHEAP hotline administrator and provides language translation services for over 150 languages.



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities:

Universal Service Fund Program



Universal Service Fund (USF)

Created by: NJ BPU

Administered by: New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Benefit: Provides a monthly credit of up to \$180 on electric/gas bills

Goal: Reduces customer bills to an affordable percentage of income

Income Limit: same as Home Energy Assistance Program (60% SMI)

Household size	1	2	3	4
Annual Income Limit	\$47,892	\$62,628	\$77,376	\$92,112
Monthly Income Limit	\$3,991	\$5,219	\$6,448	\$7,676



Universal Service Fund (USF)

To Qualify for USF:

- 1) Household income must be within limits
 - 2) Household member must have a gas or electric bill in their name
 - 3) More than 2% of annual household income must be spent on gas costs or non-heating electric costs; or more than 4% of household income must be spent on electric heat.*
 - USF covers any amount spent on energy over the required percentage of income up to \$180 monthly cap
- * Minimum \$5 monthly benefit if household meets income requirements

Customers can apply for USF with the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) application and receive benefits from both programs!



Universal Service Fund (USF)

- **How do I apply for USF?**
 - Apply online at: [Home · DCAid](#)
 - Call 2-1-1 to find your local USF/LIHEAP application agency OR to request a home visit if you are home bound.
 - Request an appointment with your local USF/LIHEAP application agency

If a customer is disconnected for non-payment, reconnection can be requested once per year based on submission of a USF/LIHEAP application and a down payment of up to 25 percent.

NJ Department of Community Affairs

Lead Remediation and Abatement Program



Lead Remediation and Abatement Program

Purpose: To address the threat of childhood lead poisoning in housing units containing 1 to 10 units

- **Lead is toxic, especially to children under 6**
 - **The most common way young children are exposed to lead is by putting lead-based paint chips in their mouth or by inhaling dust in and around their home or apartment.**
- **Complications: Untreated, lead-based paint may lead to complications such as:**
 - **Irreversible brain damage**
 - **Kidney/liver damage**
 - **Infertility**
 - **Nervous system damage**
 - **Seizures**



Lead Remediation and Abatement Program

Program Requirements:

- Property was built prior to 1978.
- Property has lead-based paint hazards and is free from structural issues
- Property contains no more than 10 residential units.
- Vacant units are eligible
- Occupant must have a gross household income that does not exceed 80% of area median income.
 - In Union County a family of 2 could have a gross household income of \$ 78,250 and a family of 4 could have a gross household income of \$97,800
- The program is open to tenants and landlords (occupant must be income eligible)



