

South End NRZ Zoom Minutes

May 14th, 2024

Draft

Present: **9 Participants**

Meeting commenced at 6:30 pm

Vicki Hackett Bureau Chief-Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy in conjunction with The Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) provided a presentation about energy and energy guidelines for getting assistance.

https://1drv.ms/p/s!AvHz4iVB_T_4gTo3ebtL4I2TSrW0

Electric Bill Discount

Eversource.com

An electric bill discount is available to you if you have a financial hardship status on your electric account. Based on your household income or receipt of a public assistance benefit, you may be eligible for a 10% or 50% discount off your electric bill per month. For example, if you have a \$100 monthly bill, it would be \$10 less if you receive a 10% discount or \$50 less if you receive the 50% discount.

Your discount will depend on your annual household income for all adults over 18 or receipt of a public assistance benefit for at least one household member. We encourage you to see if you qualify for the 50% discount.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

You must apply for or verify the financial hardship status on your electric account. This will prevent service shut-off and ensure that you get a discount. This verification is required annually.

To qualify for the 10% Discount Rate, you must

- Verify your financial hardship status, and
- Verify that your annual household income for all adults over 18 is at or below 60% of the State Median Income or at least one person in your household must show receipt of a public assistance benefit (see public assistance benefit qualifiers for 10% discount).

2023 - 2024 FEDERAL INCOME GUIDELINES

How much money can you make to be at or below 60% of the state median?

FAMILY SIZE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
INCOME LEVEL UP TO	\$41,553	\$54,338	\$67,124	\$79,910	\$92,695	\$105,481	\$107,878	\$110,275

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Public Assistance Benefit Qualifiers for 10% Discount:

- Medicaid or HUSKY Access Health, HUSKY B
- State HUSKY B
- Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)
- Section 8 Housing, Rental Assistance Program

To qualify for the 50% Discount Rate, you must

- Verify your financial hardship status, and

Medicare Savings Program (MSP)

- Additional Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (ALMB)

- Special Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB)

- Verify that your annual household income for all adults over 18 is at or below 160% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or at least one person in your household must show receipt of a public assistance benefit (see public assistance benefit qualifiers for 50% discount).

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2023-2024 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES (FPG) How much can you make to be at or below 160% of the FPG?

FAMILY SIZE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
INCOME LEVEL UP TO	\$23,328	\$31,552	\$39,776	\$48,000	\$56,224	\$64,448	\$72,672	\$80,896

Public Assistance Benefit Qualifiers for 50% Discount:

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)/Temporary Family Assistance (TFA)
- State Administered General Assistance (SAGA)
- Department of Social Services State Cash

Assistance, State Supplement

- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

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Medicaid or Access Health; HUSKY A, C, D or State HUSKY A

Refugee Cash Assistance and Refugee Medical Assistance

Connecticut free or reduced lunch program

HOW TO VERIFY YOUR FINANCIAL HARDSHIP STATUS:

Provide Proof of Income If You Don't Receive a Public Assistance Benefit:

The following income verification documents for household members over 18 are accepted:

- Unemployment benefit letter or most recent bank statement
- Employment (last four weekly pay stubs, last two bi-weekly paystubs, last monthly paystub)
- Self-employment (most recent year 1099 Tax Form)

Submit Your Proof of Benefits or Income:

- Social Security benefit letter
- Child support, pension, retirement, or other benefit letter or most recent bank statement showing direct deposit

You must confirm receipt of a public assistance benefit for at least one person in your household or proof of income for all adults over 18 years. You may submit your documents securely in several ways:

- Contact your local Community Action Agency. Visit 211ct.org or call 211. Your local agency can also help you apply for other assistance, including the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP).
- Log on to your account on eversource.com and select Upload Documents from the menu on the bottom of the page to securely submit your documents.

We're Here to Help

- Send them via U.S.P.S. mail at Eversource,
Attn: Credit Dept.,
P.O. Box 270,

Hartford, CT 06141.

- Submit your documents via fax at 866-438-6476.

Visit eversource.com/billhelp for more information on the electric discount and to see if you qualify.

Head Start

- Medicare Savings Programs (MSP)
- Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program (QMB)

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Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm