

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

FFY 2009 FACT SHEET

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is designed to help low-income families and individuals meet home heating and medically necessary cooling costs. This year, the application period is November 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009. To apply for LIHEAP, contact the authorized local community action agency or community based organization in your area. A list of these agencies is enclosed. For persons age 60 or over, or who are disabled, applications may be received and returned by mail. Other households may apply by mail at the discretion of the local agency.

To be eligible for LIHEAP benefits, the applicant household must be responsible for home heating or cooling costs, either directly or included in the rent; and have gross income at or below 225% of the federal poverty level. The chart below gives specific monthly gross income maximums for FFY 2009. Persons who live in public housing and/or receive rental assistance are not eligible unless they pay for their own heating/cooling costs directly to the fuel supplier. The amount of the LIHEAP heating benefit is determined by income, household size, fuel type, and heating region. This year, the medically necessary cooling assistance benefit is set at \$200.

An eligible household that heats with natural gas or electricity may have its benefits directly forwarded to its utility company. Otherwise, in most cases eligible households directly responsible to a fuel supplier for payment of home heating costs receive a two-party check in the name of the applicant and the fuel supplier. Households whose heating costs are included in their rent receive a single party check made out to the eligible applicant. A household receiving medically necessary cooling benefits also receives a single party check.

For further information on LIHEAP or to locate the nearest application agency, call 1-800-510-3102. Additional information about LIHEAP, including an application, is also available at www.energyassistance.nj.gov.

LIHEAP/WAP

MAXIMUM MONTHLY GROSS INCOME ELIGIBILITY LEVELS - FFY 2009

Household Size	Monthly Gross Income
1	\$1,950
2	\$2,625
3	\$3,300
4	\$3,975
5	\$4,650
6	\$5,325
7	\$6,000
8	\$6,675
9	\$7,350
10	\$8,025

11	\$8,677
12	\$8,854

Note: To determine eligibility for household sizes greater than 12, add \$177 for each additional member.