

# OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

## **DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR HOME ENERGY BILLS?**

- Assistance is available for eligible households to help pay a portion of your home energy costs! Depending on the season, **you can get assistance with your electric, natural gas, and deliverable fuel such as heating oil, propane, or wood bills. You may also get assistance with cooling costs.** The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 made \$4.5 billion available for home energy assistance!
- If you are experiencing challenges paying your energy bills, reach out to a local energy assistance provider. To get the contact information for your local agency, you may contact the National Energy Assistance Referral (NEAR) Hotline at (866) 674-6327 or by email at [energyassistance@ncat.org](mailto:energyassistance@ncat.org). This hotline provides contact information based on your zip code. You can also look up the contact information for your local agency [here](#).
- You can also contact the [state or territory office](#) responsible for managing the home energy assistance program in your area.
- If you live in a Native American tribal area, please contact your [tribal office](#).

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families' Office of Community Services provides [Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program](#) (LIHEAP) funding to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, all five U.S. territories, and approximately 150 Native American tribes and tribal governments. Each year, approximately 5 million households receive this assistance - many of whom are working families or individuals who have recently become unemployed and have difficulty paying their home energy bills. In 2021, LIHEAP received over \$8 billion from Congress to help pay for home energy bills.

As a federal block grant, LIHEAP administration is different in each state. Depending on where you live, the program can serve households with incomes up to 60% of the [state median](#). By reaching out to your local agency or tribal LIHEAP office, you will learn about the specific process for applying for assistance in your area, including income eligibility, application deadlines, and the type of home energy assistance available to you. Many locations offer heating, cooling, and crisis assistance which can be available to households who have received a disconnection notice or currently are without a service. Remember, LIHEAP can help pay for your home energy bills!

Some states offer online applications and/or applications taken by phone. By contacting your local office, you will learn how to apply for LIHEAP and what documentation you will need. Once you have provided all of the information requested, your local office will move swiftly to determine if you are eligible based on your income and other factors.

Although LIHEAP is an excellent resource to pursue if you are income-eligible and in need of additional energy assistance, there are other resources available to you as well. Your local agency will be able to provide you with information on programs offered by a select number of energy vendors in your area (i.e. payment plans), and other community organizations that might provide energy assistance. You may also find resources available to you by dialing the United Way at 2-1-1, or by checking [www.benefits.gov](http://www.benefits.gov) for information on government benefit programs you might be eligible to receive.

**You don't have to endure the heat of the summer months alone. LIHEAP is available to help! Please visit the LIHEAP [website](#) to learn more about this critical program.**

For a list of local intake agencies in each county, see: [LIHEAP Local Providers](#)

[Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program](#)  
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