

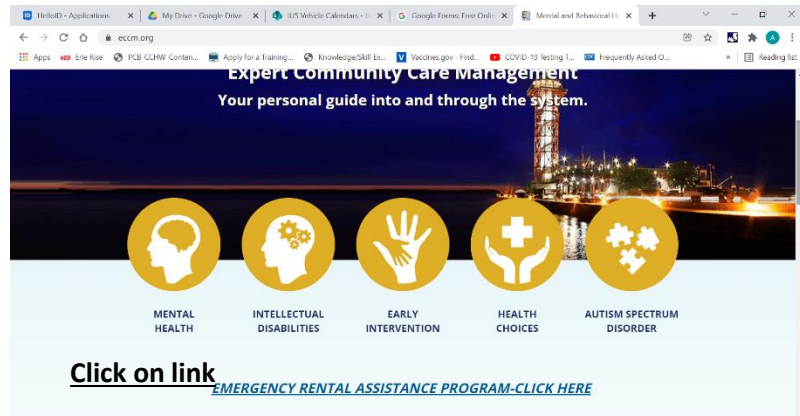
Updated 2/7/2022

## Help for families in need

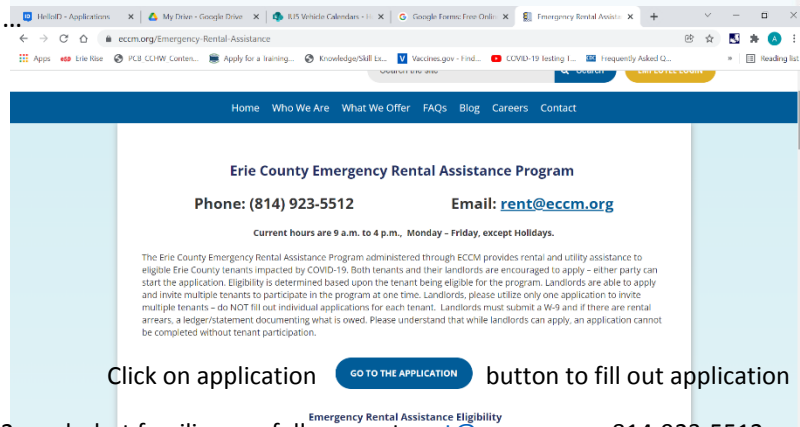
**THIS PROGRAM IS NOT FUNDED OR DECIDED BY DISTRICT, PLEASE CONTACT THE ORGANIZATIONS WHO YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR.**

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

[www.eccm.org](http://www.eccm.org)



The link will take you to the next area.....



Once application is completed can take up to 12 weeks but families can follow up at [rent@eccm.org](mailto:rent@eccm.org) or 814-923-5512.

## National Fuel

<https://www.nationalfuel.com/utility/your-account-overview-pa-home/payment-assistance-programs-pa-home/>

This link has about 8 different programs a family could utilize to see if they qualify for any during the hardship.

## Penelec

[https://www.firstenergycorp.com/help/billingpayments/assistance\\_serviceprogram/low-income-program-availability.html](https://www.firstenergycorp.com/help/billingpayments/assistance_serviceprogram/low-income-program-availability.html)

This link has a covid link that will take them to the eccm page, and has an area where they fill in their family household information to see what program they can qualify for.

## Water & Sewer

[https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHWAP.aspx#:~:text=The%20Low%2DIncome%20Household%20W ater%20Assistance%20Program%20\(LIHWAP\)%20is,of%20losing%20your%20water%20service.](https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHWAP.aspx#:~:text=The%20Low%2DIncome%20Household%20W ater%20Assistance%20Program%20(LIHWAP)%20is,of%20losing%20your%20water%20service.)

This is a new program, and the link brings you to LIHWAP page. This page will explain program and income guideline and provides link to apply for the program.

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## Affordable Connectivity Program

<https://www.fcc.gov/acp>

This program helps qualifying families stay connected. There is a new qualifying factor that has been added since the emergency broadband help through covid. If a family participates in WIC and meets other guidelines they could qualify. The Affordable Connectivity Program helps lower cell phone or internet costs, so then families can stay connected with everyday life. The application box is on this site and can be a little confusing as well. If a family would be interested, they can still apply, but contact their service provider they would like to have the assistance with cost at. The service providers will be able to help them further.

**The Emergency Broadband Program is set to end that funding on 2/28/22, and families on that will need to apply for the new ongoing program.**

Eligibility criteria:

- Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations;
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income program.

