HEAP

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps low-income people pay the cost of heating their homes.

If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year and could also be eligible for emergency HEAP benefits if you are in danger of running out of fuel or having your utility service shut off.

HEAP may be able to help you if you heat your home with:

- Electricity
- Natural Gas
- Oil
- Coal
- Propane
- Wood/Wood Pellets
- Kerosene
- Corn

Regular HEAP Benefit

The 2017-18 Regular HEAP benefit opens November 13, 2017.

myBenefits

Find out if you may be eligible and apply for programs and services.

If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year to help you pay for heating your home.

Eligibility and benefits are based on:

- income,
- household size,
- the primary heating source, and
- the presence of a household member who is under age 6, age 60 or older or permanently disabled.

Regular benefits for households that pay directly for heat based on actual usage are paid directly to the vendor that supplies the household's primary source of heat.

Your household may be eligible for a Regular benefit if:

- You and your household members are United States Citizens or qualified aliens and
- Your household's gross monthly income is at or below the current income guides for your household size as posted in the table below or
- You receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or
- You receive Temporary Assistance or

Regular HEAP Benefit Amounts 2017-18

• You receive Code A Supplemental Security Income (SSI Living Alone)

Base Benefit Amount	Living Situation	
\$21	Eligible households that live in government subsidized housing or a group home setting with heat included in their rent.	
\$30 or \$35	Eligible households who have heating costs included as part of their rent.	
\$675 + applicable add- ons	Eligible households whose primary heat is oil, kerosene, or propane and who make direct payments to the vendor for heating costs.	
\$525 + applicable add- ons	Eligible households whose primary heat is wood, wood pellets, coal, corn or other deliverable fuel and who make direct payments to the vendor for heating costs.	
\$350 + applicable add- ons	Eligible households whose primary heat is electricity or natural gas and who make direct payments based on their household's actual usage to the vendor.	

Regular Benefit Add-Ons for Households Paying Directly for Heat

The amount of the base Regular benefit will be increased by \$26 if the household's gross income is in the Tier 1 income range.

Tier I eligibility is based on gross income and household size, on the date of application the household's gross income must be at or below 130% of federal poverty level for the household size; or at least one adult household member must be in receipt of ongoing assistance through Temporary Assistance (TA), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or code A SSI.

The amount of the base Regular benefit will be increased by \$25 if the household contains a vulnerable individual (household member who is age 60 or older, under age 6 or permanently disabled).

View <u>HEAP Monthly Income Limits</u>.

Emergency HEAP Benefit

The 2017-18 Emergency HEAP benefit opens January 2, 2018.

If you are eligible, the Emergency HEAP Benefit can help you heat your home if you are in a heat or heat related emergency.

Emergency HEAP benefits and eligibility are based on:

- income,
- available resources, and
- the type of emergency

If you have an emergency you must contact your<u>HEAP Local District Contact</u>for assistance. Assistance cannot be provided through this website.

You may be eligible for an emergency HEAP benefit if:

- Your electricity is necessary for your heating system or thermostat to work and is either shut-off or scheduled to be shut off or
- Your electric or natural gas heat is off or scheduled to be shut-off or
- You are out of fuel, or you have less than one quarter tank of fuel oil, kerosene or propane or have less than a ten (10) day supply of wood, wood pellets, corn, or other deliverable heat source.

- Your income is at or below the current income guidelines as posted in the table below or you receive Family Assistance, Safety Net Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) or Code A Supplemental Security Income.
- The heating and/or electric bill is in your name and
- Your household's available resources are:
 - less than \$2,000 if no member of your household is age 60 or older; or
 - less than \$3,000 if any member of your household is age 60 or older.

Emergency Heat and Heat-related HEAP Benefit Amounts for 2017-18

Type of Emergency	Amount
Heat Related Domestic (electric service required to operate heating equipment)	\$140
Natural Gas Heat Only	\$350
Natural Gas Combined with Heat Related Domestic	\$490
Electric Heat Combined with Heat Related Domestic	\$490
Non-utility heating fuel (oil, kerosene, and propane)	\$675
Non-utility heating fuel (wood, pellets, coal, corn, etc.)	\$525

View <u>HEAP Monthly Income Limits</u>.

