

EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM

c/o United Way of Long Island
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(631) 940-3700

LONG ISLAND LOCAL BOARD
John Chicherio, Co-Chairperson
Dennis Nowak, Co-Chairperson

Excerpts from Federal Guidelines - Phase 33 (2016-17)

The Federal Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) was created to help people with **economic** emergencies in the areas of supplemental feeding, sheltering and rent/mortgage and utility assistance efforts only. EFSP is governed by a National Board that selects jurisdictions for funding annually. Distributing agencies process applications for assistance until funds are exhausted or the federal fiscal year ends. The start and end dates of the program vary each year. An individual/family in need of assistance may apply for a grant or request food at an EFSP distributing agency (see reverse). Applications must be made to agencies located in the client's county of residence. Submission of an application does not guarantee approval.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) provides assistance for food, fuel or shelter to applicants in **EMERGENCY SITUATIONS** only.
- Distributing agencies utilize federal EFSP guidelines to evaluate client eligibility and evaluate a prospective client's emergency need based on information provided by the client. If the client does not provide required documentation or if an agency encounters a situation where information has not been clarified to the agency's satisfaction, the client will be ineligible for EFSP assistance. An application does not guarantee approval.
- The program provides one-time assistance. NO REPEAT clients from the prior EFSP year in rent/mortgage or utility categories, unless there are unusual or extenuating circumstances (at the discretion of the distributing agency).
- All expenditures for eligible assistance must be made to vendors only. Payments to clients are not allowed.

Eligible Program Costs: FOOD

- Food pantry groceries or gift certificates for food - participating agencies choose their method of distribution.

Eligible Program Costs: UTILITY

- Any heat or utility including fuel, gas, electric or water.
- Client must be in arrears (overdue/termination notice, empty fuel tank) or payment due within 10 days. An acceptable explanation for arrears or inability to pay for fuel/utility must be provided.
- All other resources have been exhausted – eligible clients must apply for emergency assistance at the Dept. of Social Services or HEAP prior to applying for EFSP.
- Utility bill must be in applicant's name.
- Payment is limited to one month's overdue utility cost or one-time delivery.
- Each utility (electric, water, fuel) can be paid only once in each EFSP Phase for any client.
- Payment must guarantee an additional 30 day's service: client must show an ability to continue future payments, produce the balance of arrears, or establish a re-payment agreement with the vendor.

Eligible Program Costs: RENT/MORTGAGE

- One month's rent or mortgage (see note).
- Client is in arrears or payment due within 10 days. An acceptable explanation for the arrears/eviction must be provided.
- All other resources have been exhausted – eligible clients must apply for emergency assistance at Dept. Social Services prior to applying for EFSP.
- Client must be a resident of the home/apartment and responsible for the rent/mortgage on the residence.
- Payment is limited to one month's rent/mortgage for the applicant household.
- Payment must guarantee an additional 30 day's service: client must show an ability to continue future payments, produce the balance of arrears if more than 1 month is owed and have a positive household cash flow.
- Landlords must show proof he/she is the owner of the home/apartment and submit a notarized form describing the arrears including the monthly rent, total amount due and the landlord's social security number. Mortgage arrears statements must include the monthly mortgage amount and total amount due with any escrow, late fees or attorney fees separated out.
- First month's rent to assist eligible clients (1) moving from temporary shelter to a permanent living arrangement or (2) where one month's payment to current landlord will not forestall the eviction process. New landlord must provide lease or letter stating rental amount. (*NOTE: security and broker fees are ineligible costs*)

NOTE: Per the federal guidelines, late fees for rent/mortgage/utility assistance, deposits, brokers' fees or rental security to landlords, direct payments to clients, moving truck charges, storage fees, income/property or other taxes and funds for prescriptions/medical supplies, clothing, telephone bills or furniture are among items ineligible for funding under EFSP.

Phase 33 LONG ISLAND DISTRIBUTING AGENCIES

Applications must be made to agencies in the client's county of residence. Distributing agencies will process applications until funds are exhausted or the fiscal year ends.

EMERGENCY FOOD

(via pantries or church outreaches)

Nassau Residency

Catholic Charities (for referral to local parish)	516-733-7045
Economic Opportunity Commission	516-292-9710
LI Council of Churches	516-565-0390
Society St. Vincent de Paul	516-822-3132

Suffolk Residency

Catholic Charities (referral to local parish)	516-733-7045
Community Action of Southold Town	631-477-1717
Family Service League	631-427-3700
Federation of Organizations	631-447-6460
Gerald Ryan Outreach Ctr.	631-643-7591
LI Council of Churches	631-727-2210
Salvation Army	631-368-1170

EMERGENCY RENT/MORTGAGE

Nassau Residency

Catholic Charities (for referral to local parish)	516-733-7045
Economic Opportunity Commission	516-292-9710
LI Council of Churches	516-565-0390
Society St. Vincent de Paul	516-822-3132

Suffolk Residency

Catholic Charities (referral to local parish)	516-733-7045
Gerald Ryan Outreach Ctr.	631-643-7591
LI Council of Churches	631-727-2210
Salvation Army	631-368-1170
Society St. Vincent de Paul	516-822-3132

EMERGENCY UTILITY

Nassau Residency

Economic Opportunity Commission	516-292-9710
LI Council of Churches	516-565-0390

Suffolk Residency

(none)

EMERGENCY SHELTERS/MASS FEEDING FOR THE HOMELESS/SOUP KITCHENS

(NOTE: Placements into emergency shelters must be made through county Departments of Social Service)

Nassau Residency

Bethany House	516-868-6866
The INN (Nassau soup kitchen locations)	516-486-8506
Long Island Cares (transportation)	631-582-3663

Suffolk Residency

The INN (Suffolk soup kitchen locations)	516-486-8506
Long Island Cares (transportation)	631-582-3663
The Retreat	631-329-4398

NOTE: Program period ends on August 31, 2017. Agencies may exhaust their funds for the 2016-17 fiscal year at any time and close earlier.