

LIHEAP 2026 SEASON

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is defined as a heating season?

The heating season runs for nine (9) months from October to June.
The 2026 heating season is from October 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

How can I obtain a paper application or renewal for my recertification?

The program no longer requires a paper application to apply. All applications must be processed on-line for both new clients and returning clients.

How can I apply?

1. Online - <https://dcaid.dca.nj.gov/>
2. In person at 640 S. Broad St, Trenton NJ, 08611. Appointments are not required at this time.
3. Submit documents by email at: housing@mercercounty.org
Please include full name (last, first) social security number, e-mail and phone number. We will then contact you for further information/documentation.
4. Schedule an appointment with Mercer County LIHEAP by calling the appointment hotline at 609-337-0933. You may also e-mail housing@mercercounty.org.

What documents are needed to apply for LIHEAP for the first time?

Name, Birth date and Social Security cards for all persons living in your home.
Current full lease if renting
Mortgage and/or Tax bill if owning.
Full PSE&G bill (all pages)
Oil receipt (if applicable)
Proof of income for all person 18 and over (30 days worth of income)
If you are receiving Food Stamps, TANF, or Cash Assistance – you must provide award letters for those benefits
Non-Citizens – NJ driver's license/state ID, birth certificate or valid passport
Household expense form (where applicable)
Cooling Assistance Form

*****If it is determined that your gross household income does not meet or exceed your monthly rent or mortgage obligation, you will be required to fill out a "Household Expense Form." If this form is not fully completed it will not be acceptable.

*****In some cases, additional information may be requested in order to validate your documentation. Determinations are made on a case-by-case basis and may not be the same for all clients.

What documents are needed to re-apply/re-certify for LIHEAP

Proof of income for all persons in household over age of 18yr (30 days worth of income)
Full PSE&G/JCPL Bill (all pages)
Oil Receipt (if applicable)
Cooling Assistance Form – Doctors note required

When is emergency assistance available?

Emergency Oil will be available in late December 2025.
Utility shut-off assistance begins on March 16, 2026.

If I submitted an application online, how can I find out the status of my application and if it was processed?

Please call 211 for any updates regarding your on-line application. The County Heating office does not have access to applications submitted online by the individual.

I received an email requesting more information, what should I do?

Please respond directly to the email received. Keep in mind if the email does not end with @mercercounty.org our location will not have access to your information.
In this case, please call 211 to determine which location will have access to your information.

I received mail saying my application was incomplete, what do I do?

Contact the location where the application was processed, check return address of mailing or call 211 for more information.

PSE&G asked me for proof of applying, what do I give them?

UAP# will be your application number and proof of applying

How do I get my UAP#?

If application was done online you will receive an email with your number.
If your application was processed in-person the location can provide the UAP#.
You can also call 211 to receive your UAP#.

What are LIHEAP office hours?

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:00pm (please arrive by 3:30)
Closed between 12:00pm – 1:00pm (please arrive by 11:30am)

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally-funded program, administered by the New Jersey State Department of

Community Affairs (DCA). There are multiple LIHEAP locations across New Jersey. Please call 211 for locations or to find out more information about your personal application.

*******We want to be able to assist everyone in a timely manner, and we reserve the right to close our office periodically without notice due to influx of clients.**