Heating Equipment Repair or Replacement Benefit

If you have an emergency you must contact your<u>HEAP Local District Contact</u>for assistance. Assistance cannot be provided through this website.

The Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement benefit opens November 6, 2017.

If you are a homeowner and eligible, the Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement benefit can help you repair or replace your furnace, boiler and other direct heating equipment necessary to keep your home's primary heating source working.

Benefit amounts are based on the actual cost incurred to repair or replace your furnace, boiler, and/or other essential heating equipment, \$3,000 for a repair and \$6,500 for a replacement.

You must go to your <u>HEAP Local District Contact</u> to apply. Your local district contact will decide if you meet all the eligibility conditions, including the income and resource requirements.

Before work is started it must be approved and authorized by a <u>HEAP Local District Contact</u>. Payment is made directly to the vendor after all the work is completed.

View <u>HEAP Monthly Income Limits</u>.

Clean and Tune Benefit

The HEAP Clean and Tune benefit opened July 3, 2017 and remains open at this time.

Eligible households can receive energy efficiency services, which includes the cleaning of primary heating equipment, but may also include chimney cleaning, minor repairs, installation of carbon monoxide detectors or programmable thermostats, if needed, to allow for the safe, proper and efficient operation of the heating equipment. Benefit amounts are based on the actual cost incurred to provide clean and tune services, up to a maximum of \$400. No additional HEAP cash benefits are available.

You may be eligible for a benefit if:

- You are the homeowner
- Your household's gross monthly income is at or below the current income guidelines for your household size as posted on the following table
- Your primary heating equipment is more than 12 months old
- Your primary heating equipment or chimney has not been cleaned within the last 12 months
- You do not have a service contract with your vendor that includes clean and tune services

Your household eligibility requirements include filing an application with your local department of social services, providing all necessary documentation, and the household must reside in an eligible living situation.

Where to apply

You may apply for the Clean and Tune benefit with your <u>HEAP Local District Contact</u>.

View <u>HEAP Monthly Income Limits</u>.

Cooling Assistance Benefit

The HEAP Cooling Assistance benefit opens May 1, 2018.

If you are eligible, you may receive one Cooling Assistance benefit per applicant household for the purchase and installation of an air conditioner or a fan to help your home stay cool.

In circumstances where an air conditioner cannot be safely installed, a fan will be provided.

Only one air conditioner or fan, not to exceed \$800 with installation, will be provided per applicant household. No additional HEAP cash benefits are available.

You may be eligible for a Cooling Assistance HEAP benefit if:

- Your household's gross monthly income is at or below the current income guidelines for your household size as posted in the following table, or
- You receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamp) benefits, or
- You receive Temporary Assistance (TA), or
- You receive Code A Supplemental Security Income (SSI Living Alone), and
- You and your household members are United States Citizens or qualified aliens, and
- Includes an individual with a documented medical condition that is exacerbated by heat, and
- You received a Regular benefit greater than \$21 in the current program year, and
- You currently do not have a working air conditioner or the air conditioner you have is five years old or older, and
- You did not receive a HEAP funded air conditioner within the past ten years.

Your household eligibility requirements include filing an application with your local department of social services, providing all necessary documentation, and the household must reside in an eligible living situation.

Getting the air conditioner installed

A participating Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) vendor list can be obtained by contacting your <u>HEAP Local District Contact</u>. It will be your responsibility to maintain the air conditioner. This includes the responsibility to remove, cover, store, and/or reinstall the unit or the installation sleeve after vendor installation.

Where to apply

You may apply for the HEAP Cooling Assistance with your <u>HEAP Local District Contact</u>.

View <u>HEAP Monthly Income Limits</u>.

2017-18 HEAP Monthly Income Limits

Your total household gross monthly income for your household size must be at or below the following guidelines:

2017-18 HEAP Benefit Gross Monthly Income Guidelines		
Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income	
1	\$2,318	
2	\$3,031	
3	\$3,744	
4	\$4,457	
5	\$5,170	
6	\$5,883	
7	\$6,017	

8	\$6,150
9	\$6,284
10	\$6,418
11	\$6,733
Each additional	Add \$523