**Heating Assistance Benefit Computation**

**Step 1 – Community fuel points**

The division has assigned heating cost points to each community in the slate, based upon the community’s annual fuel cost and climatic conditions. These points are listed in Appendix A.

* If the household uses natural gas and another fuel type for heat, the division will use the community heating cost points for natural gas.
* If the household uses self-harvested wood or coal for heat, the division will use the community heating cost points for oil multiplied by 0.5.
* If the household uses purchased wood or coal for heat, the division will use the community heating cost points for oil multiplied by 0.8.

**Step 2 – Dwelling type**

The division will multiply the community heating cost points by the first one of the following factors that describes the household’s dwelling. If more than one factor applies, the division will use the factor listed first:

1. The factor of 1.4 if the household resides in a mobile home with heated living space of 980 square feet or more;
2. The factor of 0.4 if the household resides in a travel trailer or mobile home less than 35 feet in length, or in an RV, tent or pickup camper;
3. The factor of 0.15 if the household resides in a one-room dwelling such as a studio apartment, hotel or boarding home;
4. The factor of 0.35 if the household resides on a boat;
5. The factor of 0.55 if the household resides in a one-bedroom dwelling, or a one-room house or cabin without bedrooms;
6. The factor of 1.3 if the household resides in a three-or-more-bedroom single family, duplex or triplex home;
7. The factor of 0.7 if the household resides in a two-bedroom unit in an apartment building of four or more attached units.

If the household resides in a single residence with one or more other households, the heating cost points are reduced to the household’s proportionate share of the home heating expenses.

**Step 3 – Household size and income**

The division reviews and verifies each household’s gross income for the month prior to application. Verification may be provided through: documentary evidence (wage stub, award letter, etc.); Division of Public Assistance and Department of Labor records; or impartial third parties such as fee agents, village council representatives, or social service agencies.

The division will assign each household the following percentage of heating cost points based upon the household’s gross monthly income and family size, expressed as a percentage of the Alaska poverty level. The Alaskan poverty level figures are included in Appendix B.

* 100 percent of points if the household’s gross monthly income is no more than 25 percent of the Alaska poverty level;
* 90 percent of points if the household’s gross monthly income is more than 25 percent but no more than 50 percent of the Alaska poverty level;
* 80 percent of points if the household’s gross monthly income is more than 50 percent but no more than 75 percent of the Alaska poverty level;
* 70 percent of points if the household’s gross monthly income is more than 75 percent but no more than 100 percent of the Alaska poverty level;
* 60 percent of points if the household’s gross monthly income is more than 100 percent but no more than 125 percent of the Alaska poverty level;
* 50 percent of points if the household’s gross monthly income is more than 125 percent of the Alaska poverty level but no more than the maximum allowable.

If the household’s gross monthly income exceeds the maximum allowable poverty level the household is not eligible.

**Step 4 – Priority groups**

The division will add one point to the income adjusted heating cost points if the household includes one or more members 60 years of age or older, legally disabled, or under six years of age.

**Step 5 – Round points**

The division will round the final total heating cost points to the nearest whole number. The total heating cost points may not exceed 35 points.

**Step 6 – Heating points of 2.0 or more**

Households must have heating cost points of 2.0 or more before rounding to be eligible for heating assistance.

**Step 7 – Multiply by the benefit rate to determine household benefit**

The division will multiply by the FY 2017 benefit rate of $100 to determine the amount of the household’s heating assistance.

The amount of heating assistance may be reduced by the amount of the unpaid balance that the household owes the division for previously awarded heating assistance to which the household was not entitled. The division will use this method of recoupment of overpayments only if the household has not responded to the division’s request for repayment or the household defaults on its repayment agreement.

The following examples illustrate how a household’s heating assistance benefit is determined.

**Example 1 Benefit**

**calculation:**

Step 1. Community, Fuel Anchorage, N 4 points

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Gas\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 2. Dwelling 3 bedroom 3 points x 1.3 = 3.9

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_house\_\_\_\_\_\_\_points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 3. Household Size, Income 4; $2,530 101-125% of

poverty = 60%

3.9 points x 0.6 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2.34\_points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 4. Household includes elderly, No N/A

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_disabled or child under age 6\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 5.\_\_\_\_\_\_Heating points of 2.0 or more\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2.34\_points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 6.\_\_\_\_\_\_Round points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Rounded = 2 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 7. Multiply by benefit rate 2 points x 100 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_$200\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Example 2 Benefit**

**calculation:**

Step 1.\_\_\_\_\_\_Community, Fuel\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Fairbanks, Oil\_14 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 2. Dwelling 2 bedrm, 14 points x 0.7 = 9.8

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 3. Household Size, Income 2; $2,102 126-150% of

Poverty = 50%

9.8 points x 0.5 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_4.9\_points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 4. Household Size, Income Yes 4.9 points + 1 = 5.9

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_child under age 6\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 5.\_\_\_\_\_\_Heating points of 2.0 or more\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_5.9 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 6.\_\_\_\_\_\_Round points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Rounded = 6 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 7. Multiply by benefit rate 6 points x $100 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_$600\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Example 3 Benefit**

**calculation:**

Step 1. Community, Fuel Savoonga, 23 points

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Oil\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 2. Dwelling 2 bedroom No adjustment

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_house\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 3. Household Size, Income 5, $2,300 76-100% of poverty

= 70%

23 points x 0.7 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_16.1 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 4. Household includes elderly, disabled Yes 16.1 points + 1 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_child under age 6\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_17.1 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 5.\_\_\_\_\_\_Heating points of 2.0 or more\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_17.1 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 6. Round points Rounded = 17

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 7. Multiply 17 points x $100

By benefit = $1700

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_rate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Example 4 Benefit**

**calculation:**

Step 1. Community, Fuel Anchorage, N 3 points

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Gas\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 2. Dwelling Studio 3 points x 0.15 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_apartment\_\_\_\_0.45 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 3. Household Size, Income 1, $1,500 126-150% of

oH

poverty = 50%

.45 points x 0.5 =

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_0.225 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 4. Household includes elderly, disabled or No N/A

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_child under age 6\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 5.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Heating points of 2.0 or more\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_0.225 points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 6.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Round points\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_N/A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 7.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Multiply by benefit rate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Ineligible\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_