



# CITY OF TOPEKA

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## For Immediate Release

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## City of Topeka utilities customers can apply for assistance through new DCF program

TOPEKA, Kan. – City of Topeka utilities customers may be able to receive help paying their water bills thanks to a new Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) program.

The Emergency Water Assistance Program (EWAP) is a federally funded program that is being administered for Kansas residents by DCF. The program's sole focus is to restore or prevent disconnection of water to Kansas households.

The program is authorized by the American Rescue Plan of 2021 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. Kansas was awarded \$9 million to pay past due and/or disconnected drinking water and/or wastewater bills for Kansas households who meet certain criteria. Once the funding is exhausted, the program will end.

The following criteria must be met to qualify for the EWAP program:

- Currently disconnected from drinking water and/or wastewater services or have received a disconnection notice.
- At least one adult household member must be responsible for drinking water and/or wastewater costs incurred at the primary residence payable to either the landlord or to the water utility vendor.
- At least one household member must be a US citizen or meet the lawful residency requirements.
- Combined gross income equal to or less than 150% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

City of Topeka residents may apply for this one-time benefit by visiting [www.dcf.ks.gov/EWAP](http://www.dcf.ks.gov/EWAP). Applications are available on the website in both English and Spanish.