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**BENEFIT PROGRAMS -  
LOW INCOME OLDER & DISABLED PERSONS  
ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES AS OF OCTOBER 2021**

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The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services has a **Statewide Customer Service Center**, #1-877-395-8930, for general information, application directions, checking status of an application, making changes to your case, and requesting forms and documents for programs administered by this agency (Medical Assistance, SNAP, LIHEAP).

**For information on a broad spectrum of community resources**

**Phone: 211 or 855-567-5341**

**Text: Your zip code to 898211**

**Database: Search for resources by visiting [www.pa211.org/get-help](http://www.pa211.org/get-help)**

Prepared by Lancaster County Office of Aging, 150 N. Queen St, Suite 415, Lancaster, PA 17603

(717) 299-7979 or #1-800-801-3070,

Website: [www.lancoaging.org](http://www.lancoaging.org) email: [aging@co.lancaster.pa.us](mailto:aging@co.lancaster.pa.us)

\*This information is offered as a basic guideline. Most of these programs are not administered by the Office of Aging and subject to change. Please contact the appropriate agency for current eligibility.



**(PACE APPLICATION CENTER)**

**866-712-2060**

**Monday-Friday 9am-5pm EST**

**Call and they can assist over the phone to apply for the programs below**

- Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly (PACE/NET)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicare Extra Help (LIS)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP))
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Unemployment Insurance (UI)
- Medicaid (MA)
- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- Medicare Savings Program (MSP)
- Qualified Health Plan (QHP)
- Child Tax Credit (CTC)
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Social Security Disability (SSDI)
- Childcare Subsidy (CCIS)
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate (PT/RR)

## MEDICARE

**Call PA MEDI 717-299-7979 for help with Medicare Questions**  
**APPRISE has Rebranded – now PA MEDI**

**EXTRA HELP** can help lower your prescription premium, deductible and co-pays.

- If you are single and have total monthly income less than, \$1630 per month; and less than \$14,790 in resources
- If you are married and have a total monthly income of less than \$2,198 per month; and less than \$29,520 in resources

**MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS** can help with payment of your Part B premium and possibly with the payment of your Part A and Part B cost sharing.

**ALL PA MEDI (APPRISE) SERVICES ARE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL WE CAN ALSO ASSIST YOU WITH NAVIGATING:**

- Medicare Prescription Drug Plans (Part D)
- Medicare Advantage Plans
- Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap)
- Medicaid
- Long-Term Care

## **PACE Prescription Assistance Program**

Pennsylvania's prescription assistance programs for older adults, PACE and PACENET, offer low-cost prescription medication to qualified residents, age 65 and older. For more information, call **1-800-225-7223**.

### **Eligibility**

PACE and PACENET eligibility is determined by your previous calendar year's income. Since 2014, Social Security Medicare Part B premiums are excluded from income. This change has the same effect as raising the income limits by that amount. For most Medicare beneficiaries, this amount is \$1,626.00 per person for a year. For married couples, the excluded amount would be \$3,252.00 for a year.

#### **PACE**

- You must be 65 years of age or older.
- A Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application.
- You cannot be enrolled in the Department of Human Service's Medicaid prescription benefit.
- For a single person, total income must be \$14,500 or less.
- For a married couple, combined total income must be \$17,700 or less.

#### **PACENET**

- You must be 65 years of age or older.
- A Pennsylvania resident for at least 90 days prior to the date of application.
- You cannot be enrolled in the Department of Human Service's Medicaid prescription benefit.
- PACENET income limits are slightly higher than those for PACE
- For a single person, total income can be between \$14,500 and \$27,500
- For a married couple, combined total income can be between \$17,700 and \$35,500

## SNAP for Older Adults

Studies have shown that older adults who are food insecure have:

- Diets that are less nutritious
- Worse health outcomes
- A higher risk of depression

In contrast, seniors enrolled in SNAP have better health and need less acute and long-term care.



### **Do I qualify?**

Eligibility for SNAP is based on factors such as household income and available resources. The COMPASS website has a ["Do I Qualify?" tool](#), or visit your [county assistance office](#) to learn more.

### **How to apply**

Applying is easier than ever!

#### **Have the following ready:**

- Dates of birth for all members of your household
- Social Security numbers for all members of your household
- Household income information
- Household expense information
  - Housing costs (such as rent or mortgage)
  - Medical expenses

## Apply online or in-person

There is a shortened, two-page application for Pennsylvanians 60 or older and/or with disabilities and no earned income.

