

NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND
DISABILITY ASSISTANCE



*OTDA
Programs and Services*

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Our Mission

- To enhance the economic security of low-income working families
- To assist work-capable public assistance recipients in achieving entry into the workforce
- To assist individuals with priority needs other than work-readiness in accessing appropriate benefits and services
- To enhance child well-being and reduce child poverty

Our Purpose

To oversee a range of the State's most important programs for its low-income residents, with a focus on employment wherever possible, and to provide leadership, guidance and support to local departments of social services in the administration of those programs.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) is responsible for supervising programs that enhance the economic security of low-income families and individuals.

OTDA's functions include:

- Providing temporary cash assistance;
- Helping temporary assistance recipients enter employment, and other low-income workers improve job skills;
- Providing assistance in paying for food;
- Providing residential energy assistance;
- Overseeing New York State's child support enforcement program;
- Determining eligibility for certain disability benefits;
- Supervising homeless housing and services programs; and
- Providing assistance to certain immigrant populations.

ONLINE RESOURCES

To support our efforts to help low-income working families in New York, OTDA has created a single online tool, ***myBenefits.ny.gov***, where anyone can quickly and confidentially check their eligibility for a range of benefits and apply online for food stamps.

For more information visit ***otda.ny.gov*** and click on ***Resources for Working Families.***

otda.ny.gov

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE

OTDA provides temporary financial assistance to eligible families and individuals. If you are having trouble making ends meet, or in finding employment, OTDA may be able to help you.

OTDA's temporary assistance programs include the following:

- The **Family Assistance** program provides cash benefits to eligible families with children.
- The **Safety Net Assistance** program provides cash benefits to eligible individuals, couples, and families with children who are not eligible for Family Assistance.
- The **Employment Services** program helps individuals receive work-related training and skills development, and assists them with job placement.
- The **Emergency Assistance** program provides benefits to eligible adults, and families with children in crisis situations. Emergency Assistance can help with food, utilities, shelter, and temporary housing costs.



For information on where to apply, call 1-800-342-3009,
if you live outside New York City.
If you live in New York City, call 1-877-472-8411.

FOOD STAMPS

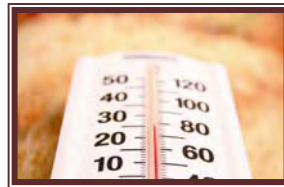


The Food Stamp Program helps eligible low-income individuals and working families increase their food purchasing power and improve their diets. Eligibility and benefit levels are based on household size, income, certain expenses and other factors. Benefits are provided through an electronic benefit card that can be used at authorized food retailers. Food Stamp recipients can also receive free nutrition education.

For information on where to apply, call 1-800-342-3009.

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) assists low-income New Yorkers in paying energy bills. HEAP also provides assistance with furnace repair and/or replacement and home weatherization. Eligibility and benefit levels are based on income, amount spent on heating costs, housing and other factors.



For information on where to apply, call 1-800-342-3009.

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

The child support program assists custodial parents in obtaining court orders to obtain financial and medical support for their children from the noncustodial parent. Child support also helps locate parents, establish paternity, and when necessary, take enforcement actions to collect past-due child support.



For more information or to apply for assistance with child support, call 1-888-208-4485 (TTY 1-866-875-9975) or visit newyorkchildsupport.com

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE AND SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

OTDA is responsible for determining certain aspects of eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. Both programs are administered by the Social Security Administration and only individuals who have a disability and meet medical criteria may qualify for benefits under either program.



To apply for Social Security Disability Insurance or SSI benefits, call 1-800-772-1213.

HOMELESS HOUSING AND SERVICES

OTDA administers an array of programs to address problems related to homelessness in New York. Several of the programs provide essential services to homeless, at risk and low-income persons to stabilize their housing situation and increase levels of self-sufficiency.



If you are homeless and need assistance please contact your local social services office.

REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE



OTDA provides services and assistance to certain immigrant populations, including refugees, asylees, victims of human trafficking, and other immigrants. The program assists refugees and immigrants in achieving economic and social self-sufficiency.

To obtain assistance with citizenship matters, call 1-800-566-7636.
To obtain any of the other services or assistance described above, call 1-518-402-3096.

For More Information
Visit
otda.ny.gov
and click on
"Resources for Working Families"



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Pub-4740 (Rev. 12/08)