



## **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**

**DuPage County Human Services**

**421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, Illinois 60187**

**630-407-6500 / 630-407-6502 TDD**

**1-800-942-9412 Toll Free**

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.

### **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

Emergency assistance may be available if your household is disconnected from an energy source needed for heating, and/or a fuel supplier that delivers and has refused to deliver and the tank contains 10% 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, or 20% of the total amount owed to both utility vendors.

### **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, please call

**DuPage County Human Services at**

**630-407-6500 or 1-800-942-9412 Toll Free**



## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

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

### LIHEAP JULY 2006 INCOME GUIDELINES

Number of People Living In Household	Gross Income For 30 Days Prior To Application Date	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. For further information, or to schedule an appointment call: 630-407-6500 or 1-800-942-9412
1	\$1,225	
2	\$1,650	
3	\$2,075	
4	\$2,500	
5	\$2,925	
6	\$3,350	
7	\$3,775	
8*	\$4,200	
	*add \$425 for each additional household member	

## 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 received 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.



**LOW INCOME HOME  
ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)**  
DuPage County Township