

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS APPLICATION 2008 - 2009

The Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) offers several programs to help low-income Ohioans pay their utility bills and improve the energy efficiency of their homes. With this form, you may apply for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Winter Crisis Program (WCP), Summer Crisis Program (SCP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) and Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP). For WCP and SCP, an appointment is required at a local provider agency.

ELIGIBILITY

HEAP is a federally funded program designed to assist eligible low-income Ohioans with their winter heating bills. Households may be eligible for assistance from HEAP, WCP or SCP if the household's income is at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines. Households may be eligible for assistance from PIPP or HWAP if the household's income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. Once your application has been processed, you will receive a notification letter telling you whether or not you are eligible for bill payment assistance. If you are eligible, the amount of your benefit will depend on Federal funding levels, how many people live with you, total household income and the primary fuel you use to heat your home. In most cases, benefits will be a credit applied to your energy bill by your utility company. This is a one-time benefit. If you are eligible for weatherization services, your application will be obtainable by the agency providing services in your area. The types of assistance you receive will be based on your home's energy efficiency. If you live in federally subsidized housing and have a utility bill in your name, you may be eligible for assistance.

Residents of any licensed medical facility (hospital, skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility) or publicly operated community residence (example: YMCA) are ineligible. Boarding/rooming houses, group homes or emergency shelters are ineligible for payment assistance, but may be eligible for weatherization services. All persons who share a common kitchen or bath are considered members of the same household and must apply on one application.

PERCENTAGE OF INCOME PAYMENT PLAN (PIPP)

PIPP is a special payment plan that requires eligible customers to pay a portion of their household income each month to maintain utility service. PIPP protects customers from disconnection of service, as long as they follow the program's rules about monthly payments. However, the customer remains responsible for any unpaid balances on their bills. All gas and electric companies regulated by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) must offer this plan to their customers. PIPP customers must pay 10% of their monthly income to the company that provides their primary heating source, year round. During the winter months, customers must pay 5% or 3%, depending on income, to the company that provides their secondary heating source. PIPP is not available to customers of rural electric co-ops, municipal utilities or users of delivered fuel. The utility bill must be in the name of the PIPP applicant.

HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HWAP)

HWAP is a federally funded, low-income residential energy efficiency program that reduces the energy use of qualified households throughout the state. HWAP services include attic, wall and basement insulation; blower door guided air leakage reduction; heating system repairs or replacements; electric base-load measures that address lighting and appliance efficiency and health and safety inspections and testing. Services are based on the structure and energy use of the home. HWAP is administered locally by community action, social service and local government agencies.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding Energy Assistance Programs:

energyhelp.ohio.gov or e-mail us at energyhelp@odod.state.oh.us
1-800-282-0880 or (614)644-6600 for Franklin County residents.

For the hearing impaired only:

1-800-686-1557 or (614)752-8808 for Franklin County residents.

INCOME DEFINITION

Household income is defined as the gross income of all household members, except wage or salary income earned by dependent minors under 18 years of age. Heads of household and spouses may never be considered as minors. Gross income includes, but is not limited to, wages (excluding documented health insurance premiums), interest, annuities, pensions, Social Security (excluding Medicare premiums), retirement, employment disability, public assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), alimony, child support, unemployment benefits, Workers' Compensation and any other indirect income such as utility allowances. Other exclusions may apply if documented.

Please visit energyhelp.ohio.gov for a list of all included and excluded income.

2008-2009 Income Guidelines

Size of Household	Total Gross Annual Household Income	
1	up to \$ 15,600	\$ 18,200
2	up to \$ 21,000	\$ 24,500
3	(150%) up to \$ 26,400	(175%) \$ 30,800
4	(For PIPP & HWAP) up to \$ 31,800	(For HEAP) \$ 37,100
5	up to \$ 37,200	\$ 43,400
6	up to \$ 42,600	\$ 49,700
7	up to \$ 48,000	\$ 56,000
8	up to \$ 53,400	\$ 62,300

For households with more than 8 members, add \$ 5,400 for 150% and \$ 6,300 for 175% per member.

