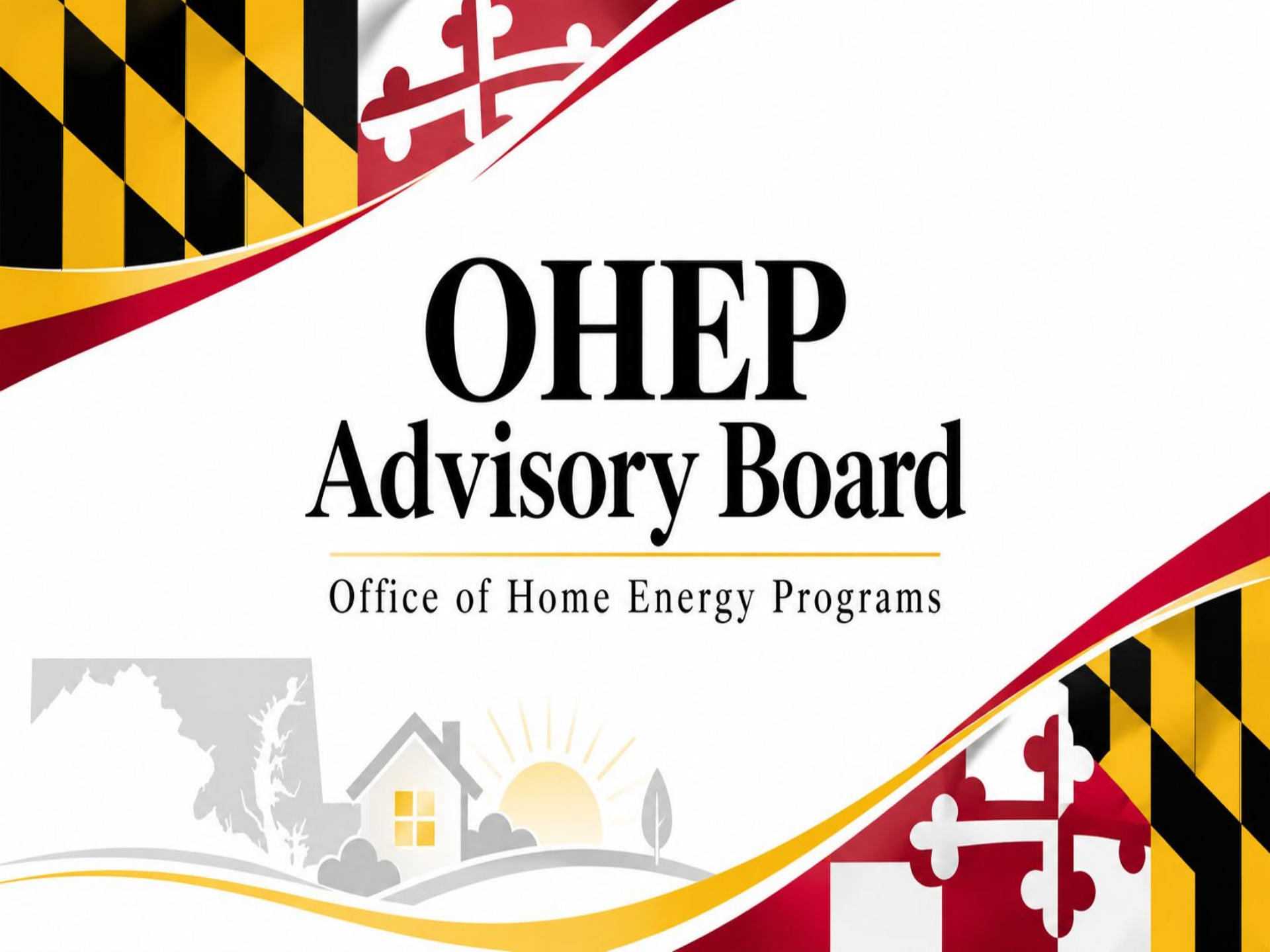




OHEP Advisory Board

Office of Home Energy Programs



OHEP Advisory Board

October 8th, 2026

Meeting Agenda

- ☐ FY 2026 Full Data Recap
- ☐ FY 2027 Quarter 1 Review
- ☐ PC 59- Phase II Workgroup
- ☐ The Maryland Fuel Assistance Program
- ☐ Community Action Administrative Reimbursement Schedule
- ☐ FY27 Winter Crisis Season
- ☐ Member Updates
- ☐ Questions
- ☐ Future Meeting Dates



