

2016-2017 LIHEAP Cash Grants

Program opens November 1, 2016

Program closes March 31, 2017

Amount of Grant:

\$200 (minimum grant) to \$1000 (maximum grant)

plus

Supplemental Grants of up to \$175 for “vulnerable households”*

- \$50 if household contains an individual age 60 or over;
- \$50 if household contains an individual with a disability;
- \$75 if household contains a child five and under.

*A household can only receive one grant per category, and an individual household member can only count for one criterion. Thus, a household will only receive the maximum supplement of \$175 if it has three individual household members, each meeting a different criteria above.

General Eligibility Requirements:

- Income at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Responsible for the main source of heat in the household (pay utility or fuel vendor directly; or indirectly through rent)
- Residency in Pennsylvania

How to Apply:

In person at local County Assistance Office or online at Pa. COMPASS

(<https://www.compass.state.pa.us>).

2016-2017 LIHEAP Household Income Limits

Household Size	150% FPL
1	\$ 17,820
2	\$ 24,030
3	\$ 30,240
4	\$ 36,450
5	\$ 42,660
6	\$ 48,870
7	\$ 55,095

2016-2017 LIHEAP Crisis Grants

Program opens November 1, 2016

Program closes March 31, 2017

Amount of Grant:

Up to \$500 to stop a shut-off of utility service, to get service turned back on, or to get fuel if a household is out of fuel or about to run out of fuel

General Eligibility Requirements:

- Income at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Responsible for the main source of heat in the household (pay utility or fuel vendor directly; or indirectly through rent)
- Residency in Pennsylvania
- **Actual or imminent home heating emergency that can be resolved by crisis funds**

How to Apply:

In person at local County Assistance Office or online at Pa. COMPASS

(<https://www.compass.state.pa.us>).

Changes and Updates to LIHEAP in 2016-2017

- **Supplemental Cash Grants:** Households can now receive up to \$175 in supplemental cash benefits.
 - **Definition of Disability:** receiving financial assistance for a disability or eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) through DHS due to a disability
- **Turn-On Program:** Subject to the availability of funds prior to the FY 2018 LIHEAP program year, LIHEAP will operate a Summer Turn-On program to assist households who are without heat or in danger of being without heat.
- **Treatment of Loans:** DHS will exclude all loans income calculation, if those loans can be verified through a statement from the lender or a loan document specifying the repayment plan.
- **Coordination of Cash and Crisis Benefits:** A household must use all of its authorized and not yet received LIHEAP Cash benefits to resolve a crisis before receiving a Crisis grant.
- **Automated Eligibility Determination:** Households who 1) apply through COMPASS and 2) choose to use income that is verified and known to DHS (because the household receives other benefits such as food stamps, MA, or cash) may get an automated eligibility determination, so long as the household's address and membership has not changed and all other conditions of eligibility are met.