Emergency Assistance

What is Emergency Assistance?
Emergency Assistance is a program designed to help children and needy Delaware residents experiencing an emergency (some examples of emergencies include eviction, financial crisis, fire, and utilities shut-offs). It is intended to pay to get rid of or improve the emergency condition.

Who may be eligible?
Delaware residents who:
1) are receiving or eligible for:
   a) Cash assistance (TANF, GA, SSI);
   b) Certain types of Medicaid (such as Transitional, Poverty-related Pregnant Women, Infants, and Children Medicaid)

OR, a family with:
2) Children at risk of removal or children that were already removed because of (actual or suspected) abuse or neglect; or
3) Children who have been removed, or are at risk of removal, from the community

And who meet a few additional qualifications.

What are some things emergency assistance can cover?
- Shelter
- Rent
- Mortgage assistance
- Moving expenses
- Transportation
- Food
- Clothing
- Fuel & utilities
- Household appliances & furniture
- Medical needs

How to apply
Call or visit your local State Service Center or call 302-255-9675 or the Delaware Helpline at 1-800-464-HELP (4357)

Payment restrictions
The maximum payments are as follows: $1200 for emergency shelter; $450 for mortgage or rent assistance; $650 to help secure permanent shelter, maintain existing home, or transition from temporary emergency shelter to permanent shelter; and $200 for other costs related to self-sufficiency during a 30 day period.

Recipients can only obtain emergency assistance once a year!

This handout is not a substitute for legal advice and is meant for informational purposes only. Exclusions and exceptions may apply to the information presented above. Emergency assistance is decided on a case by case basis.

For more information or assistance please contact Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. at 100 W. 10th Street, Ste. 801, Wilmington, DE 19801, or (302) 575-0660