



HEATING HELP: Fuel Assistance & Energy Efficiency Programs

LIHEAP provides eligible households with help in paying a portion of their winter heating bills. The program is crucial not only to help pay for the rising cost of heat during our cold New England winters, but also to ensure safety and good health. Low-income families facing disproportionately high energy costs are forced to make household budget trade-offs that jeopardize children's health, including choosing heat over food or health care.

Fuel Assistance recipients are also eligible for additional energy-saving programs including Weatherization, a program that helps make the home more efficient and the heating more effective. Fuel Assistance recipients are also connected to a variety of other services that help ease the burden of energy cost.



FY18 Snapshot

How many we served



≈160,000 households served



36% include children under 18



15% include children under 6



45% include elderly (60+)



+7% include veterans



+20,000 households served in energy conservation and efficiency programs

Many are working & access other supports



42% have earned income



54% access food stamps

Many were saved from being without heat



8,552 received shut off notices



11,705 emergencies

(utility shut off or out of oil)

People mainly heat their homes with Natural Gas (55%), Oil (26%) and Electric (11%).

Fuel Assistance (LIHEAP) is a federally-funded program through the Office of Community Services (OCS), Division of Energy Assistance (DEA) and managed in MA by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Over \$145M comes to MA for Fuel Assistance. In addition, MA receives more than \$116M combined federal and investor-owned utility companies for energy conservation and heating programs. The program is provided by a network of 22 community-based organizations including 20 Community Action Agencies, the City of Cambridge, and the New England Farm Workers Council.

Visit www.heatinghelpma.org for more information.

Fiscal Year 2019
 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
 Income Eligibility and Benefit Levels

Family Size (# of people in the household)	100% of Federal Poverty Level	125% of Federal Poverty Level	150% of Federal Poverty Level	175% of Federal Poverty Level	200% of Federal Poverty Level	60% of Estimated State Median Income
1	\$ 12,140	\$ 15,175	\$ 18,210	\$ 21,245	\$ 24,280	\$ 35,510
2	\$ 16,460	\$ 20,575	\$ 24,690	\$ 28,805	\$ 32,920	\$ 46,437
3	\$ 20,780	\$ 25,975	\$ 31,170	\$ 36,365	\$ 41,560	\$ 57,363
4	\$ 25,100	\$ 31,375	\$ 37,650	\$ 43,925	\$ 50,200	\$ 68,289
5	\$ 29,420	\$ 36,775	\$ 44,130	\$ 51,485	\$ 58,840	\$ 79,215
6	\$ 33,740	\$ 42,175	\$ 50,610	\$ 59,045	\$ 67,480	\$ 90,141
7	\$ 38,060	\$ 47,575	\$ 57,090	\$ 66,605	\$ 76,120	\$ 92,190
8	\$ 42,380	\$ 52,975	\$ 63,570	\$ 74,165	\$ 84,760	\$ 94,239
9	\$ 46,700	\$ 58,375	\$ 70,050	\$ 81,725	\$ 93,400	\$ 96,287
10	\$ 51,020	\$ 63,775	\$ 76,530	\$ 89,285	\$ 98,336	\$ 98,336
11	\$ 55,340	\$ 69,175	\$ 83,010	\$ 96,845	\$ 100,385	\$ 100,385
12	\$ 59,660	\$ 74,575	\$ 89,490	\$ 102,434	\$ 102,434	\$ 102,434
13	\$ 63,980	\$ 79,975	\$ 95,970	\$ 104,482	\$ 104,482	\$ 104,482
14	\$ 68,300	\$ 85,375	\$ 102,450	\$ 106,531	\$ 106,531	\$ 106,531
15	\$ 72,620	\$ 90,775	\$ 108,930	\$ 108,930	\$ 108,930	\$ 108,930
16	\$ 76,940	\$ 96,175	\$ 115,410	\$ 115,410	\$ 115,410	\$ 115,410
17	\$ 81,260	\$ 101,575	\$ 121,890	\$ 121,890	\$ 121,890	\$ 121,890
Homeowners and Non-Subsidized Housing Tenants						
Deliverable Fuel (Oil, Propane, Kerosene & Other)	\$ 850	\$ 748	\$ 658	\$ 579	\$ 579	\$ 448
Utility and Heat- Included-in-Rent	\$ 710	\$ 625	\$ 550	\$ 484	\$ 484	\$ 375
High Energy Cost Supplement	\$ 200	\$ 180	\$ 160	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 120
Subsidized Housing Tenants						
Deliverable Fuel (Oil, Propane, Kerosene & Other)	\$ 595	\$ 525	\$ 460	\$ 405	\$ 405	\$ 315
Utility and Heat- Included-in-Rent	\$ 495	\$ 440	\$ 385	\$ 340	\$ 340	\$ 260
High Energy Cost Supplement	\$ 200	\$ 180	\$ 160	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 120
High Energy Cost Supplement (HECS) Thresholds - TBD						

Notes: Contact DHCD to determine income eligibility for a family of 18 and above.

Sources (Income Level): "Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines, *Federal Register* 80 No. 12 (18 Jan 2018): 2642-2644 and "State Median Income Estimates", USHHS, OCS, DEA, *LIHEAP-IM-2018-03*

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