

FACT SHEET 6 - WHAT IS USPP?

1. USPP is the Utility Service Protection Program.
2. USPP is a utility program required by the Public Service Commission.
3. USPP is available to MEAP participants (but not to EUSP-only participants).
4. USPP offers the following benefits:
 - Even monthly payments (budget billing);
 - See **Fact Sheet 3 on Even Monthly Payment Plans**.
 - **No reconnection fee or security deposit for off-service applicants**
 - More specific payment arrangement requirements;
 - 1st time applicants – Must be reconnected if arrears are reduced to \$400.
 - Current participants who are off-service must pay an amount that reduces arrears to \$400 or the total outstanding monthly payments, whichever is greater.
 - 1st time applicants can apply MEAP benefits to past arrears.
 - Utilities often ask for and receive waivers so they can apply MEAP benefits to past arrears for continuing USPP customers
 - **BGE CAMP**: A BGE USPP customer can get an extra monthly credit for each month the BGE bill is paid up to date and on time
 - **WGL RES**: A WGL USPP customer can get an extra monthly credit for each month the WGL bill is paid up to date and on time
5. **Reminder: Bill Extender Plan**
 - **The Bill Extender Plan** allows you to get a bill payment date that works with your check receipt date
 - All utility customers on Social Security or other government-provided assistance programs should participate in the utility's Bill Extender Plan to avoid late fees.