New Jersey SHARES SHARES CONNECTS

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AUGUST 2022



Special Enrollment Period (SEP) Overview



The Open Enrollment period happens once a year, from November 1 to January 31. This is normally the only time you can enroll in coverage. However, if you have a qualifying life event, you may be able to receive coverage through GetCoveredNJ.

Although the Open Enrollment period has ended, you can still receive coverage through the Special Enrollment period if you have:

• Had a Baby • Lost a Job • Gotten married • Had a change in income

Not sure if you qualify? NJ SHARES has you covered — at no cost to you! Contact us at www. NJSHARES.org or (866) 657-4273.

Fill out the contact form here and an NJ SHARES representative (866-657-4273) can call to help guide you through the process to get health insurance coverage.

• What does not count as a qualifying life event for a Special Enrollment Period

- ✓ Voluntarily dropping other health coverage
- ✓ Loss of eligibility for coverage when the person was not enrolled in it (i.e. lost job, but was not in the employer health plan)
- ✓ Being determined newly eligible for financial help when the person was previously uninsured
- ✓ Being terminated from other coverage for non-payment or fraud
- ✓ Divorce or death of a family member that does not result in a loss of coverage

NJ SHARES Smart Utility Assistance Grant

Energy Up to \$500 for heating source (natural gas including cooking gas and electric heat) and can be up to \$500 for electric service. Helping income qualified households who are in a temporary financial crises and either do not qualify for federal or state utility assistance programs or have received benefits from all federal and state utility assistance programs and are still in need of electric and/or gas payment assistance.

Just a reminder, individuals will have to apply for LIHEAP, USF and/or PAGE prior to submission with NJ SHARES and either have a rejection letter or have received assistance but still have an arrearage.

Support NJ SHARES today, contact development@njshares.org to learn about our upcoming events and other sponsorship opportunities.

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The Affordable Connectivity Program

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) was created by Congress and implemented by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to assist eligible households to pay for internet services. The ACP will provide assistance to customers needing to connect to jobs, healthcare, and virtual classrooms.

Ways in which households can qualify for ACP:

- Household income
- · Participation in certain government assistance programs
- Participation in Lifeline

Income

You are eligible for the ACP if your income is 200% or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines . The guideline is based on your household size and state.

Participation in certain government assistance programs

You are eligible for the ACP if you (or someone in your household) participate in one of these programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- · Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, including at U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Eligibility Provision schools
- · Received a Federal Pell Grant in the current award year

Qualify Through Your Child or Dependent

Any member of your household can make your household eligible if they participate in one of the programs above. For example, if your child or dependent participates in the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or is enrolled in a USDA Community Eligibility Provision school, your household qualifies for the ACP benefit.

To learn more or enroll in ACP, visit www.affordableconnectivity.gov





SHARES CONNECTS

AUGUST 2022

NJ SHARES Upcoming Events

Visit the NJ SHARES website for more information on upcoming events where our team will be available to meet with residents.

www.njshares.org



Over 100,000 NJ residents visited the Monmouth County Fair this summer and NJ SHARES was available for the entire event.



Afternoon at the mobile food bank.



Visit from Monmouth County Sheriff Shaun Golden.







NJ SHARES team at the Camden Peace Games.



Summer festival.