

LIHEAP Crisis

State	Crisis Definition	Type	Eligibility	Max Benefit
Alabama	A household member's health and/or well-being would likely be endangered if energy assistance is not provided.	year-round	150% FPG	\$850
Alaska	The household must be within 48 hours of shutoff, out of fuel, or within a day of running out of fuel. Also, their income for the month prior to the date they signed their application must be less than their shelter costs (mortgage/rent, electric and heat) for the same time period.	heating	150% FPG	\$4,550
Arkansas	The household must have an energy related emergency situation. Instances of extreme hot or cold temperatures or other energy related disasters such as floods, storms, etc. and/or "state emergency" as designated by the Governor.	heating and cooling	60% SMI	\$500
Arizona	A crisis is defined as a delinquent or shut off notice, or if utilities are included in the rent, an eviction notice is required. Added to the definition of a crisis is the determination of a Human Service Emergency made by the Arizona Department of Economic Security. A Human Service Emergency includes, but is not limited to, a fire or flood which results in the evacuation of homes and shelters. Upon determination of a Human Service Emergency, households affected may be assisted with costs to temporarily shelter or house individuals in hotels, apartments, or other living situations, i.e., placing people in settings to preserve health and safety and to move them away from the crisis situation.	year-round	<8 individuals 60% SMI; >7 individuals 150% FPG	\$500
California	CSD uses the federal definition of a crisis (Low Income Energy Assistance Act 2603(3)):"weather-related and supply shortage emergencies and other household energy related emergencies." Crisis funds may only be used in accordance with the federal definition, including: 1. A natural disaster (whether or not officially declared), 2. A significant home energy supply shortage or disruption, 3. An official declaration of a significant increase in: - home energy costs, home energy disconnections, enrollment in public benefit programs, or unemployment and layoffs or, 4. An official emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. In those situation where there is not an official federal, state, or local declaration of emergency, an emergency may be deemed to exist by CSD where there is imminent danger, requiring immediate action to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, or essential public services.	year-round	60% SMI	\$1,000
Colorado	A household is crisis is one where service has been discontinued or is threatened to be discontinued, is out of fuel, or will run out of fuel, or is responsible for heating costs that are included in rent and has received an eviction notice. A crisis also includes a household whose primary heating source is inoperable or access to a fuel tank is not possible due to severe weather.	year-round	165 FPG	\$700

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Connecticut	There are two categories of "Crisis" in use. "Winter Crisis" refers to benefits provided to households that have fully utilized their 'heating' assistance benefit and are still in need of assistance. 'Other Crisis' assistance refers to benefits provided to households that have fully utilized their 'heating' and 'Winter Crisis' benefits and are in a life-threatening situation. The eligibility threshold for households receiving 'Other Crisis' benefits is 200% FPG.	heating	60 SMI (200% FPG for "other crisis")	\$550
Delaware	Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) is defined as: Assistance in the energy crisis situation. Eligible residents of State of Delaware with gross household income less than or equal to 200% of poverty guideline who are responsible for paying an energy bill are considered to be experiencing an energy crisis whenever. 1. Contractor deems the weather conditions of the subsequent 72 hours to pose a serious threat to the health or safety of one or more members of the eligible households; AND 2. Financial assessment demonstrates the household to be without sufficient resources for alleviating the crisis; AND 3. Household has no prospect for receiving resources within forty-eight hours that could alleviate the crisis; AND 4. Household utility services for heating and cooling have been disconnected; OR 5. Household is under the payment arrangement with utility services to avoid disconnection; OR 6. Household has received a notice from the utility services for disconnection within five days; OR 7. State declares the upsurge in the price of the home energy fuel type to be crisis; OR 8. Household is determined to be in a life-threatening situation, which can directly or indirectly lead to death of the member of the eligible household unless some form of assistance has been provided no later than eighteen hours after the household has applied for ECIP benefit, OR 9. Division has authorized crisis payment, which can include emergency repair of non-functional heating or cooling equipment.	heating and cooling	200% FPG	\$600
District of Columbia	A household is considered in crisis if they have received a shut-off notice, their energy service has been disconnected or household heating oil is at 5% or less.	year-round	60% SMI	\$600
Florida	Florida has a statewide definition of crisis that all subgrantees must use in determining if a client is eligible for a crisis benefit: Home Energy Crisis - shall be defined as no access or being in immediate danger of losing access to needed home energy because of any of the following: a. The applicant's home cooling or heating energy source has been cut off, b. The Applicant has been notified that the energy source for cooling or heating is going to be cut off, c. The Applicant has received a notice indicating the energy source is delinquent or past due, d. The Applicant is unable to get delivery of fuel for heating, is out of fuel for heating, or is in danger of being out of fuel for heating, e. The Applicant has a bill for which the due date has lapsed; or f. The Applicant has other problems with lack of cooling or heating in the home, such as needing to pay a deposit, needing a repair or purchase of heating or cooling equipment, or needing interim emergency measures to avoid further crisis.	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$600

