

LIHWAP Benefit Could Help Pay Your Water Bill

The Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a federally funded program created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that helps households pay for drinking water and wastewater for their homes. All LIHWAP payments are applied directly to your account with the water company. Eligible households will receive a \$200 or \$300 credit, depending on income. In late 2021, LIHWAP was initially only available to families with past due water bill debts, but as of February 2022, **all households can be eligible for this benefit!**

Am I eligible for the LIHWAP program?

Only customers that receive water services through public pipelines from a company that has signed an agreement to participate in LIHWAP can be awarded funds. Customers can contact their water company and request that they sign an agreement with the Department of Human Services if they have not already.

The other basic eligibility requirements are:

- 1. Have a total gross income at or below the amounts on the chart below.
- 2. Be responsible for paying the water bill.
- 3. Be a US citizen or lawfully admitted immigrant.

| Household Size | Yearly Household Income |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | \$26,474 |
| 2 | \$34,619 |
| 3 | \$42,762 |
| 4 | \$50,911 |
| 5 | \$\$59,057 |
| 6 | \$\$67,203 |
| 7 | \$\$68,730 |
| 8 | \$70,257 |

LIHWAP INCOME ELIGIBILITY CHART

GLSP does not discriminate in the provision of services based on age, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

How do I apply for LIHWAP?

You must contact the local Community Action Agency responsible for running the program in your county to apply for benefits. To find out how to contact your local Community Action Agency, call the Georgia Community Action Association at 404-361-4442 or go to the Agency Finder tab at <u>http://www.georgiacaa.org</u>. When you receive the phone number for your local agency, call to make an appointment.

What documents do I need to have?

- Driver's license or state-issued photo ID for yourself and all household members who are 60 years of age and older.
- Social security cards for every person who lives in the home.
- Most current water bill
- Proof of income for all persons aged 18 or older.
- If any person, <u>including a high school student</u> is age 18 or older, he/she **must** come to the appointment to sign a document.
- Proof of citizenship or immigration status.

I get my water bill online. What should I do?

- Print your most current bill from the website or the bill that was emailed to you.
- Stop by the utility company's office to have them print a copy of your current bill.
- If you do not have a computer or printer at home, you can go to the public library or the Goodwill Career Center nearest you and ask to use a computer to print the document.

For more information about LIHWAP and other available benefits you may qualify for, visit: <u>https://dfcs.georgia.gov/services/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-</u> <u>liheap/low-income-household-water-assistance-lihwap</u>

If you have a benefits issue, Georgia Legal Services might be able to help. Call 1-833-GLSP-LAW (457-7529) for assistance.

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If you have a <u>legal issue</u> you need to discuss, contact the Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP), 1-833-GLSP-LAW (457-7529)

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