**Two Steps to Enroll**

- Go to [ACPBenefit.org](https://www.fcc.gov/acp) to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.
- Contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must **both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.**

**Apply Now**

Click on box to apply

## SNAP/ MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/compass.web/Public/CMPHome>

This is the Pennsylvania state website to apply for Medical Assistance and SNAP(Food Stamps). Once you click on the link it will bring you to the home

**Welcome to COMPASS**

The fast and easy way to access benefits - anytime and anywhere

COMPASS is an online tool for Pennsylvanians to apply for many health and human service programs and manage benefit information. Click on the Apply Now button below to begin.

**APPLY NOW**

Click here

Once you get to pop up blockers please hit continue and will bring you to next page which is start of application.

**What To Expect** Setup Returning Users Password Warning

**Privacy & Use of Your Information**

We will keep your information private as required by law. Everything you enter in this application will be kept confidential and will be used to administer benefits only.

As part of the application process, we may need to retrieve information about you from third party electronic data sources. We will use the information provided by you and the electronic data sources to check your eligibility for benefits only.

- For more information on the security and confidentiality of this website, please read the [Privacy Policy](#).
- For more information on the privacy of protected health information, please read the [HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices](#).
- For more information on data we receive and what you're required to provide and report, please read the [Rights and Responsibilities](#). You may print a copy of your Rights and Responsibilities at the end of your application.

What information do I need to complete this application?

**NEXT**

Click on Next

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The next screen will layout who you are applying for options and if you have had an account prior you maybe able to still use that one.

A screenshot of a web browser showing the COMPASS application setup page. The browser has multiple tabs open, including 'Community', 'Feb 7-Feb', 'CIW Train', 'Community', 'CIW Cost', 'VetoViolen', 'Cumul', and 'COMPASS'. The address bar shows 'compass.state.pa.us/Compass.Web/AFS/GettingStarted/Setup?NavAct=Next&NavigatorID=d3de09f8-e4ce-4d85-a8ad-e85fa92940ca'. The page title is 'Please choose one of the following'. There are three radio button options: 1. 'I am applying for myself, for a family member, for someone in my household, and/or for a non-family member.' (selected), 2. 'I am enrolled with DHS as a MA or non-MA provider and I am applying on behalf of a client (I can provide a valid MA or non-MA provider number).', and 3. 'I am a community based organization, applying on behalf of a client (I do not have a valid MA or non-MA provider number)'. At the bottom, there is a question 'Do you have an existing My COMPASS Account?' with 'Yes' and 'No' radio buttons.

Just keep following the steps on each page till your application is done and finished their area options you can save it and pick up where you left off from. Once application is completed and hit submit, then you would be notified the way you chose how to through the application.

## FOOD PANTRY

Are you in need of food and do not have any money or out of benefits? Food Pantries can help you feed you and your family. Food Pantries are all over the county, here is a way to find them <https://nwpafoodbank.org/need-help/find-a-food-pantry/>

A screenshot of the NWPA Food Bank website's 'Find a Food Pantry' page. The page has a header with navigation links. The main content area is titled 'FIND A FOOD PANTRY' and includes a paragraph about the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania. Below this is a section 'Use the Agency Locator' which explains that the bank supplies grocery products to member agencies. A green link states: 'To find an agency near you, simply enter your address and the type of agency you're looking here »'. There is also a 'Food Line' section mentioning a phone number (814-459-3663) and a 'More Information' link. On the right side, there is a vertical orange sidebar with the heading 'NEED HELP?' and four buttons: 'SNAP ASSISTANCE', 'AGENCY LOCATOR', 'NEED HELP?', and 'FIND A FOOD PANTRY'. At the bottom right, there is a green circular chat icon.

Click on green link to take you to next page.

<https://nwpafoodbank.org/need-help/agency-locator/>

Once you put address in and scroll down it will bring a map with information on pantries.

A screenshot of the NWPA Food Bank website's 'Agency Locator' page. The page has a header with navigation links. The main content area has a search form with an 'ADDRESS' field (placeholder: 'Enter a location'), a 'CATEGORY' dropdown menu (set to 'Food Distribution'), and a 'SEARCH' button. Below the search form is a map showing the location of a food pantry. A pop-up window on the map displays information for 'MOBILE FOOD PANTRY - FEDERATED CHURCH E SPRINGFIELD'. To the right of the map, there is a detailed listing for 'CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD-FP' at 42 Church Street, Girard, PA 16417. The listing includes the hours of operation (Thursday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM) and notes that it is a mobile food pantry that operates on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month.