

# Applications for Drinking Water and Wastewater Financial Assistance Through LIHWAP Due by **JUNE 30, 2022**

(MDC Independent Consumer Advocate Advisory)

MDC's residential water and sewer customers may be eligible for federally-funded financial assistance with their water, wastewater, and other utility bills through Connecticut's **Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)**. Although applications previously were due by May 31, 2022, the application deadline was extended and is now **June 30, 2022**. If you think that your household is eligible, you should apply as soon as possible. Here are a few things to note:

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- Although LIHWAP is overseen by the State of Connecticut's Department of Social Services (DSS), applications are submitted and processed by local **Community Action Agencies (CAAs)**.
- The CAA for MDC Customers is the **Community Renewal Team (CRT)** (<https://www.crtct.org/>) (Address: **395 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114**; Phone: **860-560-2694/860-560-5800**; E-mail: [crtenergyapplication@crtct.org](mailto:crtenergyapplication@crtct.org))
- Applicants can apply in the following ways:
  - **Online:** [https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/applyonline?language=en\\_US](https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/applyonline?language=en_US) (**NOTE:** The online application process takes an estimated 30-45 minutes to complete **and you cannot save your application to complete at a later time**)
  - **Mail:** Print and complete the **CEAP Application** (found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/-/media/Heatinghelp/Energy-Assistance-Application.pdf>) and mail the completed application form (with supporting documents, as needed) to CRT at **395 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114**
  - **E-mail:** Download and complete the **CEAP Application** (found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/-/media/Heatinghelp/Energy-Assistance-Application.pdf>) and attach the completed application form (with supporting documents, as needed) to an e-mail sent to CRT at [crtenergyapplication@crtct.org](mailto:crtenergyapplication@crtct.org)
  - **Phone:** Call CRT at 860-560-2694/860-560-5800
  - **In-Person:** Call CRT to schedule an in-person appointment, and be sure to bring all of the required supporting documents to your appointment.

## ELIGIBILITY

- MDC customers with an **annual income at or below 60% of the state median income** can qualify for one-time assistance of **up to \$1,000** on their water and sewer bills. Specifically, if the following number of persons are in your household, you may qualify if your income is at or below the following corresponding levels:

Household Size (people)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual Household Income	\$39,027	\$51,035	\$63,044	\$75,052	\$87,060	\$99,069	\$101,320	\$103,572

- Although you should contact CRT or apply if you are unsure about whether you qualify, you likely will be eligible for LIHWAP assistance if you receive:
  - **Food stamps (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP));**
  - **Supplemental Security Income (SSI);**
  - **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF),** or other benefits from DSS.

## DOCUMENTS

- In order to support your LIHWAP Application, you will need to provide CRT with the following documents:
  - **MDC Bill/Lease:** Either: **(1)** A copy of your most recent water bill; **OR (2)** a copy of your rental agreement (lease) showing that your utilities are included in your rent  
 (NOTE: Some customers have reported that they are being told that renters cannot qualify for LIHWAP assistance and that they can only qualify if MDC bills are in the applicant's name, not the landlord's name. **THIS IS NOT CORRECT.** If a CRT representative or someone else tells you that you cannot qualify because you are a renter or because the MDC bills are not in your name, please contact the MDC Independent Consumer Advocate, Joe Szerejko (860-240-6186; [MDCconsumeradvocate@gmail.com](mailto:MDCconsumeradvocate@gmail.com)).
  - **Income Documents:** Unless you receive **SNAP, SSI, or TANF** benefits—in which case you do not need to provide the following documents—you will need to provide:
    - ***If you or anyone in your household is employed:*** Either: **(1)** a copy or photo of paystubs showing income from 4 consecutive weeks anytime in the prior 3 months; **OR (2)** a signed letter from your employer or payroll department stating your income during this time period.
    - ***If you or anyone in your household is self-employed:*** A copy or photo of a completed **Self-Employment Worksheet** (found here: <https://portaldir.ct.gov/dss/CAAlookup/pdfs/SelfEmploymentAndInstructions.pdf>) **AND** your (or other self-employed person's) most recently-filed IRS Form 1040, including all schedules
    - ***If you or anyone in your household receives additional income (i.e., Social security, unemployment, or veterans' benefits, pensions or annuities, rental income, alimony, child support, or adoption benefits):*** Award letter(s), a bank statement showing direct deposit, and/or signed statements (more information can be found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/-/media/Heatinghelp/pdf/LIHEAP-LIHWAP-Additional-Income-Detail.pdf>)
  - **Other Documents (if Applicable):**
    - **Zero Income Form:** Complete this form if your household has no income for the last 4 weeks or longer.
    - **Affidavit Certifying Non-Receipt of Child Support:** Complete this form if your household includes children who have 1 or more non-custodial parents who are not paying child support.
    - **Certification of Disability:** Complete this form if you or a household member have a disability but do not receive disability benefits like SSI or the State Supplement for Aged, Blind, or Disabled.