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## Member Assistance Program New Jersey Energy Assistance Guide October 2018 - August 2019

UFCW Local 1262 is providing this MAP Energy Assistance Guide as a resource for our members and their families. The Guide contains information on the many services and programs available to them at the federal, state and local level.

The information contained in this Guide is the most current and accurate as of the publication date. Please keep in mind, however, that especially in the current economic climate, some of the programs listed here may change their eligibility or other requirements.

On behalf of Local 1262's Officers, Executive Board and Staff, we hope you find this information helpful as we work together to support our members and their families - - on and off the job.

Fraternally,  
*Harvey Wille*  
President Harvey Wille



## New Jersey Energy Assistance Programs September 2018 - August 2019

**MAP Tip** – Carefully review all the material included in your energy provider bills (electric, heating & cooling). If you are having trouble paying your bills, first look for information that addresses payment options & payment assistance. Providers may also offer free services, home energy audits & rebates for energy efficient appliances, light bulbs, thermostats and weatherization.

### STRUGGLING TO PAY YOUR ENERGY BILLS? HELP IS AVAILABLE!

Whether you are on a limited income or experiencing unanticipated financial hardship, there are programs available to help qualified households better manage their energy bills.

**Community Action Program (CAP)** agencies are state designated agencies that implement energy assistance programs throughout New Jersey. For local **CAP** agencies call **2-1-1**, the statewide helpline, or go to <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/caalist.html>

### NEW JERSEY ENERGY ASSISTANCE GROSS INCOME LIMITS SEPTEMBER 2018 - AUGUST 2019



Family Size	NJ Shares	LIHEAP/WAP	USF	Comfort Partners	PAGE	
	Yearly	Yearly	Yearly	Yearly	Min-Yearly	Max
1	\$48,560	\$24,280	\$21,245	\$27,315	\$24,300	\$58,941
2	\$65,840	\$32,920	\$28,805	\$37,035	\$32,490	\$77,078
3	\$83,120	\$41,560	\$36,365	\$46,755	\$41,580	\$95,213
4	\$100,400	\$50,200	\$43,925	\$56,475	\$50,220	\$113,350
5	\$117,680	\$58,840	\$51,485	\$66,195	\$58,860	\$131,487
6	\$134,960	\$67,480	\$59,045	\$75,915	\$67,500	\$149,622
7	\$152,240	\$76,120	\$66,604	\$85,635	\$76,140	\$153,023

### New Jersey Lifeline Credit Program (Lifeline)

<http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/home/liflinedetail.html>

Lifeline is a utility assistance program for income-eligible seniors administered by the New Jersey Dept. of Health & Senior Services, which provides an annual credit of \$112.50, respectively, on only natural gas & electricity bills. The credit is applied directly to the utility account. The benefit is also available to customers with electric & natural gas costs included in their rent.

**Enrollment date: Year round**

#### **Who is eligible?**

Seniors who are at least 65 years old and meet the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and the Disabled (PAAD) criteria, and adults 18 years of age and older who receive Social Security Disability, can also apply. Only one member per household is eligible.

**How to apply?** Download application at

<http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/forms/ap-2.pdf> or call **800 792-9745** (then press "0") or call **800 221-0051** to speak with a NJNG customer service representative or visit your local **CAP**

**Agency**, where applications are accepted & processed.

*If you currently receive Social Security Income, your Lifeline credit is automatically included in your monthly check.*

## USF, LIHEAP and WAP

<http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/energy.html>

### How to Apply:

The three programs listed below all use the same application, which is accepted and processed by your local *CAP agency*. For persons age 60 or over, or who are disabled, applications may be handled by mail. Download the application at

<http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dhcr/forms/docs/heaappl.pdf>

or call **800 510-3102** or visit your local *CAP agency*.

**Who is Eligible: See Page 2 for Income Eligibility**



### **Universal Service Fund (USF) 866 240-1347**

USF is administered by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. It is designed to help make energy bills more affordable for income-eligible households, providing credits on monthly natural gas and/or electric bills.

#### **Enrollment Date: Year-round**

While households may apply for USF at any time, customers are encouraged to submit a joint USF/LIHEAP application during the LIHEAP enrollment period (October 1 thru April 30).

Eligibility for USF is based on total household income and the amount of money a family or individual typically pays for natural gas and electric bills.

### **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) 800 510-3102**

LIHEAP is a federally funded program that helps income-eligible households pay for heating costs and medically necessary cooling costs. If heat is included in your rent, you may still qualify. Because LIHEAP provides support on a first-come, first-served basis it is important to apply as early as possible.

