

Passaic County Department of Human Services Update: Tropical Storm Idea Assistance

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The State of NJ received a Presidential Disaster Declaration from Tropical Storm IDA for the following twelve Counties (Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union and Warren). As of this time, over 80,000 people have registered with FEMA for disaster assistance by going to www.disasterassistance.gov or calling 800-621-3362. The deadline for registration for FEMA disaster assistance is December 6th.

As survivors rebuild/repair their homes, this is a reminder that housing resources are available. Please be aware that the State Led Disaster Housing Task Force has been meeting in order to seek out interim and long term sheltering solutions for the benefit of survivors of IDA. Here are the resources:

<https://www.nj.gov/njhrc/> A toll free number is also available for guidance and information at 1-877-428-8844

<https://www.njrealtor.com/2021/09/hurricane-ida-resources/>

<https://www.nj.gov/ida/>

<https://www.nj211.org/tropical-storm-ida>

Passaic County Department of Human Services Update: ENJF COVID-19 Funding

WHAT IS THE EXCLUDED NEW JERSEYANS FUND (ENJF)?

The ENJF provides a one-time, direct cash benefit to eligible households who have suffered an economic hardship due to COVID-19 and were excluded from both the federal stimulus checks and COVID related unemployment assistance -- including undocumented individuals, residents re-entering from the justice system, and any other individuals otherwise excluded.

Eligible households will receive a benefit of up to \$1,000 per eligible individuals and a max of \$2,000 per household. Households with incomes up to \$55,000 a year with documented hardship or lost income due to COVID-19 can apply for assistance.

Applications for this program are now open. They will be processed in the order they are received and until funds are exhausted. Applying for the program does not guarantee assistance.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate:

1. Exclusion from both federal stimulus checks and COVID related unemployment assistance
2. Household COVID Impact
3. Household income that is at or below \$55,000
4. Residency, Identity, Age

1. Exclusion from both federal stimulus checks and COVID related unemployment assistance

- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they were excluded from both the federal stimulus checks and the COVID related unemployment assistance through bank statements and a Self-Attestation Form.
- The Self-Attestation Form is a document found within the Application, which is a declaration of hardship by the applicant that they were excluded from both the federal stimulus checks and COVID related unemployment assistance.

2. Household COVID impact

Experienced financial hardship due to the pandemic including:

- loss of income due to reduced hours/lay off,
- unable to work due to:
 - isolation/quarantine, or
 - your child's remote school learning schedule, or
 - illness and/or death due to COVID-19
- inability to pay bills due to loss of income.

3. Household income that is at or below \$55,000

- Applicants must provide proof of household income of \$55,000 or less. (Examples of proof may include bank statements, award letters from a social service agency such as Social Security or Veteran Affairs, and paystubs).

4. Residency, Identity, and Age

- Applicants must present documents that establish identity and residency. All applicants must be 18 years of age and reside in the State of New Jersey.

Assistance Amount

Eligible households can receive \$1,000 per eligible adult household member, with a \$2,000 maximum benefit amount per household.

Individuals whose applications are approved will be able to select their preferred method of payment. The methods of payment include:

- Check
- Pre-paid Card
- Direct Deposit

For more information, visit: <https://nj.gov/humanservices/excludednjfund/>