



# Utility Payment Assistance Programs

**APPLY FOR UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TODAY!**

**Universal Service Fund (USF)** provides monthly credits of up to \$200 per month for household natural gas and electric bills. USF also offers forgiveness of overdue utility balances through the **USF-Fresh Start Program**. Through Fresh Start, each month a USF customer pays their current charges in full, a portion of the balance owed at time of enrollment is forgiven. Fresh Start is available once every five years. Apply for USF online at: [www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid](http://www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid) or call **800-510-3102** to find a local application agency, or request a home visit due to medical reasons. Learn more at: [www.nj.gov/bpu/assistance/programs/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/assistance/programs/).

**Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** provides grants for household heating costs (electric, gas and deliverable fuels), heater repairs, medically-necessary cooling, and heating expenses included in rent. Self-screen for eligibility and apply online at: [www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid](http://www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid) or call **800-510-3102** to have an application mailed to you, find a local application agency, or request a home visit due to medical reasons. Income limits are the same as USF. More information at: [www.energyassistance.nj.gov](http://www.energyassistance.nj.gov)

**Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric (PAGE)** provides grants for overdue natural gas and electric bills for low- and moderate-income households. If you are income eligible for USF or HEAP, you must apply for those programs first before seeking supplemental assistance from PAGE. You can apply online at: [www.sharesnation.org](http://www.sharesnation.org) or call **1-866-657-4273** or email [info@sharesnation.org](mailto:info@sharesnation.org) for assistance.

**Lifeline Utility Assistance Program** helps income eligible senior citizens and the disabled with their electric and natural gas costs. Apply for Lifeline with the NJSAVE application at: [www.aging.nj.gov](http://www.aging.nj.gov) or call **800-792-9745** for more information.

**Winter Termination Program (WTP)** protects certain categories of customers from disconnection of gas, electric, water and/or sewer service during the winter months of November 15 – March 15. Eligible customers include those who receive USF, HEAP, Lifeline, PAAD, Work First New Jersey/TANF, General Assistance (GA), SSI, or water assistance programs. Customers unable to pay due to circumstances beyond their control, may also request the protection WTP. To enroll, please call your utility company and request WTP protection. For more information, or to file a complaint, call the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities at **800-624-0241** or visit [www.nj.gov/bpu](http://www.nj.gov/bpu).

**If you are in danger of utility shut off, or if you are currently disconnected, apply for the programs above and inform your utility company immediately.**



## Income Limits for Energy Assistance Grant Programs 10/1/2025 – 9/30/2026

Household Size	PAGE	USF & HEAP	Lifeline
1	\$83,344	\$50,005	\$53,446
2	\$108,988	\$65,392	\$60,690
3	\$134,632	\$80,778	
4	\$160,276	\$96,165	
5	\$185,920	\$111,551	
6	\$211,564	\$126,937	
7	\$216,373	\$129,822	

HEAP is only available from October 1st to June 30<sup>th</sup> while funds are available.  
Lifeline determines income in terms of married or single only.

**Lifeline income limits will update January 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Know Your Rights! View Utility Customer Bill of Rights at:**

[www.nj.gov/bpu/assistance/rights/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/assistance/rights/)