#### **Enrollment Date: October 1 through April 30**

### **Weatherization Assistance Programs (WAP) 609 984-1947**

Provides a home energy audit to see how much money you can save on energy bills by weatherizing. It also provides installation of energy efficient measures which may include air sealing, insulation, heating system repair and/or replacement of refrigerators and heating systems if necessary. <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/wap.html>

### **Gift of Warmth (GOW)**

[http://www.utilitybillassistance.com/html/new\\_jersey\\_natural\\_gas\\_bill\\_as.html](http://www.utilitybillassistance.com/html/new_jersey_natural_gas_bill_as.html)

The Gift of Warmth fund helps income-eligible households & customers of NJ Natural Gas (NJNG) experiencing temporary or unanticipated financial hardship, pay their natural gas bills. This NJNG program is administered by the United Way through local *CAP Agencies*.

**Enrollment date: Year round.**

#### **Who is eligible?**

Income-eligible households & customers of NJNG experiencing temporary or unanticipated financial hardship.

**How to apply?** Applications are accepted at/processed by your local *CAP Agency*. Apply call **800 221-0051** & speak with a NJNG customer service representative.



**NJ Citizen Action Oil Group 800 464-8465** uses bulk purchasing power to negotiate discount prices for their members and is available to all NJ residents who heat with oil.

**NO INCOME ELIGIBILITY.** Annual membership fee ranges from \$ 0 - \$30.

View the brochure at <http://njcaoilgroup.com/brochure.pdf>

Website: <http://www.njcaoilgroup.com/>



### New Jersey Comfort Partners

<http://www.njcleanenergy.com/residential/programs/comfort-partners/comfort-partners>

Comfort Partners is sponsored by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and administered by natural gas and electric utilities throughout the state. The FREE program offers energy saving and energy education for limited-income customers.

And it provides qualified customers with FREE home weatherization and energy-efficient improvements, on a home-specific basis, to help lower energy bills.

**Enrollment date: Year round See Chart on page 2 for Income Eligibility.**

The program is available to households with significant energy use who meet income guidelines. Households that receive USF, Lifeline or PAAD are eligible.

Applicants must be a customer of record with a metered utility.

**How to apply?** Call **888 773-8326** or call your energy provider.

For additional information on **New Jersey's Clean Energy Program** -

Call Customer Service **866 657-6278** or go to [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com) & click on "Residential".



### Payment Assistance for Gas/Electric (PAGE)

The AHA administers PAGE, an ANNUAL assistance program funded by the Board of Public Utilities that is designed to help low-to-moderate income NJ households experiencing economic hardship and struggling to pay their electric and natural gas bills.

**Enrollment Date: Year-round;** Funds are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

**See chart on page 2 for Income Eligibility**

Customers may qualify for a PAGE Grant if they meet household income and size criteria, are ineligible to receive LIHEAP or USF, have current utility service with a documented notice of a past due bill (minimum 45 days past due) and have made at least two (2) \$25 payments in the last 6 months or one good faith payment of \$100 to each utility in the past 90 days. (These payments must be made 30 days before submitting the application.)

PAGE applicants must have assets under \$10,000.



**How to apply?** PAGE Applications are accepted at and processed by the AHA Agencies.

by the AHA

For Page details, an AHA Agency List and to Apply, call **855 465-8783**

or go online at <http://www.njpoweron.org/page-application.html>



### New Jersey (NJ) SHARES

NJ SHARES is a statewide fund that provides assistance to **fixed- to moderate-income** households faced with unique financial hardships that require temporary help to pay their energy, telephone and water bills. Benefits are provided as a one-time payment.

**Enrollment date: Year round;** Funding is limited **See Chart on page 2 for Income Eligibility**

(Applicants age 65 & those on Social Security Disability with households of 1 or 2 are eligible if income is \$70,000. Contact your local CAP agency for more information.) Applicants must meet NJ Shares eligibility guidelines <http://njshares.org/aboutNJShares/energy-assistance.asp>, must be ineligible for LIHEAP or USF benefits, must demonstrate a temporary financial need & have a current history of good faith payments (\$100 or more within 90 days of applying for NJ Shares) with their utility company. Grants must result in continuance and/or restoration of service.

**How to apply?**

Applications are accepted & processed by your local CAP agency and other agencies.

To get an application, call **866-NJSHARES (866-657-4273)** or visit a participating \*CAP agency or a NJ Shares intake agency online at <http://njshares.org/whereToApply/index.asp>