



Department of Commerce and Economic Opportui

Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor / Jack Lavin, Director

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Laura Hunter
312-814-2354
www.illinoisbiz.biz

Assistance Program To Help Pay Winter Heating Bills Is Underway *Liheap Expected To Benefit 300,000 Illinois Households*

CHICAGO -- Governor Rod R. Blagojevich today announced that the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in Illinois is now underway for the upcoming winter season. Illinois households with disabled or elderly members, and those who are disconnected from their heat source, may now apply for heating assistance at locations throughout the state (Editors see attached list).

"With natural gas prices expected to increase dramatically, we are encouraging all potentially eligible or vulnerable households to apply for LIHEAP as soon as possible," Governor Blagojevich said. "In the meantime, everyone should continue to try and pay something on their utility bill and work with the utility company to avoid disconnection."

Total funding for LIHEAP this winter is approximately \$144 million, with \$79 million from the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant and \$65 million from the state's Supplemental Low Income Energy Assistance fund. LIHEAP funds are administered through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

"A sluggish economy, coupled with the high cost of natural gas, makes LIHEAP a critical program that can help ensure our families are warm and safe this winter," said DCEO Director Jack Lavin.

The energy assistance program is geared to households with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. A family of one can have a monthly income of no more than \$1,123, a two person household no more than \$1,515 and a family of four an income no greater than \$2,300. Benefits are provided directly to the household's gas or electric utility or delivered fuel dealer for households that heat with fuel oil or propane.

The months of September and October are set aside for households with elderly or disabled members and those disconnected from their heat source. All other households may begin submitting applications on November 1, 2003.

Benefits include payments to utilities or fuel dealers on behalf of eligible households to help

reduce energy bills, and emergency assistance to help disconnected households regain energy services. In limited instances where heat is included in rent, and rent is greater than 30 percent of a household's income, a small cash payment may be made directly to the household.

LIHEAP is operated throughout the state by a network of local agencies that work with utilities, determine eligibility and provide benefits to households. Anyone wishing to apply should contact the local agency in the county where they live. Additional assistance is available by calling the toll-free LIHEAP information line at 1-800-252-8643.

Local Agencies providing LIHEAP assistance:

BCMW Community Services, Inc.
909 E. Rexford Street in Centralia
618/594-4146
Counties Served: Bond, Clinton, Marion and Washington

Carver Community Action Agency
235 E. Main Street in Galesburg
309/342-0158
County Served: Knox

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation
1805 S. Banker Street in Effingham
217/342-2193
Counties Served: Christian, Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Montgomery, Moultrie and Shelby

Central Illinois Economic Development Corp.
1800 5th Street in Lincoln
217/732-2159
Counties Served: DeWitt, Logan, Mason, Menard and Piatt

Community and Economic Dev. Association of Cook County, Inc. (CEDA)
208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 850 in Chicago
312/207-5444 or 312/795-8844
Suburban Cook County (Outside City of Chicago)

CEDA-Chicago Project
208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 850 in Chicago
312/207-5444 or 312/795-8844
City of Chicago

Community Contacts, Inc.
1035 E. State Street in Geneva
630/232-7600 (Kane)
815/758-3835 (DeKalb)
Counties Served: DeKalb and Kane

Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corp.
1122 E. Marietta Street in Decatur
217/428-0155

County Served: Macon

DuPage County Dept. of Human Resources
421 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton
630/682-7000
County Served: DuPage

East Central Illinois Community Action Agency, Inc.
56 N. Vermilion Street in Danville
217/433-2705
Counties Served: Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion

Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc.
400 W. Pleasant
217/923-3113
Counties Served: Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Jasper, Lawrence and Richland

Fulton County Health Dept.
700 East Oak Street in Canton
309/647-1134
County Served: Fulton

Illinois Valley Economic Development Corporation
223 S. Macoupin in Gillespie
217/839-4431
Counties Served: Calhoun, Greene, Jersey and Macoupin

Kankakee County Community Services, Inc.
657 East Court Street
815/933-7883
County Served: Kankakee

Kendall-Grundy Community Action
500A Countryside Center in Yorkville
630/553-9100 (Kendall)
815/941-3262 (Grundy)
Counties Served: Grundy and Kendall

Community Action Partnership of Lake County
102-106 S. Sheridan Road in Waukegan
847/249-4330
County Served: Lake

Madison County Community Development
130 Hillsboro Avenue, Suite 102 in Edwardsville
618/692-6200
County Served: Madison

McHenry County Housing Authority
1108 N. Seminary in Woodstock

815/338-7752
County Served: McHenry

MCS Community Services
345 W. State Street in Jacksonville
217/243-9404
Counties Served: Cass, Morgan and Scott

Mid Central Community Action, Inc.
923 E. Grove Street in Bloomington
309/829-0691 (McLean)
815/844-3201 (Livingston)
Counties Served: Livingston and McLean

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency
103-109 N. Chicago Avenue in Freeport
815/232-3141
Counties Served: JoDaviess and Stephenson

Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc.
711 W. McBean Street in Peoria
309/671-3900
County Served: Peoria

Project NOW, Inc.
418 19th Street in Rock Island
309/852-4565
Counties Served: Henry, Mercer and Rock Island

Rockford Human Services Department
612 N. Church in Rockford
815/987-5782
Counties Served: Boone and Winnebago

Sangamon County Department of Community Resources
200 S. 9th Street, Room 311 in Springfield
217/535-3120
County Served: Sangamon

Shawnee Development Council, Inc.
530 W. Washington in Karnak
618/634-2201
Counties Served: Alexander, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski and Union

St. Clair County Community Action Agency
19 Public Square, Suite 200 in Belleville
618/277-6790
27 N. Illinois Street in Belleville
618/257-9246
County Served: St. Clair

Tazwood Community Services, Inc
 Field Shopping Center, 2005 S. Main Street in Morton
 309/266-9941
 Counties Served: Tazewell and Woodford

Tri-County Opportunities Council
 405 Emmons Avenue in Rock Falls
 815/625-7830
 Counties Served: Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark and Whiteside

Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials
 1891 Maine Street, Suite 4 in Quincy
 217/224-8171
 Counties Served: Adams, Brown, Pike and Schuyler

Urban League of Champaign County
 314 S. Neil Street in Champaign
 217/363-3333
 County Served: Champaign

Crosswalk Community Action Agency
 410 W. Main Street in West Frankfort
 618/937-3581
 Counties Served: Franklin, Jefferson and Williamson

Wabash Area Development, Inc.
 110 Latham Street in Enfield
 618/965-3458
 Counties Served: Edwards, Gallatin, Hamilton, Saline, Wabash, Wayne and White

Western Egyptian Economic Opportunity Council
 1 Industrial Park in Steeleville
 618/939-8715
 Counties Served: Jackson, Monroe, Perry and Randolph

Western Illinois Regional Council
 223 S. Randolph Street in Macomb
 309/837-2997
 Counties Served: Hancock, Henderson, McDonough, and Warren

Will County Center for Community Concerns
 304 N. Scott Street in Joliet
 815/722-0722
 County Served: Will

The Hearing impaired may access all numbers through the State TDD Relay: 800/526-0844



LIHEAP Fall 091003.pdf

[<-- Back to Index](#)

[<-- Close Window](#)