- **Apply online using COMPASS.** [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us) When you input your information, the system will provide you with a simplified application. If you run into problems, call the COMPASS Helpline at 1-800-692-7462. Hearing-impaired? Call 1-800-451-5886. The helpline is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- **Apply in person** via your county assistance office. An expert can help you through the process.
- **Simple SNAP application**

Use the Simple SNAP application if everyone in the household is age 60 or older or has a disability, purchases, and prepares food together, and does not receive any earnings from work. (A household is a group of people who usually purchase and prepare meals together. People in the household are not required to be related.)

- To print out the Simple SNAP application you will find it on this link below in English and Spanish:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/SNAP-Older-Adults.aspx>

## SNAP Income Limits

There are a few factors that contribute to higher SNAP allowances and income limits in Pennsylvania. Factors include household size, monthly income, and if a member of your household is 60 years old or older or has a disability. The best way to determine if and how much your household will qualify for SNAP is to apply.

**Gross income** means a household's total, non-excluded income, before any deductions have been made.

**Net income** means gross income minus allowable deductions.

A household with an elderly or disabled person only has to meet the net income limit, as described on the [elderly and disabled page](#).

**Table 1: SNAP Income Eligibility Limits - Oct. 1, 2021, through Sept. 30, 2022**

Household Size	Gross monthly income (130 percent of poverty)	Net monthly income (100 percent of poverty)
1	\$1,396	\$1,074
2	\$1,888	\$1,452
3	\$2,379	\$1,830
4	\$2,871	\$2,209
5	\$3,363	\$2,587
6	\$3,855	\$2,965
7	\$4,347	\$3,344
8	\$4,839	\$3,722
Each additional member	+\$492	+\$379

## Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

### New: File Your Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program Applications Online

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program claimants now have the option to submit program applications online with the Department of Revenue's [myPATH](https://myPATH.pa.gov) system. Filing online leads to fast processing, easy direct deposit options and automatic calculators that will help you apply for your rebate. Visit [myPATH.pa.gov](https://myPATH.pa.gov) to file your application.

### Overview:

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded. Spouses, personal representatives, or estates may also file rebate claims on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day in 2018 and meet all other eligibility criteria.

The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners can boost rebates to \$975.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is one of five programs supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery. Since the program's 1971 inception, older and disabled adults have received more than \$6.9 billion in property tax and rent relief. The rebate program also receives funding from slots gaming.

Homeowners can receive:

<b>Income</b>	<b>Maximum Rebate</b>
\$0 to \$8,000	\$650
\$8,001 to \$15,000	\$500
\$15,001 to \$18,000	\$300
\$18,001 to \$35,000	\$250

Renters receive:

<b>Income</b>	<b>Maximum Rebate</b>
\$0 to \$8,000	\$650
\$8,001 to \$15,000	\$500

In addition, the law gives the following relief to seniors in most need:

- Seniors who live in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh or Scranton, where local wage/income tax rates are very high, will not benefit from a local tax shift to lower taxes on top of the reduction offered by the state funded property tax relief. To ensure that seniors in these communities receive significant property tax relief, each senior household with income under \$30,000 has its property tax rebate increase by an additional 50 percent.
- In addition, property tax rebates are increased by an additional 50 percent for senior households in the rest of the state, so long as those households have incomes under \$30,000 and pay more than 15 percent of income in property taxes.

### **Free Assistance**

Property Tax/Rent Rebate application assistance is available at no cost from Department of Revenue [district offices](#), local [Area Agencies on Aging](#), [senior centers](#) and [state legislators' offices](#).

Contact the Lancaster County Office of Aging at 717-299-7979 to schedule an appointment to receive help filling out the Rebate application.

## HEATING ASSISTANCE/LIHEAP

The **2021-2022** Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is currently closed.

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### About the Program

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills in the form of a cash grant. Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants. The cash grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company/fuel provider to be credited on your bill. These grants range from \$200 to \$1,000 based on household size, income, and fuel type. Remember: This is a grant and does not have to be repaid.

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### How to apply

There are two ways to apply for LIHEAP:

- **Online:** Apply for benefits online using [COMPASS](#), the online tool for Pennsylvanians to apply for health and human service programs and manage benefit information.
- **On paper:** You can download a paper application, print it, fill it out, and return it to your [local county assistance office](#).

After your application is reviewed, you will receive written notice explaining your eligibility and the amount of assistance you will receive. Please allow 30 days for a response.