Year	FY 2025	FY 2026	CHANGE	% CHANGE
	7/1/24-9/30/25	7/1/25-9/30/26	2025-2026	2025-2026
Applications YTD	165,397	209,329	43,932	27%
Unduplicated Program Totals				
MEAP	161,772	207,865	46,093	29%
EUSP Bill Payment	163,269	208,581	45,312	29%
EUSP Arrearage Retirement	95,982	134,955	38,973	41%
Gas Arrearage Retirement	11,360	80,784	69,424	79%
Crisis	1,522	972	-550	-36%
Receiving Benefits YTD	FY2025	FY2026	Change	% Change
MEAP	128,926	146,529	17,603	14%
EUSP Bill Payment	130,043	147,365	17,322	14%
EUSP Arrearage Retirement	35,470	30,963	-4,507	-11%
Gas Arrearage Retirement	11,729	11,053	-676	0.67%
Crisis	1,258	903	-355	-0.28%

Year	FY 2026	FY 2027	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Year	7/1/25-9/30/25	7/1/25-9/30/26	2026-2027	2026-2027
Applications YTD	72,791	85,314	12,523	17.20%
Unduplicated Program Totals				
MEAP	70,460	84,890	14,430	20.48%
EUSP Bill Payment	70,659	84,867	14,208	20.11%
EUSP Arrearage Retirement	42,672	61,647	18,975	44.47%
Gas Arrearage Retirement	24,110	38,933	14,823	61.48%
Crisis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Receiving Benefits YTD	FY2026	FY2027	CHANGE	%CHANGE
MEAP	40,325	47,458	7,133	18%
EUSP Bill Payment	40,619	47,582	6,963	17.14%
EUSP Arrearage Retirement	6,980	7,891	911	13.05%
Gas Arrearage Retirement	3,058	4,313	1,255	41.04%
Crisis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



PC 59- Phase II Workgroup

OHEP continues to make progress with the PC 59 work group toward implementing the newly named Residential Customer Assistance Program (R-CAP), formerly referred to as the low-income mechanism. OHEP has successfully submitted the FY26 annual eligibility file to all partnering utility companies to support automatic enrollment.

Approved by the Maryland Public Service Commission and scheduled to begin January 1, 2027, R-CAP will provide monthly tiered discounts designed to lower eligible households' utility bills to approximately 6% of household income. Utility accounts receiving OHEP energy assistance grants will be automatically enrolled for 18 months, with continued benefits tied to ongoing OHEP enrollment.



The Maryland Fuel Assistance Program (MFA)



MFA Overview

OHEP is preparing to launch Maryland Fuel Assistance (MFA) on January 1, 2027, to expand access to home heating assistance for income-eligible households that cannot receive federally funded assistance through the Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP). MFA will provide a state-funded option for eligible households, including undocumented residents and members of mixed-status households, with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. Implementation efforts include developing program policies, updating eligibility systems, and preparing training for Local Administering Agencies to support a consistent statewide rollout.



CAA Admin Reimbursement Survey

OHEP distributed a survey to gather feedback on its administrative reimbursement schedule and its potential impact on nonprofit organizations. Respondents unanimously supported a monthly reimbursement schedule to help address cash flow concerns. Based on this feedback, OHEP has adopted monthly reimbursements for non-DHS Community Action Agencies. Payments will remain reimbursement-based; OHEP will not provide advance funding. This schedule does not apply to municipal governments.

CAA Admin Reimbursement Schedule

CAP LAA Monthly Administrative Invoicing Schedule			
Month	Service Period	Submission Window	Invoice Due Date
July	July 1–31	August 1–15	August 15
August	August 1–31	September 1–15	September 15
September	September 1–30	October 1–15	October 15
October	October 1–31	November 1–15	November 15
November	November 1–30	December 1–15	December 15
December	December 1–31	January 1–15	January 15
January	January 1–31	February 1–15	February 15
February	February 1–28	March 1–15	March 15
March	March 1–31	April 1–15	April 15
April	April 1–30	May 1–15	May 15
May (Closeout)	May 1–31 (Closeout)	May 1–15	May 15
June (Closeout)	June 1–30 (Closeout)	May 1–15	May 15



FY27 Winter Crisis Season

The FY27 Winter Crisis Assistance season runs from November 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027. Eligible households that have already received MEAP assistance or are applying at the time of a crisis may request crisis assistance. [COMAR 07.03.21.10F–G](#) identifies qualifying circumstances including a 18 hour crisis when a household “has no supply of fuel,” its “utility service is disconnected,” or a 48 hour crisis when a household has “not more than a 3 to 4 day supply of fuel”; the regulation also addresses broken heating equipment and imminent utility disconnection.

Households may receive up to \$600, with the benefit determined by the amount needed to alleviate the crisis, subject to program eligibility requirements. Maryland Fuel Assistance (MFA) does not currently include a crisis assistance component.



Advisory Board Member Updates





Questions?





FY27 Dates Scheduled

January 14, 2027

April 8, 2027