INSTRUCTIONS (PLEASE READ)

You must provide proof of income for everyone living in your household. Examples of documents that provide proof of income are: payroll stubs, statements from employers, public assistance payment histories, or benefit letters from Social Security, Workers' Compensation, Unemployment Compensation, tax forms/schedule, etc. Please provide income documentation to support your response to question #4. If you are missing documentation for any income source or you list "0" income, please explain. If your response to question #6 is "No Income," a written, signed statement which provides an explanation as to how you are maintaining your household must be submitted. Failure to provide the required documents will delay the processing of your application. Please send copies, since originals will not be returned.

If anyone in your household is disabled, you may be eligible for a larger benefit. To be eligible for this benefit, you must submit proof of disability, but need not disclose the nature of the disability. Proof includes a doctor's statement, benefits letters for Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability, Workers' Compensation, etc. "Disabled" describes a person who has some impairment in body or mind that makes the person unfit to work at any substantial employment that the person would otherwise reasonably be able to perform and that will, with reasonable probability, continue for an indefinite period of at least twelve months without any present indication of recovery therefrom, or who has been certified as permanently and totally disabled by a state or federal agency having the function of so classifying persons. Households which have a member who is age 60 or older will also be evaluated for an increased benefit.

Please provide Proof of Citizenship or Alien Status for all household members. **Proof of citizenship or alien status is required for the primary applicant.** If you are a United States citizen by birth, the verification you provide to show your age (birth certificate, baptismal record, U.S. passport) will also provide verification of your citizenship status. However, if those documents were not used for proof of age or if you were born outside of the United States, are a naturalized citizen or an alien, you will need to provide one of the following items: 1) Naturalization Papers/Certifications of citizenship (INS Form I-179, INS Form I-197), 2) Permanent Visa, 3) Birth Certificate/Hospital Birth Records, 4) Refugee Registration Cards, 5) U.S. Passport, 6) INS ID Card, 7) Baptismal Record (Only when place and date of birth is shown.), 8) Military Service Records, 9) Indian Census Records, 10) Voter Registration Cards, 11) Signed statement from a U.S. citizen which declares under penalties of perjury that individual in question is a U.S. citizen, 12) Alien Registration Cards/Re-entry permits, 13) INS Form I-151 or I-551 (Form I-151 will not be valid after August 1, 1993.), 14) INS Form I-94 if annotated with either: a) Sections 203(a)(7), 207, 208, 212(d)(5), 243(h), or 241(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act; or b) One or a combination of the following terms: Refugee, Parolee, or Asylee., 15) INS Form G-641, "Application for verification of Information from INS Records," when annotated at bottom by INS representative as lawful admission for humanitarian reasons, 16) Documentation that alien is classified pursuant to Sections: 101(a)(2), 203(a), 204(a)(1)(a), 207, 208, 212(d)(5), 241(b)(3), 243(h), or 244(a)(3), of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 17) Court order stating that deportation has been withheld pursuant to Section 241(b)(3) or 243(h) or of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 18) INS Form I-688, 19) Verified citizenship for OWF Program.

Copies of all heating and electric bills are required in order to process your application. If your main heating bill is not in an eligible household member's name, your benefit may be sent to your electric company.

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

DISCLOSURE: The disclosure of social security numbers is mandatory to receive HEAP benefits. **AUTHORITY:** 45 CFR 96.84 (c); 42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)(i) **USE:** The State will use social security numbers in the administration of the HEAP to verify information supplied on the application, to prevent, detect, and correct fraud, waste, and abuse, and for the purpose of responding to requests for information from agency programs funded by block grants to states for temporary assistance for needy families or agencies requesting information for child support or to establish paternity. The applicant may be held civilly or criminally liable under Federal or State law for knowingly making false or fraudulent statements.

**PLEASE SIGN AND MAIL APPLICATION TO: OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES/HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 1240 COLUMBUS, OHIO 43216**

For Office Use Only

COMPLETE ONLY ONE APPLICATION PER HOUSEHOLD
Please complete all items and questions and attach required proof
An incomplete application will delay assistance

For Office Use Only (Date)

YOU MUST SIGN THIS APPLICATION TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE

Client Number

PRIMARY APPLICANT

Form for Primary Applicant with fields for Name, Address, Telephone, Date of Birth, E-mail, and Social Security Number.

