



# Get help with your utility bills

## Apply for Help Today



**THERE IS HELP TO PAY OLD BILLS, PAY FUTURE BILLS, AND TO GET PROTECTION FROM BEING SHUT OFF.**

**HERE'S HOW:**

### APPLY FOR HELP

Protect yourself by applying for help with your utility bills in one place.

Go to the [DCAid Services - Custom Portal](#) or call NJ 2-1-1 to file an application. With one application you can be considered for all energy assistance programs:

- **USF** - Monthly credit on your energy bill and access to Fresh Start payment plan to avoid termination and wipe out arrears. A family of 4 making up to \$106,000 is eligible!
- **LIHEAP** - One-time credit for upcoming costs or emergency help with arrears
- **ARP DEBT RELIEF** - One-time payment to pay down arrears accrued during the pandemic



### FRESH START

If you are on USF and owe more than \$60 in past due charges, your utility company will automatically enroll you in Fresh Start.

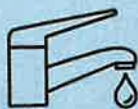
- As long as you pay your current monthly charges in full each month for 12 months (your USF benefit will help!) you will not be terminated for overdue charges and 1/12 will be forgiven every month. At the end of 12 months your remaining balance is forgiven!
- Not on USF? Apply at [DCAid Services - Custom Portal](#) or call NJ 2-1-1 and get access to the Fresh Start Plan.



### OVERDUE WATER OR SEWER CHARGES?

Help is available through the **Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program**, which provides financial assistance to low-income households to reduce balances on residential water and wastewater bills.

Visit the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page for more information. Apply for help at [DCAid Services Custom Portal](#) or NJ 2-1-1.



### QUESTIONS? THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE



**VISIT THE [DCAID SERVICES-CUSTOM PORTAL](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION**



**CALL NJ 2-1-1 OR 1-877-652-1148**



**EMAIL: [INFO@NJ211.ORG](mailto:INFO@NJ211.ORG)**

# Resources for Homelessness Prevention

*The Department of Community Affairs has a number of programs dedicated to homelessness prevention.*

## **Homelessness Prevention Program**

The Homelessness Prevention Program provides up to three months of arrear assistance to households in imminent danger of eviction due to temporary financial problems beyond their control.

[More Information](#)

## **Resource Navigators**

Resource Navigators are experienced case workers who serve as a resource in landlord-tenant court in every county, assisting tenants with understanding the court process, applying for rental assistance and utility assistance, providing social services support, housing mediation or counseling, accessing legal services, and helping with emergencies, including paying for short term arrears and relocation. Resource navigators work with the court and tenants and landlords to prevent evictions.

[Link](#)

## **Comprehensive Eviction Prevention Outreach**

Six community based non-profits funded to provide outreach and technical assistance to tenants regarding the eviction prevention and self-certification process.

[More Information](#)

## **Access to Counsel Anti-Eviction Pilot Program**

Funds legal services and community organizations to provide access to free, quality legal services & representation, as well as social services and targeted financial assistance, to low-income households facing or threatened with eviction in three pilot areas: East Orange (zip codes 07017 and 07018), Trenton (zip codes 08611 and 08618), and Atlantic City (zip code 08401).

[More Information](#)

## **Homelessness Diversion Pilot**

Pilot program operates within the Office of Homelessness Prevention (OHP). OHP works with families at risk of homelessness to prevent shelter entry and assist in retaining housing.

## **State Homelessness Hotline—NJ211**

A partnership with county agencies throughout New Jersey in an effort to ensure that those experiencing homelessness have a safe place to stay at night. We also do our best to connect them with local resources in an effort to address the underlying issues related to homelessness.

[State Homeless Hotline | NJ 211](#)

## **Utility Assistance Programs**

Help is available through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, which provide financial assistance to low-income households to reduce balances on residential electric, heating, water, and wastewater bills.

**Apply for help.**

[DCAid Services Custom Portal](#) or call **NJ 211**.



[www.nj.gov/dca](http://www.nj.gov/dca)