



Utility Payment Assistance Programs



PAST DUE BALANCES MAY PUT YOU AT RISK FOR SHUT OFF AFTER 12/31/21
APPLY FOR NEW JERSEY'S ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TODAY!

Universal Service Fund (USF) provides monthly credits of up to \$180 per month for household natural gas and electric bills. USF credits are based on the percentage of household income spent on energy. USF also offers *forgiveness of overdue utility balances* through the **USF-Fresh Start Program**. Through Fresh Start, for each month a USF customer pays their current monthly charges in full, 1/12 of the balance owed at time of enrollment is forgiven. See next page for income limits. Apply for USF with the HEAP application (see below).

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) provides grants for household heating costs, medically-necessary cooling, and heating expenses included in rent. Self-screen for eligibility and apply online at www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid, or call the USF/HEAP hotline at **800-510-3102** to have an application mailed to you, find a local application agency, or request a home visit due to medical reasons.

Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric (PAGE) provides grants for natural gas and electric bills for low- and moderate-income households. If you are income eligible for USF, you must apply for USF before seeking supplemental assistance from PAGE. You can apply online at www.njpoweron.org or call **732-982-8710** to have an application mailed to you or for help finding a local application agency.

Lifeline Utility Assistance Program helps income-eligible senior citizens and the disabled with their electric and natural gas costs. Income limits are less than \$28,769 if single and less than \$35,270 if married. Income limits will be raised by \$10,000 on January 1, 2022. Apply for Lifeline with the NJSave application at www.aging.nj.gov or call **800-792-9745**.

New Jersey SHARES offers assistance for the following types of utility bills: water, telephone, broadband (internet), and energy bills. Apply online at www.njshares.org or call **866-657-4273** to have an application mailed to you or for help finding local partner agencies and more information.

If you have an overdue balance and cannot reach a fair payment arrangement with your utility company, please call NJBPU at 800-624-0241 and apply for assistance programs above.



Annual Income Limits for Energy Assistance Programs

Household Size	PAGE	USF	HEAP
1	\$66,968	\$51,520	\$40,181
2	\$87,575	\$69,680	\$52,545
3	\$108,180	\$87,840	\$64,908
4	\$128,786	\$106,000	\$77,272
5	\$149,392	\$124,160	\$89,635
6	\$169,998	\$142,320	\$101,999
7	\$173,862	\$160,480	\$104,317
8	\$177,725	\$178,640	\$106,635

Apply for Emergency Rental Assistance that covers utility costs included in rent:
<https://njdca.onlinepha.com> or call (609) 490-4550