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# DuPage County Human Services 2009 / 2010

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### **LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)**

For many Illinois households, energy costs place a severe and continuing stress on the family budget. In some instances, the household is forced to make painful decisions regarding which bills to pay and which necessities to survive without. **The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** assists eligible households pay for winter heating services. Eligible households are determined by household size, income, geographical location, and type of fuel used.

An overdue bill, or disconnect notice, is not required. You do not have to own your own home, or pay energy bills directly to be eligible for assistance.

### **RECONNECTION ASSISTANCE**

Reconnection assistance may be available if your household is disconnected from an energy source needed for heating and/or to deliver and the tank contains 25% or less fuel.

Assistance for reconnection will only be provided to households that have made a good faith effort to maintain their energy services, or can pay for a portion of the amount owed for reconnection. A good faith effort is defined as making payments to your energy providers of at least 10% of your household's income for the past 90 days.

### **Emergency Furnace**

This benefit is available to LIHEAP eligible homeowners whose heating systems are NOT operational, or have been determined unsafe by their utility company. The goal is to restore the heating system back to a safe and effective operating unit. A simple repair may be all that is needed.

If repairs exceed 50% of the cost to replace the unit or it is deemed unsafe, replacement is possible. This assistance is for homeowners or income-eligible owner-occupied landlords only. Landlords have a legal responsibility to provide heat to their tenants during the winter months.

### **WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM**

Another assistance program available is the Illinois Home Weatherization Program. Weatherization helps eligible homeowners and renters reduce their heating and cooling bills by repairing or replacing broken windows or doors, sealing cracks and adding insulation. The Weatherization Program will also provide a furnace safety check to make the home more energy efficient.

**Your household is automatically eligible if you qualified for LIHEAP**

For more information, call DuPage Human Services at 630.407.6500 or 1-800-942-9412 Toll-Free.

## HOW LIHEAP WORKS

**Application:** DuPage County residents may call **630-407-6500** to make an appointment with DuPage County Human Services, located at 421 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton. If you are homebound, a LIHEAP worker can come to your home and take your application. You may also call your township office for an appointment.

**When you apply for LIHEAP assistance, be sure to bring the following information:**

- Proof of gross income for all household members for the 30 days prior to the date you apply.
- A copy of your heat and/or electric bill(s).
- Proof of Social Security numbers for all household members.
- If you rent, proof of your rental agreement stating the amount of rent you pay each month.
- If a member of your household receives TANF or AABD, bring their Medical Eligibility Card.

**Notification:** You will be notified of your eligibility status within 30 days of receipt of the completed application. If you are eligible, based on the information you have provided, you will be informed by mail of the amount of assistance you will receive.

**Payment:** If you are eligible, the agency will make the appropriate payment directly to the utility provider(s) on your behalf. In some cases, when all utility costs are included in the rent, you will receive a direct payment.



## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You may be eligible to receive assistance in your household's combined income is at or below the following levels:

### LIHEAP 2010 INCOME GUIDELINES (Effective Sept. 1, 2009 thru May 31, 2010)

**Income guidelines are subject to change)**

Number of People Living In Household	Gross Income For 30 Days Prior to Application Date
1	\$1,354
2	\$1,821
3	\$2,289
4	\$2,756
5	\$3,224
6	\$3,691
7	\$4,159
8	\$4,626

(add \$467.50 for each additional household member.)

If you rent, and all energy costs are included in the rent, your rent must be greater than 30% of your income in order to be eligible to receive benefits.



### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

The primary purpose of the Low Income Energy Assistance Program is to assist eligible households by offsetting the rising cost of home energy through direct financial assistance, energy counseling, education and outreach.

**An overdue bill or disconnect notice is not required to receive this assistance.**

**To apply for LIHEAP, call your local DuPage County Township Office.**

Addison	630.530.8161
Bloomingtondale	630.529.9993
Bloomingtondale Seniors	630.529.7794
Downers Grove	630.719.6610
Lisle	630.968.2087
Milton	630.668.1616
Naperville	630.355.2786
Wayne	630.231.7173
Winfield	630.231.3591
York	630.620.2400
York Seniors	630.620.2424

Or, contact

**DuPage County Human Services**

421 N. County Farm Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187

**630.407.6500 or  
1.800.942.9412 Toll-Free**