WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE?

Renters, homeowners, residents of public housing, sub-metered homes (where you pay another company, not the utility directly), Roomers/Boarders are all eligible for Energy Assistance grants.

The most important factors in determining who is eligible for energy assistance are the size of your household and how much money you made in the last 30 days.

THINGS THAT MAY DELAY YOUR APPLICATION

- Not completing all sections of the application
- No signature or date on the application
- Missing documents
- Not including all household members
- Not including all income for the past 30 days
- Electric bill not in Applicant's name

WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY

- A copy of your photo ID
- Proof of everyone's gross (pre-tax) income for the last 30 days
- Proof of where you live *(This can be your utility bill)*
- Copies of Social Security cards for everyone in your household
- A copy of your most recent heating fuel bill or receipt *(if applicable)*
- Copy of your most recent Utility bill or termination notice *(if applicable)*

DID YOU KNOW?

- All energy assistance dollars are grants. You do not have to pay back a grant.
- Grant amounts are calculated based on your income from the last 30 days and your fuel type.
- Make sure you submit all of your supporting documents with your energy assistance application. Missing documents or signatures WILL delay your application.
- Continue to make payments on all your electric and heating bills. Energy Assistance will not cover your whole bill.

Office of Home Energy Programs
Your Home Energy Partner

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.dhs.maryland.gov/energy

Apply online at:
https://mymdthink.maryland.gov

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

Can you afford your heating and electric bills?

Apply today for help with your heating and electric costs!

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

Effective July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Income Eligibility Limits

Effective July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

For households with <u>one or more members 67 years of age</u> or older at the time of application.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAXIMUM MONTHLY INCOME STANDARDS
1	$2,147
2	$2,903
3	$3,660
4	$4,417
5	$5,173
6	$5,930
7	$6,687
8	$7,443
For each additional person, add:	$757

For households with <u>no members 67 years of age</u> or older at the time of application.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAXIMUM MONTHLY INCOME STANDARDS
1	$1,878
2	$2,540
3	$3,203
4	$3,865
5	$4,527
6	$5,189
7	$5,851
8	$6,513
For each additional person, add:	$662

OHEP

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

HOW TO APPLY

OHEP is a year-round program. You do not need to have a crisis to qualify. You can apply at any time through any 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 or visit our website at dhs.maryland.gov/energy.
- Mail in your application by printing and completing an Energy Assistance application. Our application can be found at http://dhs.maryland.gov/office-of-home-energy-programs/how-do-you-apply/.
- Apply online at https://mymdthink.maryland.gov/home/#/ You can also request an application by calling 1-800-332-6347.
- Home visits can also be arranged for senior citizens or other persons with special medical needs.

STAY CONNECTED

The Electric Universal Service Program (EUSP) is OHEP's electric assistance grant. This grant is available to you once per program year (July- June). Customers who receive EUSP are enrolled in budget billing with their utility company. Budget Billing is a tool that utility companies provide to help spread out your annual utility bills into even monthly payments and avoid seasonal spikes in your bill.

STAY WARM

The Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) is OHEP's heating assistance grant. This grant is available to you once per program year (July-June). This grant is delivered to your heating or utility company in one lump sum, which is applied to your account in monthly installments.

PAY PAST DUE BILLS

The Arrearage Retirement Assistance grant (ARA) and **the Gas Arrearage Retirement Assistance grant (GARA)** are OHEP grants designed to help reduce or eliminate past-due electric and/or natural gas bills. To qualify, you must have a past-due bill of at least $300 in your name and be approved for MEAP and/or EUSP grants. The ARA and GARA grants are only available to you once every five years with certain exceptions. Arrearage benefits provide grants up to $2000 each. The size of these grants will depend on the size of your past-due balance.

PROTECT YOUR SERVICES

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 Services-Customer 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. Improvements such as furnace clean and tune, added insulation, and energy efficient light bulbs 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 dhcd.maryland.gov/Pages/EnergyEfficiency.