

Do I qualify for a utility or telephone discount?

If you are receiving Massachusetts Chapter 115 benefits, or a VA DIC/disability compensation, you are probably eligible! Utility and telephone discounts are lower rates charged to low-income customers for gas, electricity and telephone services. Massachusetts Law requires regulated gas and electric utility companies to offer discounted rates to customers who receive public assistance benefits and meet income limits. Customers with low-income rates get the same level of service as customers paying the standard rate.

Most utility discount programs use a gross annual income limit equal to 60% of the state median income (SMI), the income limits used by the LIHEAP fuel assistance program. Some utility companies may still use 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). Check with your utility company for their income eligibility rules.