

Program overview

Water assistance programs provide bill payment for eligible low-income residents who have financial burden, water and/or wastewater arrears and disconnects, and in some cases, minor plumbing repairs.

Households can receive up to \$3,000 in bill assistance per fiscal year per program, and up to \$9,000 in metered plumbing repairs total per address through the Local Water Utility Affordability Program.

Funding is administered through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to Community Action Agencies and one nonprofit/non-CAA as a result of a competitive bid process completed for each program.

Assistance to households may include:

- Restoring residential water and/or wastewater service.
- Paying down water bills in arrears.
- Assistance to help prevent arrears.
- Supporting reasonable water and/or wastewater affordability plans based on household’s ability to pay.
- Plumbing repairs for metered services only (funding cannot be used for well and septic repair or replacement) – Local Water Utility Affordability funding only.

Eligibility:

Qualified water bill account holders must:

- Be a residential account connected to metered water or wastewater services.
- Be under 200% Federal Poverty Level and/or actively receiving Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (FAP/SNAP), State Emergency Relief (SER), Social Security Supplemental Income (SSI) or Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

More Information:

For up-to-date information on applying for the program and to view the number of households served by city and county, please visit [Water Assistance Program](#).

Local Water Utility Affordability Quick Facts

2023-PA-0119.pdf ; Section 556	\$35,000,000
Grant Period:	April 1, 2024 – Sept. 30, 2026
Households Served through June 15, 2025:	21,555
Total Spent through June 15, 2025:	\$20,718,345.37

Water Affordability Program Quick Facts

2023-HCB-4016.pdf ; Section 501	\$25,000,000
2024-PA-0121.pdf ; Section 1965	\$10,000,000
FY26 Proposed; Sec. 8-1965	\$6,000,000
Grant Period (Collectively):	Oct. 1, 2023 – Sept. 30, 2030
Households Served through June 15, 2025:	21,890
Total Spent through June 15, 2025:	\$16,747,011