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Georgia	A crisis is determined when a low-income household is facing imminent disconnection and/or needs restoration of their heating or cooling fuel source. A crisis may also result from a weather related emergency, which affects all, or a specific area of the state.	heating	60 SMI	\$350
Hawaii	Utility power at the household's current residence has been terminated with 60 days from the date of application or will be terminated within seven days of application because of nonpayment of bill.	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$350
Idaho	Idaho defines a crisis as a situation where an eligible household: Is at risk of disconnection of utility service; Has had their utility service disconnected; or Has less than 48 hours of bulk fuel.	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$750
Illinois	In the event of a weather-related natural disaster or extreme weather conditions, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) will develop an	heating	150% FPG	\$750
Indiana	In Indiana the following citizens are determined to be in a crisis situation:	heating	150% FPG	\$400
Iowa	Our Procedural Manual lists allowable crisis measures with expenditure limits. Those allowable measures address the following crisis situations: non-working furnace,	heating	175% FPG	\$3,000
Kansas	The household must have received a shut-off notice or have less than 15% fuel left in their tank. Household has no heating fuel or no energy to operate the primary heating	heating	130% FPG	\$1,486
Kentucky	A household is considered to be in crisis if they meet basic LIHEAP eligibility criteria and: The household has a past due/disconnect notice, if electric or natural gas is the primary heating source; or The household is within four (4) days of running out of fuel if coal, wood, kerosene, fuel oil or propane is the primary heat source.	heating	130% FPG	\$250
Louisiana	A crisis exists when a household's energy source for heating and/or cooling has been disconnected or scheduled for disconnection, depleted and there are insufficient resources to resolve the situation. A crisis may also include weather-related alerts and supply shortage emergencies declared by state or federal government.	year-round	60% SMI	\$475
Maine	A Household may be eligible for Crisis Assistance if there is an imminent loss of heat due to: Less than 3-day supply of fuel; disconnection of electricity if heating system requires electricity. A household may be eligible for crisis assistance if there is an imminent loss of heat due to: Less than 3-day supply of fuel (e.g. reading of 1/8 tank or less on a standard 275 gallon heating oil tank; reading of 25% or less on a propane tank; "3-day or less" supply standard applies to other delivered fuel types). Disconnection of service notice from electric utility if the household's heating system requires electricity. Dysfunctional or unsafe primary heating system and no secondary heating system.	heating	170% FPG	\$400