Lead Remediation and Abatement Program

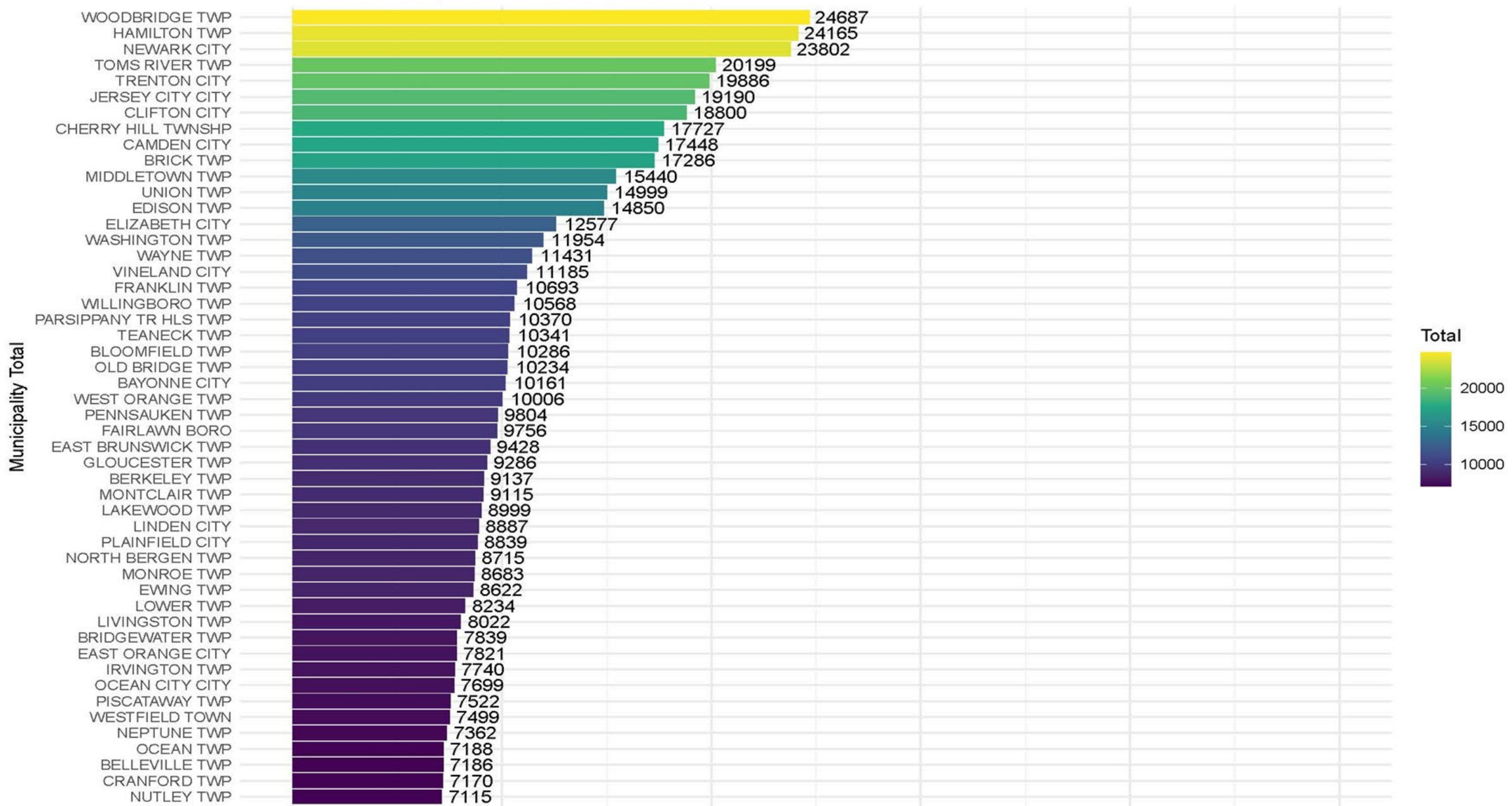
Allowable Cost Per Unit (ACPU)

- Up to \$30,000 per unit for remediation cases
 - Repairs or painting to reduce lead-based paint hazards
- Up to \$40,000 per unit for lead abatement cases (when NJ DOH issues a Notice of Violation, responsive to a child with an elevated blood lead level)
 - Lead abatement projects – permanently eliminate existing lead-based paint hazards



Top 50 Municipalities With Pre-1978 Buildings Potentially Subject to PL 2021 c. 182

Based on MOD IV data, filtered to use codes 2 and 4C



Lead Remediation and Abatement

Online Application Portal

- Landlord and Tenant Applicants are encouraged to apply through the newly created online portal.
- Extremely user friendly and documents are uploaded directly into the portal
- Visit LeadAbatement.NJ.Gov for more info!



Example of City of Plainfield Case

- Property on E. 2nd Street, Plainfield, NJ
- Had a Notice of Violation from the Plainfield Dept. of Health
- Owner couldn't rent to a family with children due to existing lead hazards
- Property Needed Full Abatement
- Cost to Abate was \$23,750

- Now the Property is Lead Free!



Grantee: City of Plainfield Case



Grantee: City of Plainfield Case



Grantee: City of Plainfield Case



Weatherization Program



- Assists_elderly, handicapped and low-income persons in weatherizing their homes, improving their heating system efficiency and conserving energy. Weatherization includes window replacement, air sealing, and insulation.
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- Through weatherization improvements and upgrades, households save on average \$372 or more every year

Weatherization



Eligible Applicants

- Homeowners and renters
- Unit address must be the applicants' primary residence
- Gross household income cannot exceed 200% of the federal poverty level
 - Gross Annual Income for a 4-person household is \$62,400

Weatherization Program



- Energy Audit is conducted to determine what is needed
 - The energy audit is a computerized assessment of a home's energy use and includes an analysis of energy bills, a blower-door (pressurized) test to determine the infiltration of outside air into the home, and an inspection of all energy equipment for potentially health and safety issues.
- Allowable Cost Per Unit (ACPU)
 - Up to \$8,547 per unit

Weatherization Program

Online Application Portal

- Applicants apply through online portal.
 - <https://dcaid.dca.nj.gov/en-US/>
- Extremely user friendly; documents are uploaded directly into the portal