- 1) Check the box that most closely describes the type of building you live in.
2) Including yourself, how many people live in your household?
3) Including yourself, please list the names, relationships, social security number(s), date(s) of birth and gross incomes of everyone living in your household.

Table with 10 columns: Household Members, Relationship to You, Social Security Number, Date of Birth, Income Source, Current Mo., Last 3 Mo., Last 12 Mo., Disabled?, U.S. Citizen?

- 4) What was your total gross household income for the last 12 months?
5) Do you receive Public Assistance? Case Number
6) INCOME SOURCE (Check the Income Source(s) for Your Household) DOCUMENTATION MUST BE PROVIDED!
7) Is there anyone in the home who is 18 years old or older and a full-time student...
8) If there are no children under the age of 18 in the household, do any adults have children under age 18 who live in another household?

9) Do you rent or own your home? Rent Own (Buying) skip to question 13.

10) Landlord's Name
Address
Telephone Number

11) Do you rent a room in someone else's home?
yes no

12) Do you receive **Rental** assistance from the government i.e. Section 8, HUD, Metropolitan Housing?
yes no

13) Has your household received weatherization services from any other program; for example, a utility program?
yes no
If yes, which program?

14) Would you like to apply for the Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP)?
yes no

15) I consent to the release of my name, phone number and social security number to the local telephone company so that I may receive a possible reduced telephone rate through the Lifeline Program.
yes no

16) Number of Native Americans (as defined by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs) in the household.

17) Number of migrant farm workers in the household.

18) What is your **Main** source of heat? (Check only one)

Natural Gas Bottle Gas or Propane (L.P. Gas) Fuel oil or Kerosene Coal or Wood or Pellets Electric Other _____

Complete this section for your main heating source, including all-electric homes. Give your heating company name and account number below. **Include a copy of your most recent fuel or heating bill from your current address.**

Complete the section below with your electric company name and account number. **Include a copy of your most recent electric bill from your current address.**

Main Heating Source (Same source as Question 18.)

Electric

Do you want to enroll in PIPP? (Please see front page for PIPP description)
yes no

Do you want to enroll in PIPP? (Please see front page for PIPP description)
yes no

If you are currently enrolled in PIPP, would you like to reverify?
yes no

If you are currently enrolled in PIPP, would you like to reverify?
yes no

Company/Vendor

Company/Vendor

Account #

Account #

19) Are your heating costs included in your rent?
yes no

22) Is your electricity included in your rent?
yes no

20) Is the name on your heating bill different from the Applicant's name? If yes, give that name.

23) Is the name on your electric bill different from the Applicant's name? If yes, give that name.

First: Last:

First: Last:

21) Do you share a main heating source meter with another household?
yes no

24) Do you share an electric meter with another household?
yes no

I understand that by signing this application, I grant the Ohio Department of Development or its authorized providers access to my bank, employment, public assistance, utility company or other records needed for verification and evaluation of services. By signing this application, I give the Ohio Department of Development, its designees and authorized providers, and the U.S. Department of Energy and its designees and authorized providers the right to inspect my home and any work performed on my home. I understand that filling out this application does not guarantee that my household will receive assistance. I understand that any authorized provider may rescind an approved payment if information is acquired which determines that my household is not eligible for services according to the rules of each program. I understand that I have the right to appeal within 30 days of a written determination of services or assistance. I also understand that I have the right to request a state hearing within 90 days of a written determination. I certify that the information I have provided in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, a true, accurate and complete disclosure of the requested information. I understand that I may be held civilly and criminally liable under Federal and State Law for knowingly making false or fraudulent statements. If I am or become a PIPP customer I understand that I may be included in a group for which electric service is purchased in common. The disclosure of social security numbers is mandatory to receive energy assistance benefits [45nCFR 96.84(c); 42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)(i)].

X Sign Here _____ Application Date _____