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### Eligibility

- You must meet income guidelines
- You don't have to be on public assistance
- You don't need to have an unpaid heating bills
- You can rent or own your home

#### Income Requirements

*Here are the LIHEAP income requirements for 2021-2022*

1	\$19,320
2	\$26,130
3	\$32,940
4	\$39,750
5	\$46,560
6	\$53,370
7	\$60,180
8	\$66,990
9	\$73,800
10	\$80,610

For every additional person, add \$6,810

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### Crisis Grants

Households experiencing a heating crisis may be eligible for additional benefits through the LIHEAP crisis program. Emergency situations include:

- Broken heating equipment or leaking lines that must be fixed or replaced
- Lack of fuel

- The main heating source or second heating source (a source that is used to operate the main heating source or used if the main heating source is not working) has been completely shut-off
  - The danger of being without fuel (less than a 15-day supply)
  - The danger of having utility service terminated (you've received a notice that service will be shut off within the next 60 days)
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### **Contact Us**

For more information about LIHEAP, please contact your [county assistance office](#), or call the **LIHEAP hotline at 1-866-857-7095**, Monday through Friday. Individuals with hearing impairments may call 711.

Assistance with home heating crisis situations is available 24 hours a day. In most counties, you should contact your [county assistance office](#).

**In the event of a Heating Emergency, call #717-299-7543**

## WRAP



Energy educator helps you save



Energy-saving items installed for Free



Services depend on home energy survey

## Who qualifies for WRAP?



Homeowners & Renters who are PPL Electric Utilities customers (Renters need landlord permission.)



Meet income guidelines



Apply now [online](#) or call us at 1-888-232-6302

Family size	Income limit
1	\$25,520
2	\$34,480
3	\$43,440
4	\$52,400
Each additional person	Add \$8,960

Information retrieved from: [www.pplelectric.com/my-account/payments/need-help-paying-your-bill/winter-relief-assistance-program](http://www.pplelectric.com/my-account/payments/need-help-paying-your-bill/winter-relief-assistance-program)



Low Income Usage Reduction Program (LIURP) provides energy saving improvements to qualifying households to help reduce their utility bills and/or usage.

**Apply Now**

To determine your eligibility, please fill out the [LIURP online application form](https://www.ugi.com/assistance-programs/liurp/application) online at [www.ugi.com/assistance-programs/liurp/application](https://www.ugi.com/assistance-programs/liurp/application) or contact UGI at 1-800-UGI-WARM ([1-800-844-9276](tel:1-800-844-9276)). For additional questions or inquiries, email [LIURPteam@ugi.com](mailto:LIURPteam@ugi.com).

CAP and LIHEAP participants who meet the eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply.

**LIURP Household Income**

150% Federal Poverty Guidelines 2021-2022

Household Members	Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income
1	\$19,320	\$1,610	\$372
2	\$26,130	\$2,178	\$503
3	\$32,940	\$2,745	\$633
4	\$39,750	\$3,313	\$764
5	\$46,560	\$3,880	\$895
6	\$53,370	\$4,448	\$1,026
7	\$60,180	\$5,015	\$1,157
8	\$66,990	\$5,583	\$1,288
Above 8	+\$6,810/person	+\$568/person	+\$131/person

### **LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY**

- Program provides one-half hour consultation with a lawyer for \$5 for persons 60+.
- No income guidelines.
- Agreement between the local Office of Aging and the Bar Association.

For more information or to make an appointment, contact the Lancaster County Office of Aging at 717299-7979 or 1-800-801-3070.

### **SENIOR LAW HELPLINE**

1-877-727-7529

M-Thurs 10AM to 12 Noon

## **DENTAL ASSISTANCE**

### **DONATED DENTAL SERVICES (DDS)**

If you have a permanent disability, are over 65 years old, or medically compromised, and don't have enough money to pay for dental care, you may qualify for free treatment through the DDS program.

- Program designed to provide free or low-cost dental care for major dental needs (suffering pain/discomfort, dentures, bridges, etc.). There are no rigid financial eligibility requirements. Depending on where one lives, the wait may be several months or over a year. Due to the volume of calls, they do not return phone calls about where one is on the waiting list.
- Participating Pennsylvania dentists provide care in their own offices.
- There is generally no cost to qualifying individuals; however, people in a position to pay for part of their care may be encouraged to do so, especially when laboratory work is involved.

### **Application Procedures**

- An application needs to be completed, signed, and returned to: Pennsylvania Donated Dental Services,  
P.O. Box 205, Newville, PA 17241. If applying online, allow enough time to complete as there is no option to save in progress.
- When your application comes up for review, a referral coordinator will call to obtain additional information (those who don't qualify will be told so during the call).
- The referral coordinator will share the information about a person tentatively accepted with a volunteer dentist.
- You will be notified of the dentist's name and phone number, and you will be responsible for scheduling an appointment for an examination.
- Final acceptance into the program will only be made after the clinical examination when the specific treatment needs are established.

