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PA. AGENCIES

# Water aid program opens

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## for low-income residents

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**By Jan Murphy**  
*pennlive.com*

Low-income Pennsylvanians who are in danger of having their water or wastewater services terminated now have a place to turn for assistance.

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and Public Utility Commission on Monday announced the launch of the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program to help qualified individuals maintain drink-

ing and wastewater services. Applications for this program open today.

"Access to clean drinking water and wastewater services that keep our homes safe are important to our daily lives and a family's ongoing health and well-being," said Human Services Acting Secretary Meg Snead. "I encourage all Pennsylvanians who are at risk of losing these essential services to apply as soon as possible when the water-assistance program opens

on Jan. 4."

Assistance is available for income-eligible families who have past-due water bills, saw their service terminated, or received a notice indicating that their service will be terminated in the next 60 days. Households can receive grants from this program for drinking-water service and wastewater service. Grants would be issued directly to water-service providers.

Applications require the names, Social Security numbers,

and dates of birth for all people in their household; proof of income for all household members; and a recent water bill. Individuals are eligible for this program even if they are receiving utility assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program or the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

Households, with one person are allowed a maximum income of \$19,320 to qualify. Households with two people can have incomes of up to \$26,130; \$32,940

for three people; \$39,750 for four people; \$46,560 for five people and \$53,370 for six people.

For more information about this program, visit [www.dhs.pa.gov/waterhelp](http://www.dhs.pa.gov/waterhelp). Applications for this and other public assistance programs can be submitted online at [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us), or paper applications are available upon request at 877-395-8930. Assistance also can be provided through Department of Human Services' County Assistance Offices.