

Financial Assistance Available for Utility Bills

Low-income residents of St. James Parish may be eligible for financial assistance to help pay utility bills, through the Bipartisan Infrastructure, Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The LIHEAP program is a federally funded program administered by St. James Parish Government, Department of Human Resources, CAA made available to St. James Parish through the Louisiana Housing Corporation. Persons applying for assistance must provide the necessary documentation below to complete a LIHEAP application:

- Proof of residency if the address on your picture ID does not match the service location address on your utility bill. You can provide one of the following bills to verify address: rent receipt, lease, insurance, cable bill, etc.)
- Driver's license or identification card of head of household
- Birthdates and copies of social security cards for all household members
- Gross income within the last 30 days for all household members (Example includes but are not limited to check stubs for employed household members, an income verification form completed by employer, proof of unearned income such as: Social Security and SSI award letters, Unemployment Insurance, Pension Funds, Disability, Termination letter; if applicant is recently terminated or laid off etc.) Applicants with no income should provide a signed affidavit. Also, a SNAP budget sheet from DCFS certified within the last 12 months can be used to verify Social Security, SSI and Disability Income.
- A utility bill (electric/gas) dated within the past 30 days.
- Statement to authorize a representative (if applicable)
- Verification of Utility Allowance Worksheet, if applicable
- Verification of Disability, if applicable
- Additional information may be required to determine your eligibility for energy assistance.

All applicants must be residents of St. James Parish and have an active account with a participating utility company.

Resident's names will be taken by phone on a first come, first served basis for LIHEAP assistance. The call-in event is scheduled for Monday, November 27th, 2023, at 8:30 am. Elderly and non-elderly residents should call (225) 562-2201 to place their name on the LIHEAP Application Appointment List.

NOTE: The LIHEAP funds are additional funds the agency received from the Louisiana Housing Corporation for FY23. Only residents who have *not* received a benefit payment for the FY23 LIHEAP Program year are eligible to apply. If you have any questions concerning your eligibility, please call 225-562-2347.

Income guidelines are as follows:

10/1/2023 – 9/30/2025 LIHEAP INCOME GUIDELINES (Based on 60% State Median Income)

| Family Size | Monthly Income Limits |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | \$2,260 |
| 2 | \$2,956 |
| 3 | \$3,651 |
| 4 | \$4,347 |
| 5 | \$5,042 |
| 6 | \$5,738 |
| 7 | \$5,868 |
| 8 | \$5,998 |
| 9 | \$6,129 |
| 10 | \$6,259 |

TDD is available: 1-800-846-5277. This is an equal opportunity program. Discrimination is prohibited by the federal government. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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