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Maryland	Maryland defines an energy crisis as where a household has no heat or a shortage of fuel supply or an immediate utility turn off (less than three days) during the normal winter period (November 15 through March 31). Local agencies may request a waiver to change the time length in the definition of the winter period.	heating	175% FPG	\$1,791
Massachusetts	Local Administering Agencies are required to provide for emergency service within 18 hours of the eligible household's application or request. The criteria for designating an emergency are as follows: a. no heat for any reason, including heating system failure b. imminent loss of heat, due to: less than a 3-day supply of fuel (e.g., reading of 1/8 tank or less on a standard 275 gallon heating oil tank; "3-day or less" supply standard applies to other delivered fuels); or possession of final notice of utility termination for the primary heat source, or for a secondary source necessary to operate the primary heating system; or threatened eviction within 72 hours for renter whose rent includes heat.	heating	60% SMI	\$800
Michigan	Eligibility for the SER energy services component is based on the household's demonstration of immediate need for assistance with home heating fuel, electricity, or energy-related home repairs. Immediate need may be demonstrated by: a declared need for a deliverable fuel such as fuel oil, LP gas, wood, and coal; presentation of a shut-off notice or past-due notice for natural gas or electricity; notification received from a participating provider via a web service interface that a household's natural gas and/or electric account is in shutoff status; notification received from a participating Energy Direct provider via an electronic file that a household's natural gas and/or electric account is in shutoff status, and/or a verified need for a furnace repair or replacement of a non-functioning furnace. This is allowed only if the home is owned, being purchased or a group member holds a life estate on the home with the responsibility for home repairs and the home must be the group's permanent, usual residence.	heating	150% FPG	\$1,200
Minnesota	Have one of the following Crisis reasons: ☑ Heat Related Shut Off. ☑ Heat Related Disconnection Notice. ☑ Less than 20% in Fuel Tank and Refusal to Deliver (RTD). ☑ Less than One Week Biofuel. ☑ Non-Heat Electric Shut Off. ☑ Non-Heat Electric Disconnection Notice. Energy Related Repair (ERR) is a Crisis program for heating systems that do not heat, do not distribute heat, are malfunctioning or have a health and safety issues (such as producing carbon monoxide). Households receiving ERR benefits must be homeowners.	heating	60% SMI or 110% FPG (HH size 14 and above)	\$500

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Mississippi	The Division of Community Services deems Non-Life Threatening Crisis situations as: 1. Unexpected expense (Death of immediate family member, funeral expense, high medical expense, etc.) 2. Income loss within last 30 days due to layoff or consequences resulting in termination of benefits. 3. Services are disconnected for a household with children under six (6), elderly or disabled persons.	year-round	60% SMI	\$1,500
Missouri	Crisis is defined as receipt of termination or disconnect notice indicating a specific disconnect date; a final billing statement advising the account has been terminated; if they are a cash on delivery (COD) customer, when the propane tank is filled at less than 20% capacity, and when a pre-paid electric customer indicates their pre-paid usage is about to run out.	heating and cooling	135% FPG	\$800
Montana	Crisis assistance is available only when circumstances present a serious, imminent threat to the health and safety of the household. Some examples are: • the household's primary supply of energy is interrupted because of weather conditions; • weather or other forces outside the control of the household damages the household's dwelling and causes the dwelling to suffer a severe loss of heat; • hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions exist in the household's primary home water heating and/or space heating systems and safety modifications to the system are required; • any other home energy-related condition caused by severe weather conditions, fuel shortages, and/or acts of God. • The household has a documented medical need for home energy related safety modifications.	year-round	60% SMI or 150% FPG for households with 8 or more members	
Nebraska	Nebraska defines a crisis situation as the household has a shut off notice, currently without heating or cooling, is in jeopardy of being taken off their budget plan, or an empty or near empty fuel tank.	year-round	116% FPG	\$500
Nevada	Fast Track: To receive fast-track case processing, the applicant household must meet EACH of the following five (4) criteria: I. 1. The household must be in danger of having their heating or electric service disconnected within 48 hour or 2. been disconnected or 3. in need of heating fuel or have less than 10% in tank or 4. need a deposit to establish service or 5. loss of energy causes life-threatening situation and 6. paid at least \$25 on utility bill during the previous 60 days, and 7. must have requested a payment plan and been denied or have a payment plan and aren't able to keep up with payments. II. Household income is 150% or less III. Household must have experienced an unexpected loss of income in the past 2 - 5 months, at least 15% of total income which caused inability to pay utility costs. (more details in plan) IV. Households are ineligible for Fast Track if they received it in the previous year or received arrearage assistance (unless there are extenuating circumstances) . Nevada has the following crisis components available: 1) Fast Track, 2) Crisis Intervention, 3) Arrearage Payment (When funding permits at the discretion of the Administrator).	year-round	150% FPG	\$1,861

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New Hampshire	Household with less than an estimated seven days of fuel (1/4 tank for oil and kerosene, 20% for propane, a utility disconnection or eviction notice). T	heating	200% FPG	\$1,125
New Jersey	An energy emergency shall exist when a household is without heat or in danger of being without heat and has insufficient funds to purchase fuel. The CAA or CBO staff shall, no later than 48 hours after a household signs the declaration of emergency provide some form of assistance that will resolve the energy crisis.	heating	200% FPG	\$450
New Mexico	Households that have received a written disconnect notice from their utility vendor or a statement of non-delivery or sale of fuel from their fuel vendor due to lack of payment or inability to pay, have insufficient funds to open an account or meet the security deposit requirements may be eligible to receive a LIHEAP benefit. The Department is required to provide intervention to resolve an energy crisis that may exist. Crisis intervention is not available to households that have already received a LIHEAP benefit in the current federal fiscal year.	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$420
New York	The definition of a crisis emergency is when loss of heat is imminent. Imminent loss of heat is defined as less than ¼ tank for oil, kerosene or propane or less than a ten-day supply for other deliverable fuels, or heat or heat related utility service is scheduled for termination. Any HEAP eligible household's crisis emergency must be resolved within 48 hours from the time of the emergency application.	heating	60% SMI or 150% FPG for hh of 11+	\$575
North Carolina	A household is in a crisis if it is experiencing or is in danger of experiencing a life threatening or health related emergency due to a heating or cooling issue and sufficient, timely and appropriate assistance is not available from any other source.	year-round	150% FPG	\$600
North Dakota	Energy Crisis: This term means weather-related and supply shortage emergencies and other household energy-related emergencies.	heating and cooling	60% SMI	\$500
Ohio	Heating Crisis Assistance: an actual disconnection, notice of disconnection, or less than 25 percent supply of deliverable fuel, or a furnace needing repair to be operable. Summer Crisis Assistance: medical certification of need for room air conditioner, or elderly/disabled household.	heating and cooling, not year-round	60% SMI	\$750
Oklahoma	A utility crisis exists when a household is within 72 hrs of having their heating or cooling utility disconnected, is within 72 hours of running out of heating fuel (usually propane), has a refusal to deliver from supplier, or is without heating or cooling utility and need assistance establishing or restoring service. The household must have a precipitating factor that caused the household to choose between paying the energy bill and another vital household need.	heating and cooling, not year-round	110% FPG	\$500

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Oregon	A crisis exists when a household faces an energy burden which depletes or threatens to deplete financial resources, or which poses a potential health and/or safety threat to the well-being of the household.	heating	60% SMI	\$500
Pennsylvania	To qualify for a crisis benefit, a household shall meet the following requirements: 1) The household shall meet the general eligibility requirements under 601.31 (relating to general eligibility requirements), the responsibility for heating costs and Pennsylvania residency. 2) The household shall be without heat or in imminent danger of being without heat because of a weather-related or energy-supply-shortage emergency. 3) The household shall be eligible for a crisis benefit that, alone or combined with other resources available to the applicant household, will resolve the home-heating emergency. Any credit balance with the vendor, including but not limited to LIHEAP cash benefits, is deemed an available resource. 4) The applicant must provide proof of the home-heating emergency.	heating	150 FPG	\$500
Rhode Island	A Crisis is considered to occur when a client is unable to maintain heat in the home. This may result of: 1. Heat is shut off due to failure to pay a regulated utility bill. 2. The inability of the client to pay for deliverable fuel. 3. Breakdown of a heating system.	year-round	60% SMI	\$1,500
South Carolina	Energy crisis means weather-related and supply shortage emergencies and other household energy-related emergencies. To determine a crisis for utility/fuel assistance, the household must meet one or more of the following criteria: Proof of utility disconnection or notice; Proof of energy termination; Insufficient funds to establish a new energy account; Insufficient funds to pay a delinquent utility/fuel bill; Insufficient funds to pay the cost of repairing or replacing an eligible heating or cooling appliance or for a new heating or cooling appliance; and or Applicant has a medical condition that requires climate control and the heating/cooling appliance is considered hazardous, nonexistent or inoperable	year round	150% FPG	\$1,000
South Dakota	Household must meet one of the following conditions: supplier refuses to deliver; an overdue bill from supplier; heating system requires repair or replacement; less than 20% fuel in tank; disconnect notice; or eviction notice for non-payment and heat is included in rent.	heating	160 FPG	\$1,200

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Tennessee	<p>Agencies will determine criteria for service under the Crisis Assistance component based on uncontrollable circumstances which must include either a shut off notice, disconnected utilities or a lack of home delivered fuel notice in combination with at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Household has an unanticipated medical or major household expense. Out of pocket expense should exceed 100% of current utility bill. b) Household wage earner with at least a year of stable work history has lost his/her job within the last twelve (12) months. c) Household wage earner has left the home within the past forty-five (45) days. d) Death of wage earner within the last twelve (12) months. e) Significant loss of work hours. f) Household wage earner is unable to work due to illness and does not receive sick leave or time away from work. i) Household has a non-functioning or malfunctioning heating system. k) household has child under 6 or elderly 60+ or disabled member 	year-round	150% FPG	\$600
Texas	A bona fide household crisis exists when extraordinary events or situations resulting from extreme weather conditions and/or fuel supply shortages or a terrorist attack have depleted or will deplete household financial resources and/or have created problems in meeting basic household expenses, particularly bills for energy so as to constitute a threat to the well-being of the Household, particularly to Elderly, Persons with Disabilities, or children age 5 and younger. A utility disconnection notice may constitute a Household energy crisis.	year-round	150% FPG or 60% SMI	\$1,200
Utah	A crisis exists when a household has a 48 hour shut off notice or less 10% in their tank for deliverable fuels and faces a sudden or unexpected event beyond their control resulting in the inability to pay household heating costs.	year-round	150% FPG	\$1,000
Vermont	<p>Crisis fuel workers shall determine eligibility for crisis assistance based on the following seven requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Income Eligibility for Crisis Fuel Assistance 2) Receipt of Seasonal Fuel Assistance 3) Maximum Number of Crisis Grants per Season 4) Accessible Resources 5) Is There a Home Heating Crisis? 6) Extenuating or Unpredictable Circumstance 7) Use of Funds Over the Past 30 Days for Basic Living Expenses 	heating	150% FPG	\$444

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Virginia	The Crisis Assistance component is designed to help households meet energy emergencies that cannot be met by other resources. The emergency may result from a weather related or supply shortage emergency such as: no source of heat; the only heating equipment in the home is inoperable or unsafe; or there is a potential no heat situation. Crisis Assistance will be provided when the conditions for providing assistance are met and the assistance will ensure heat for the household. Crisis Assistance intervention must resolve the energy crisis of eligible applicants within 48 hours, or 18 hours if in a life threatening situation. Assistance with the purchase of primary fuel and the payment of the primary utility bills is provided to households who did not receive Heating Assistance or who have exhausted their heating benefit.	heating	130% FPG	\$2,500
Washington	Crisis is defined as the household having no fuel or being without power. Commerce allows each sub grantee the flexibility to select between implementing that definition, or choosing a definition that is similar to the state's definition, but better serves the needs of their individual agency and community. Sub-grantees' definitions of crisis must be approved by the Department of Commerce at the beginning of each program year. Definitions range from a shutoff notice or less than a 10 day supply of fuel to being shut off or without fuel.	heating	125% FPG	\$1,000
West Virginia	An emergency home heating need is defined as being without or imminently faced with the prospect of being without home heating and being without the necessary resources to obtain or maintain home heating. A disconnect notice for the utility is required.	heating	130% FPG	\$500
Wisconsin	Household must have existing/imminent lack of adequate heat/cooling in dwelling (emergency), or a risk of a heating emergency (proactive). No household will be eligible for crisis cooling assistance without a declaration by a local or state public health agency of a heat emergency and authorization is given by the Department of Administration.	heating and cooling, year-round	60% SMI, cooling must be medically necessary and for purchase of AC	\$1,200
Wyoming	Wyoming refers to Crisis Situations as Special Situations. Special Situations include: deposits either to restore or establish power; back bill assistance to help avoid disconnections and restore power after disconnection; deliverable fuel special fill to avoid running out of heating fuel; propane tank set and rental assistance; heat loss emergency due to heating system failure; and heating system failure prevention assistance. These types of Crisis assistance are designed to remove or prevent a life or health threatening situation relating to a heat loss emergency or potential heat loss emergency.	heating	60% SMI	\$500