

Discounts & Tax Breaks for Older Person Households

Many qualifying older people are not aware of discounts and tax breaks available to help them live in their homes. Some of these programs have specific age, income, and/or asset eligibility requirements. Call **empowerline** for additional details.

Energy Assistance

What is LIHEAP? The **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program** provides help with home energy bills. Through the regular assistance program, a one-time payment ranging from \$310 - \$350 is made directly to the home energy supplier. The time period for the application is November – March or until all funds are exhausted.

Who Qualifies? A person's household income cannot exceed 60% of the state median income and the individual must be named on the heating bill.

Where Does One Apply? Apply at the local Community Action Agency (CAA). The CAAs that serve the Atlanta Region are:

Cherokee – North Georgia Community Action	770-345-6531
Clayton, Fayette, Henry – Clayton County Community Services Authority	404-363-0575
Cobb, Douglas – Tallatoona Community Action Partnership	770-817-4666
DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale – Partnership for Community Action	404-537-4300
Fulton – Fulton Atlanta Community Action.	404-320-0166

Telephone Discount Programs - Lifeline

What is Lifeline? Lifeline provides low-income households with a discount on their local monthly telephone bill.

Who Qualifies? Households that receive Atlanta Gas Light or electric senior citizen discount, SSI, Medicaid, Food Stamps, or individuals who live in public housing or have an income at or below 135% of the poverty guidelines.

Where Does One Apply? Visit www.lifelinesupport.org, AT&T at 855-301-0355 or contact your local telephone service provider at the phone number on your monthly bill.

Utility Discounts for Seniors

What are Utility Discounts? Utility discounts provide a monthly credit or discount on electric and natural gas costs. Georgia Power offers up to a \$24.00 per month credit. The Natural Gas Discount is up to \$14.00 per month credit. Other local providers of electricity may offer discounts. Call the telephone number on your bill for details on what your provider offers.

Who Qualifies? Persons age 65 and older who meet the set annual household income amount can apply for the Natural Gas Discount and the Georgia Power Discount Program.

Where Does One Apply? Apply to your local utility company or call the Public Service Commission at 404-656-4501. To apply for the Natural Gas Discount, call your provider or call Atlanta Gas Light at 770-994-1946. Georgia Power customers call 1-888-660-5890. Additional utility companies that may offer discounts and serve the Atlanta region are:

Suwanee EMC	770-887-2363	Cobb Energy	770-429-2100
Amicalola Electric	706-253-5200	Central GA EMC.	770-775-7857
Coweta Fayette EMC.	770-502-0226	Acworth Power	770-917-8903x
Marietta Power.	770-794-5150	Snapping Shoals EMC	770-786-3484
Walton EMC.	770-267-2505	Jackson EMC	770-963-6166

Water Bill Discounts

What are Water Bill Discounts? Some cities or counties offer a monthly credit, accommodation, or discount on water bills.

Who Qualifies? Individuals meeting age and income criteria and have the water bill in their name.

Where Does One Apply? If you live in one of the following counties or cities, contact the provider for details on the application process and required documentation:

Clayton County Water Authority	770-961-2130
City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management.	404-658-6500
<i>(MUST be City of Atlanta water and sewer customer in either Fulton or DeKalb counties)</i>	
Douglasville-Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority	770-920-3823
Cobb County Water System	770-419-6200

Property Tax Exemption Programs

What are Property Tax Exemption Programs? Property tax exemption programs provide a significant reduction on taxes to homeowners. In addition to the state of Georgia Homestead Tax Relief Grant, local counties may offer specific programs.

Who Qualifies? Local property owners

Where Does One Apply? Contact your local county Tax Commission's/Assessor's Office in the Atlanta region at:

Cherokee	678-493-6120	Clayton	770-477-3311
Cobb	770-528-8600	DeKalb	404-298-4000
Douglas	770-920-7272	Fayette	770-461-3652
Fulton	404-612-6440	Gwinnett	770-822-8800
Henry	770-288-8180	Rockdale	770-278-7676

Low Cost Internet for Households Receiving SNAP Benefits

What is the Low Cost Internet Access Program? The low cost Access program (\$5-\$10 a month) is sponsored by AT&T and provides three access speeds for wireline home internet service based on zip code availability in the AT&T 21-state program service area.

Who Qualifies? Qualifying households must have at least one resident who participates in the U.S. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and whose address is in the AT&T service area for the program.

Where Does One Apply? Call 855-220-5211 for details.

Empowerline: Your source for information about services for older persons, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers.

Call empowerline at **(404) 463-3333** whenever you need help finding services for older persons, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers in metro Atlanta, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or visit www.empowerline.org.

Empowerline is a program of the Atlanta Regional Commission, the designated Area Agency on Aging for the 10-county Atlanta region.

Please note that any and all information provided about service providers is intended for referral purposes only. Empowerline of the Atlanta Regional Commission does not license service providers nor guarantee the quality of service they will provide. Therefore, the staff does not endorse or recommend any provider versus another. The decision to use any service provider is the responsibility of the person needing the service or the individual that is authorized to make decisions on their behalf.

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