How to share your information:
When filling out your LIHEAP application, you'll come across a checkbox with the following statement:

> ___I allow DHS to share my income and household information with my utilities to help enroll me in a utility assistance program. I understand that my utility may need to contact me for additional information before I am enrolled in a utility assistance program.

You have the choice to either check the box or leave the box unchecked.

Why would you want to share your data with public utilities?
Sharing your LIHEAP data with public utilities can help qualify you for additional discounts through the low-income assistance programs offered by public utilities. This option could help you get enrolled in your utility's low-income assistance program faster and easier. It also helps ensure that you do not need to provide the same information multiple times.

Allowing LIHEAP to share this data directly with your public utility could get you enrolled in public utility assistance programs that can save you a significant amount of money.

What information is being shared?
The information that is being shared with public utilities includes:

- Name of utility account holder and all household members
- Service address
- Phone number
- Email address
- Income (amount and source) for all household members
- Age/Date of Birth for all household members

How will my data be used?
Public utilities will use your data to make it easier to verify your income and household information so you can enroll in their low-income programs, such as a customer assistance program, a utility-run weatherization program, or a hardship fund. They may also use your data to contact you about these programs.

Is my data safe?
Yes, your privacy matters. LIHEAP and public utilities are required to protect the confidentiality of your data. Your data will only be used for the specific purposes of outreach and/or determining eligibility for low-income programs provided by your public utility and will not be sold to third parties or used for any other purpose.

Can I opt out of data sharing?
Yes. You can opt out of data sharing by leaving the checkbox unchecked on the LIHEAP application. If you opt out of data sharing, it will not impact your LIHEAP application in any way. However, it may take longer to apply or recertify for other types of public utility assistance, such as your utility's customer assistance program.

You can withdraw your consent to data share at any time. You have the right to access and correct your data.

If you have any questions about LIHEAP data sharing, you can contact your local county assistance office, public utility, or the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate.