

BENEFIT DETERMINATION

1. The number of points assigned to an Eligible Household will be determined pursuant to the following:

Calculated or Reported Energy Cost	Points
\$0-\$400	5
\$401-\$800	10
\$801-\$1200	15
\$1201-\$1600	20
\$1601-\$2000	25
\$2001-\$2500	30
\$2501 and over	35
Calculated or Reported Energy Cost falling between brackets will be rounded to the next higher or lower dollar amount, as appropriate. For example: \$400.01-\$400.49 will be rounded to \$400; \$400.50-\$400.99 will be rounded to \$401.	

Poverty Level as Calculated under the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines	Percentage of Points
0%-25%	130%
26%-50%	120%
51%-75%	110%
76%-100%	100%
101%-125%	90%
126%-150%	80%
151%-170%	70%
171%-180%	30%
181%-190%	20%
191%-200%	20%
201%-210%	15%
211%-220%	15%
221%-230%	15%
Calculated poverty level amounts falling between brackets will be rounded to the next higher amount. For example: income at 75.1% will be rounded to 76%.	

All final point results that are fractional will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.

2. Calculating Energy Costs. Energy Costs are calculated by the Consumption Based or DHLC method.
 - A. Consumption Based. Energy Costs will be based on the Eligible Household's actual Home Energy deliveries, as reported on the Annual Consumption Report, for the primary Heating System as declared on the Eligible Household's Application.
 1. If the primary Heating System is electric, Energy Costs will be calculated by deducting \$600 from the annual electricity cost as reported by the Vendor on the Annual Consumption Report. The \$600 deduction eliminates the non-heating usage of electricity.

2. If an Eligible Household resides in Subsidized Housing and has a Direct Energy Cost, any annual utility allowance for heating will be deducted from the Eligible Household's Energy Cost reported by the Vendor on the Annual Consumption Report.
3. Energy Cost will be calculated using the Consumption Based method provided the Eligible Household meets the following requirements:
 - i. The Eligible Household has a Direct Energy Cost and;
 - ii. An Applicant occupied the residence for the entire previous Heating Season and;
 - iii. The Eligible Household purchased all of their Home Energy for their primary Heating System from a Reporting Vendor(s) for the previous Heating Season and;
 - iv. Reporting Vendor(s) submitted an Annual Consumption Report to MaineHousing that provided the Eligible Household's Home Energy delivery information and;
 - v. The Eligible Household's Energy Costs, as reported by Vendor(s) to MaineHousing, is for their residence only and;
 - vi. The Eligible Household's primary Heating System does not use wood, wood pellets, corn, coal, or bio-bricks.

B. Design Heat Load Calculation. DHLC shall be used to estimate the Energy Costs for Eligible Households that do not meet the requirements of the Consumption Based method. Under the DHLC, the number of rooms occupied by the Eligible Household shall be multiplied by the number of BTUs needed to heat an average sized room in a Dwelling Unit. That product will then be multiplied by the number of square feet of an average sized room in a Dwelling Unit. Next, that second product will be multiplied by the number of heating degree days of the Service Area in which the Eligible Household's Dwelling Unit is located. That third product is then divided by one million BTUs. The quotient is then multiplied by the cost of the Eligible Household's primary Home Energy type per one million BTUs. That fourth product is then divided by the efficiency rate of the primary Home Energy type to arrive at the Eligible Household's amount of energy consumption. The cost per one million BTUs and efficiency rate of the Applicant's Home Energy type will be periodically established by MaineHousing. The DHLC is based on the following factors:

1. The total number of rooms in the Dwelling Unit as listed on the Application. Hallways, bathrooms, and closets are not counted in the total number of rooms;
2. An assumed standard room size for the Dwelling Unit type. Standard room sizes and BTUs required to heat a Dwelling Unit vary by Dwelling Unit type because average room size and surface area exposure to the elements vary by Dwelling Unit type. The standard room sizes and BTUs used for each Dwelling Unit type are as

Dwelling Unit Type	Standard Room Size	BTUs
Stick-built/Modular	144 square feet	14.3
Manufactured Home/mobile home	100 square feet	13
Apartment	120 square feet	8.3

- The heating degree days for the Service Area. Heating degree days are determined by the National Weather Station in Gray, Maine.

Subgrantee	Service Area - counties	Heating Degree Days
Aroostook County Action Program	Aroostook	9543
Community Concepts, Inc.	Androscoggin, Oxford	7373
Kennebec Valley Community Action Program	Kennebec, Somerset	7680
Kennebec Valley Community Action Program	Lincoln, Sagadahoc	7420
Penquis Community Action Program	Penobscot, Piscataquis	8245
Penquis Community Action Program	Knox	7359
The Opportunity Alliance	Cumberland	7426
Waldo Community Action Partners	Waldo	7297
Washington-Hancock Community Agency	Washington, Hancock	7771
Western Maine Community Action	Franklin	8866
York County Community Action Corporation	York	7012

- The estimated BTUs required to heat the Dwelling Unit;
- Average cost per one million BTU. MaineHousing determines the average costs per one million BTU annually. Oil, kerosene, and propane costs are obtained by averaging the costs reported by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). Average costs for all other fuel types are based on a representative survey of Vendors' pricing.
- The efficiency rate for the primary Home Energy type listed on the Application. The Energy Cost per one million BTU and efficiency rate are based on the primary Home Energy type specified on the Eligible Household's Application.

Home Energy Type	Efficiency Rate
Oil	65%
Kerosene	65%
Propane	65%
Natural Gas	65%
Electric	100%
Firewood	50%
Corn	60%
Wood Pellets	80%
Bio-bricks	80%