



NJ SHARES Energy Assistance:

1-866-657-4273

www.njshares.org

LIHEAP and USF Referrals:

1-800-510-3102

www.energyassistance.nj.gov

ENERGY PROGRAMS: Energy Assistance programs are available for households based on household size and income (See chart).

The **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** is a Federally funded program providing energy grants to low income households at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The program is typically available from October 1 to April 30. The amount of the benefit will be determined by income and household size.

The **Universal Service Fund (USF)** is available to New Jersey utility customers with household income equal to or less than 175% of the FPL and who pay more than 6% of their annual income for their natural gas and electric service combined. USF is available year round.

NJ SHARES assists households who do not qualify for LIHEAP (October 1 through April 30), USF (year round) and whose income does not exceed 400 percent of the FPL. Each client fills out an application with the assistance of a local community-based organization. NJ SHARES partners with more than 230 organizations statewide. Eligibility is determined by income and household size. Grant maximums are \$700 for heating and \$500 for electric service. Applicants must make a good faith payment of \$100 within 90 days of applying. The program is available year round based on funding availability.

Required Documentation for NJ SHARES applications:

Documents should be furnished to the intake agency at time of application. To identify an intake agency in your area call the toll free energy assistance hotline **(1-866-NJSHARES)**

- 1) Proof of Income (last four consecutive weeks prior to application date)
- 2) Proof of Identification for all household members
- 3) Most Recent Energy Bill
- 4) Signed Application

TELEPHONE: Verizon's Communications Lifeline - provides discounted local telephone service to low-income residents and seniors 150% or below FPL. **For more information, call 1-888-337-3339.**

WATER: New Jersey American Water (NJAW) – NJ SHARES administers the NJAW H₂O Help to Others Program™. Customers who qualify may receive a grant of up to \$500 and/or a discount on their monthly fixed service charge. They must be 300% or below FPL, made a good faith payment of \$100 within 90 days of applying, and be at risk of shutoff. Applications are taken through the NJ SHARES agency network. **For more Information, call 1-877-652-9426.**

Effective 10/1/2017

Income Guideline Chart for LIHEAP, USF and NJ SHARES

Households with gross monthly income over the LIHEAP or USF Charts and below the NJS 400% cap may apply for NJ SHARES.

Household Size	Refer to this column when LIHEAP is open.	Refer to this column when LIHEAP is closed.	Gross Monthly Income CAP for NJS 400% FPL
	Gross Monthly Income for LIHEAP 200%FPL	Gross Monthly Income for USF 175% FPL	
1	\$2,010	\$1,759	\$4,020
2	\$2,707	\$2,369	\$5,413
3	\$3,304	\$2,978	\$6,807
4	\$4,100	\$3,588	\$8,200
5	\$4,797	\$4,198	\$9,593
6	\$5,494	\$4,807	\$10,987
7	\$6,190	\$5,417	\$12,380
8	\$6,887	\$6,026	\$13,773
9	\$7,584	\$6,636	\$15,167
10	\$7,935	\$7,245	\$16,560

NJ SHARES Grant Amounts

Natural Gas	\$700
Electric Heat	\$700
Electric Account	\$500