

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
FY 2025-2026 Fact Sheet
Administered by the Department for Community Based Services
Services Provided by Community Action Agencies

PURPOSE: To assist low-income households with home heating cost through two (2) components:
1. Subsidy - provides assistance to all eligible households.
2. Crisis - provides assistance to eligible households experiencing a home heating crisis.

OPERATION: Community Action Kentucky, Inc. will contract with twenty-three community action agencies to operate both components in all 120 counties. Applications for both components will be taken at local community action agency offices or designated sites in each county.

ELIGIBILITY: 1) Household income must be at or below the following, relative to household size:

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Gross Monthly Income</u>	<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Gross Monthly Income</u>
1	\$ 1,957	5	\$ 4707
2	\$ 2644	6	\$ 5394
3	\$ 3332	7	\$ 6082
4	\$ 4019	8	\$ 6769

Add \$688 for each additional family member

- 2) Must be responsible for home heating costs or pay heating costs as an undesignated portion of rent.
3) In addition to the above eligibility requirements, crisis applicants must be within 4 days of running out of fuel if wood, coal, propane, fuel oil or kerosene is the heat source, or a disconnect/past due notice has been received from the vendor (example: past due notice, termination notice, final notice, or an active utility arrearage payment plan). Crisis applicants who participate in a Pre-Pay Electric Program would be eligible if they are within 10 days of running out of pre-paid electric services. If energy costs are an undesignated portion of rent, an eviction notice is required.

APPLICATION PERIOD: **Subsidy:** Applications must be made during the period November 3, 2025, through December 12, 2025.

Crisis: Applications can be made from January 5, 2026, through March 27, 2026.

Applicants who are unable to apply for themselves must contact the local community action to make other arrangements. If the designated representative is not the head of household or spouse, the representative must have a signed statement giving authorization to apply for the household. Individuals without a designated representative should contact the local community action agency which may be able to assist them in finding one. Only one person from each household should apply.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: **Applicants must bring the following:**
1. Proof of Social Security Number or Permanent Residence card (Green Card) for each member of the household.
2. Proof of all household's (all members) income from the preceding month.
3. Most current heating bill, statement from your landlord if heating expenses are included in your rent, statement from utility company if you participate in a Pre-Pay Electric Program.
4. The account number and name on the account for main heating fuel sources and electric bill.

In addition, in the Crisis component, applicants requesting assistance for natural gas or electric must bring a disconnect/past due notice (example: past due notice, termination notice, final notice, or utility arrearage payment plan balance). If your rent includes heat, you must bring a copy of your lease and eviction notice. Applicants who participate in a Pre-Pay Electric Program must bring a statement from the utility company that shows they have 10 days or less of pre-paid electric service.

PROVIDED: BENEFITS **Subsidy:** The benefit amount that a household receives will be based on its level of poverty and the type of fuel used for heating. Those households with the lowest incomes that use the fuel with the highest heating season costs will receive the highest benefit. All eligible households will receive a benefit. Benefits will be in the form of vouchers made payable to the household's primary heating fuel vendor.

Crisis: Benefits are limited to the minimum amount necessary to relieve the crisis not to exceed the maximum amount allowed by state regulations. Benefits may take the form of fuel deliveries, service reconnection, blankets or sleeping bags, loan of space heaters and emergency shelter. Crisis relief will be provided within 48 hours or 18 hours if an emergency.

CLIENT REFERRAL: Clients requesting additional information regarding either component of the FY 2025-2026 LIHEAP program should be referred to their local community action agency or Community Action Kentucky (CAK), toll-free number 1-800-456-3452 (TTY available for the hearing impaired).

APPLICANT RIGHTS: Each applicant will be informed of their rights should they be denied assistance. Any applicant who wishes to appeal the case should be informed by local community action agency staff of the procedures for filing a complaint. Should the applicant not be satisfied with the local decision, they may further appeal to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

RULES: Do **NOT** give false information or hide information to receive LIHEAP benefits. Use LIHEAP benefits only for your household. If you **BREAK** these rules, you may be stopped from receiving LIHEAP benefits and you may be prosecuted for fraud. Report any information about fraud or misuse of LIHEAP benefits by calling the Fraud Hotline at 1-800-372-2970.