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#### What You Need to Apply

- Copy of Applicant's photo identification
- 🔗 Proof of Residence (Lease, Mortgage Statement, etc.)
- Copies of Social Security cards for all household Members
- Proof of ALL gross income your household received in the last 30 days
- Copy of your most recent Utility bill or termination notice (if applicable)
- A copy of your most recent heating fuel bill or receipt (if applicable)

#### **Income Eligibility Standards**

Income Eligibility Limits Effective July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018		
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAXIMUM MONTHLY INCOME STANDARDS	MAXIMUM YEARLY INCOME STANDARDS
1	\$1,759	\$21,105
2	\$2,368	\$28,420
3	\$2,978	\$35,735
4	\$3,588	\$43,050
5	\$4,197	\$50,365
6	\$4,807	\$57,680
7	\$5,416	\$64,995
8	\$6,026	\$72,310
FOR EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON, ADD	\$701	\$8,418

#### For More Information:

call toll free: 1-800-332-6347 visit <u>www.dhr.maryland.gov/energy</u>

#### Did you Know?...

- Grants do not have to be paid back.
- Grant amounts vary by income level of the household applying and by fuel type.
- If you live in subsidized housing and your heat is included in your rent, you are not eligible for a MEAP grant, but you may be eligible for a EUSP grant.
- In order to get an EUSP grant, the Electric bill must be in the applicant's name and you must agree to a budget billing payment plan.
- Continue to make payments on all your energy bills so you will not get behind on these bills.



Maryland Department of Human Services

For information call toll free: 1-800-332-6347 (en Español tambien)

TTY for the hearing impaired call: 1-800-735-2258

Check out our website at: www.dhr.maryland.gov/energy

Apply online at: www.dhr.maryland.gov/benefits

**To Report Fraud:** Call 1-800-332-6347 and select the Welfare Fraud hotline option

### Need Help with Paying Heating and Electric Bills?



## Apply today to make your energy costs more AFFORDABLE!

For information call toll free: I-800-332-6347 (en Español también)



Effective July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018



#### HOW TO APPLY

Customers may apply at any time through any one of the following methods:

Apply in person at your local energy assistance office.

To find the Office of Home Energy Programs nearest you and other information on how to apply, call 1-800-332-6347.

- Bownload and print an application for Energy Assistance at <u>www.dhr.maryland.gov/energy</u>.
- Apply online at <u>www.dhr.maryland.gov/benefits</u>.
- Home visits can also be arranged for senior citizens or other persons with special medical needs.



#### OHEP

The **Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP)** provides assistance to Maryland's low-income households to help you stay warm, stay connected, and help pay past due energy bills.

#### STAY WARM

The **Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP)** provides financial assistance with home heating bills. Payments are made to the fuel supplier and utility company on the customer's behalf.

#### STAY CONNECTED

#### The Electric Universal Service Program (EUSP)

provides financial assistance with electric bills. Eligible customers receive help that pays a portion of their current electric bills. Customers who receive EUSP are placed on a budget billing plan with their utility company. Budget Billing is a tool that utility companies provide to help spread out year annual utility bills into even monthly payments to avoid spikes in your bill caused by seasonal fluctuations in energy use. Please check with your utility company on eligibility requirements and budget billing policy.

#### PAY PAST DUE ELECTRIC BILLS

**Arrearage Retirement Assistance** helps customers with large, past due electric bills. If eligible, customers may receive forgiveness of up to \$2,000 towards their past due bill. Customers must have a past due bill of \$300 or greater to be considered eligible. Customers may only receive an arrearage grant once every seven years, with certain exceptions.

#### LEARN HOW TO LOWER YOUR BILL

The Supplemental Targeted Energy Program (STEP)

provides an additional benefit for customers who take steps to reduce their energy costs. Customers participate in educational workshops focused on lowering and maintaining their energy bills. Customers must also follow through with referrals to other services that may help to address monthly energy and other costs. An additional grant is paid to the utility supplier as different requirements of the program are met over the course of a year. STEP eligibility is based on a calculation of a household's income and energy expenses. Applicants must receive EUSP Bill Assistance to be eligible for STEP.

#### **AVOID TURNOFFS**

The **Utility Service Protection Program (USPP)** is designed to protect low-income families from utility turn-offs during the heating season. All MEAP eligible customers may participate in USPP. Participation also requires a year-round even monthly budget billing. Failure to make consecutive payments may result in removal from USPP.

#### A MORE EFFICIENT HOME

Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Servicescustomer information is referred to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for programs that can provide improvements and repairs to homes at no cost. These improvements can help lower utility bills and make the home more comfortable. DHCD's energy efficiency and weatherization programs support the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act. For more information, call 1-855-583-8976 or visit <u>dhcd.maryland.gov/Pages/ EnergyEfficiency</u>