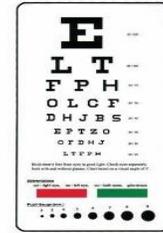
To obtain a copy of the application for the Donated Dental assistance program, please contact Pennsylvania

Dental Lifeline Network at (#717-776-3262 or <https://dentallifeline.org/pennsylvania> ) or the Lancaster County Office of Aging (717-299-7979 or 1-800-801-3070) or with your mailing address. Upon receipt, your application will be placed on their waiting list. Due to program limitations, they are not able to process each application as soon as it is received; please be patient. The referral coordinator will contact you when your application comes up for review.

## **REDUCED CAR REGISTRATION FEE**

- Retired residents of Pennsylvania may have their car registration fee reduced from \$36 to \$10 when sending in application for renewed car registration. You must be retired and receiving Social Security or other pensions as described on the front of the application, regardless of age. Part-time employment is permitted if you are retired from your principal occupation. If you receive only unemployment compensation or public assistance or are a student or other individual who is not retired, you do not qualify. Applicants may renew registration online, however, it is necessary to have a printer as PennDOT no longer mails registration cards for those renewed online. Applications are available by downloading <https://www.dot.state.pa.us/Public/DVSPubsForms/BMV/BMV%20Forms/mv-371.pdf> , or by contacting the Lancaster County Office of Aging at #717-299-7979. Please leave message requesting this form with your name and address.

## Free Eye Exams, Glasses Available



January 2021

VisionCorps has a program to give free eye exams and glasses to qualified adults and children in southcentral Pennsylvania. This assistance is provided to individuals in the community who may not be able to afford eye exams and glasses.

VisionCorps, with help from the Pennsylvania Vision Foundation, connects low-income families in Lancaster, Adams, Chester, Lebanon, and York counties to access free vision examinations and basic frames and lenses. To see if they qualify for the service, readers may call VisionCorps at 717-205-4141.

VisionCorps offers education and prevention of blindness services, rehabilitation, and employment to individuals. Programs and services, which are offered to clients ranging in age from birth to seniors, include occupational therapy, tips for living independently, and employment opportunities.

In addition, VisionCorps offers virtual programs about its services; these programs are available to organizations and employers. The programs, which can be individualized based on the needs of the group, include information on common eye conditions, living with low vision, employing people with low vision, and tips for living independently with blindness or low vision.

All programs are provided free of charge, and all services offered to clients of VisionCorps are free. To learn more, readers may visit <http://www.visioncorps.net>.



## A&E Hearing Connection

**235 BLOOMFIELD DRIVE, SUITE 108, LITITZ, PA 17543 - 717.823.6152 WWW.AEHEARING.ORG**

“**A&E Hearing Connection** is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We provide hearing healthcare, including hearing aids, to low-income adults and under-served children at home in Lancaster, PA and around the world. Our mission is to build the dignity of those affected by hearing impairment by restoring their hearing potential and providing opportunities to engage with their communities through service to others. We exist so that the people we serve will engage fully in life and achieve their maximum potential. To qualify for our program, you must meet certain financial criteria based on the federal poverty level. We provide our services under the model of the **Circle of Giving**, which means that all our patients pay for their hearing healthcare services in two ways:

- A sliding-scale fee based on income
- Volunteering at a community service organization of their choice”

To apply call (717) 823-6152, e-mail [support@aehearing.org](mailto:support@aehearing.org), or go to [www.aehearing.org](http://www.aehearing.org)

## Lancaster Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Berks Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services has expanded into the Lancaster Area with our new satellite office, Lancaster Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

### Mailing Address & Contact Info:

Lancaster Center of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Attn: Karen Pfortsch

2270 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602

717-207-9822 Video Phone

717-947-7462 Fax

717-947-7818 Interpreting Requests

LCDHH@bdhhs.org



Located in the:

First Deaf Mennonite Church - Witmer Heights,  
2270 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602.

## Hearing Aid Programs



“Recycle Hearing Aids Here, drop them off or mail them into the office.

We can help individuals access information to live better with a hearing loss. We have applications available to apply for low-cost hearing aids and low-cost hearing aids repair.”

Call **717-207-9862 (Video Phone)** or visit [www.bdhhs.org/hearing-aid-programs.html](http://www.bdhhs.org/hearing-aid-programs.html) for more information.