

FINANCING

LIHEAP is federally funded through the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Weatherization is federally funded by the US Department of Energy as well as LIHEAP funding.

Maine's transmission & distribution utilities fund the Low Income Assistance Plan (LIAP). The funding level is based upon the number of residential customers residing in individual utility service areas.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION

LIHEAP, Weatherization and LIAP are targeted to low and very low income Maine homeowners and renters. Persons interested in applying for these programs should apply at the nearest **Community Action Agency Office**.

CHOOSING A FUEL VENDOR

When applying for fuel assistance applicants may choose a contracted vendor of their choice. All vendors participating in the program must enter into a contract with MSHA. Fuel Assistance benefits can only be used for the fuel delivered to heat your home. At the time of application, applicants must identify what fuel source heats their home and vendors are only allowed to deliver that fuel source if it's being paid for with the fuel assistance benefit.

For information on other programs visit the "Bundlemeup" website at www.bundlemeup.org or call 1-866-HEAP-TIP.

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY ACTION PROGRAM, Aroostook County
(207) 768-3053 or 1-800-585-3053

COASTAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, Knox County
(207) 596-0361

COASTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP., Sagadahoc & Lincoln Counties
(207) 442-7963 or 1-800-221-2221

COMMUNITY CONCEPTS, INC., Androscoggin & Oxford Counties
South Paris (207) 743-7716
Auburn (207) 795-4065

KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, Kennebec & Somerset Counties
(207) 859-1500 or 1-800-542-8227

PENQUIS COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, Penobscot & Piscataquis Counties
LIHEAP – (207) 973-3630
HOUSING – (207) 973-3500

PEOPLE'S REGIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM, Cumberland County
HOUSING – (207) 842-2988
LIHEAP – (207) 874-1140 or 1-800-698-4969

WALDO COUNTY COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL ACTION, Waldo County
(207) 338-3025 or 1-800-498-3025

WASHINGTON-HANCOCK COMMUNITY AGENCY, Washington & Hancock Counties
HOUSING – (207) 546-7544
LIHEAP – (207) 667-3613 or 1-800-828-7544

WESTERN MAINE COMMUNITY ACTION, Franklin County
(207) 645-3764 or 1-800-645-9636

YORK COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION CORP, York County
(207) 324-5762

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Weatherization Program

The LIHEAP and/or Weatherization Programs may be able to help keep you and your family safe and healthy.



You or someone you know may be eligible for help with home heating, weatherization or repair/replacement of an inefficient heating system.



353 WATER STREET
AUGUSTA, ME 04330
(207) 626-4600 OR 800-452-4668
TTY 800-452-4603

www.mainehousing.org

www.bundlemeup.org

What is LIHEAP?

LIHEAP is a federally funded program to help low-income households pay their home energy bills.

Fuel Assistance Benefits:

LIHEAP may pay a portion of your home heating bills, taking into account your household's total gross income, household size, energy bills, geographic area, and fuel type (electricity, natural gas, heating oil, propane, wood).



Energy Crisis Assistance:

LIHEAP may provide emergency assistance in the form of payments to utility or fuel delivery companies if you have less than ¼ of a tank of fuel or are in danger of having utility services disconnected.

Low Income Assistance Plan (LIAP):

LIAP is available to low-income households who receive residential electric service and meet the eligibility criteria. The customer or a member of the customer's household must be eligible to receive a LIHEAP benefit and must not be receiving assistance for subsidized housing. Additional eligibility criteria and benefit amounts will vary depending on the program being offered by the customer's utility.



Weatherization and other energy-related home repairs:

LIHEAP and Weatherization services may also be provided which include such things as insulation, caulking, weather stripping, furnace repair or replacement, which help to make your home more comfortable, safe and healthy.

Who is eligible for LIHEAP & Weatherization?

LIHEAP is available to low-income households with incomes up to 170% of federal poverty guidelines. Additional eligibility criteria may be required. Specific information is available at your local Community Action Agency.

Commonly requested documentation (additional documentation may be required):

- ◇ Recent copies of your utility bills
- ◇ Proof of gross income for the last 3 or 12 months (i.e., wages, social security, unemployment, pension, disability, etc.)
- ◇ Proof of present address (e.g., rent receipt, lease or deed, property tax bill)
- ◇ Total number of members living in your household
- ◇ Names and Social Security numbers for all persons living in your household



Save Money With Energy Checklist

1. Properly maintain your heating system: have it cleaned annually, clean or replace furnace filters once a month during the heating season or as needed.
2. Check the manufacturer's label before insulating your water heater.
3. Clean warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed: make sure furniture, carpeting or drapes don't block them.
4. Washing and rinsing your clothes in cold water can save \$50 a year. Your laundry detergent, not the water temperature, cleans your clothes.
5. Reduce the thermostat setting when everyone is asleep or away from home. Consider installing a programmable thermostat.
6. Cover your pans when cooking to reduce cooking time and the amount of heat needed. A lower setting can save you \$15 a year.
7. Turn off the oven five minutes before you're done baking to take advantage of built up heat.
8. Your refrigerator will work better if you clean and dust the bottom and back once a year.
9. Seal off unused fireplaces.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

How long will it take to receive a benefit?

It generally takes 4-6 weeks to process your application for LIHEAP. An additional 2-3 weeks is needed to complete your LIAP application.

What if I am denied unfairly?

The reverse side of the denial form contains the information you will need to request a fair hearing. If you need further assistance you can call Maine State Housing Authority at 1-800-452-4668 or 626-4600.

If I am denied for LIHEAP can I reapply?

Yes. Contact the CAA for an appointment.

If my heat is included in my rent, am I still eligible to apply for LIHEAP?

Yes.

What services are available under the Weatherization Program?

- Save energy
- Make needed repairs
- Extend the life of the structure
- Increase comfort
- Ensure a healthy indoor environment
- Provide insulation
- Repair or replace heating systems
- Repair or replace inefficient refrigerators
- Provide a whole house energy audit