



2019-2020 State of New Jersey Energy Assistance Programs

The State of New Jersey offers several utility assistance programs for households in need. Eligibility for each program is tiered by income. Please find guidance on each program below.

	USF¹	LIHEAP	PAGE	Lifeline²
Utility Type:	Gas and electricity	All heating fuel types and medically necessary cooling	Gas and electricity	Gas and electricity only for low-income senior citizens & disabled
Household Size	Income Range	Income Range	Income Range³	Household Type
1	\$0 - \$23,112	\$0 - \$24,984	\$24,996 - \$61,588	SINGLE \$0 - \$27,950
2	\$0 - \$31,284	\$0 - \$33,828	\$33,840 - \$80,540	MARRIED \$0 - \$34,267
3	\$0 - \$39,468	\$0 - \$42,660	\$42,672 - \$99,490	
4	\$0 - \$47,640	\$0 - \$51,504	\$51,516 - \$118,440	
5	\$0 - \$55,824	\$0 - \$60,348	\$60,360 - \$137,390	
6	\$0 - \$63,996	\$0 - \$69,180	\$69,192 - \$156,340	
7	\$0 - \$72,180	\$0 - \$78,024	\$78,036 - \$159,894	
8	\$0 - \$80,352	\$0 - \$86,868	\$86,880 - 163,448	
When are income limits updated?	October 1	October 1	October 1	
Capped at:	\$1,800 per year for gas and electricity	Cap varies and grant is for all fuel types	\$750 per utility for gas and electricity	\$225 per year for gas and electricity combined

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.



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UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND (USF)

The Universal Service Fund (USF) is a state-funded program created by 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 3% of household income on gas and/or electricity (or spend more than 6% of household income on electric heating). USF is administered by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, which can be reached by calling 2-1-1 (or dial 877-652-1148 from rotary phones or out-of-state callers) 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, which can be reached by calling 2-1-1 (or dial 877-652-1148 for rotary phones or out-of-state callers) or by visiting www.energyassistance.nj.gov.

LIFELINE

The Lifeline Utility Assistance Program is a state-funded program designed to help eligible **low-income senior citizens and the disabled** with their electric and natural gas utility costs. Apply for Lifeline with the [NJSave application](#). 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 www.aging.nj.gov.

PAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR GAS AND ELECTRIC (PAGE)

PAGE is a state-funded program to help **low- to moderate-income households** in crisis pay their natural gas and electric utility costs. PAGE grants are designed to prevent utility service shut-off or reconnect service. For more information or to apply online, go to www.njpoweron.org or call 732-982-8710. PAGE is administered by the Affordable Housing Alliance and is made possible by NJBPU.

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 or if you are out-of-state dial 609-341-9188.
