

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

READY TO HELP



Helping others strengthens us all. So, when life doesn't go as planned, we're ready to support you.

WHY SHOULD I APPLY?

Every year, people across the country struggle to pay their energy bills which can put health and safety at risk. Programs are available to help.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I SHOULD APPLY?

- "I'm worried that I won't be able to pay my utility bill."
- "I receive benefits such as SNAP, TANF, SSI, etc."
- "I recently experienced life events that created financial hardship."

WHEN YOU APPLY YOU WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING:

- A government issued form of identification.
- Proof of income for the entire household.
- A copy of your gas or electric bills. Visit blackhillsenergy.com to view.

A copy of rental agreement, if utility bills are included.

ADDITIONAL BILL MANAGEMENT TOOLS:



Payment arrangement: Your full balance due will be divided evenly over an agreed-upon time frame.



Budget Billing: A free, stable payment plan that gives you more predictable bills by averaging the amount you pay each month.



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WHY LIHEAP FIRST?

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps families stay safe and healthy by providing federally funded assistance for energy bills, crises, weatherization and minor home energy repairs.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

The heating season runs from Oct. 1 through April 30.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Individuals may apply for the program at their local county Community Action Agency. To locate your local outreach office visit **iowa.gov**.

If you are unable to find your county on the Community Action Agencies Intake List, please call Community Action Agencies Unit at **515-281-3861**. For more information you may also visit **iowa.gov**.

INCOME GUIDELINES

| Household size | LIHEAP gross income limit |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | \$30,120.00 |
| 2 | \$40,880.00 |
| 3 | \$51,640.00 |
| 4 | \$62,400.00 |
| 5 | \$73,160.00 |
| 6 | \$83,920.00 |

^{*}For each additional household member, add \$10,760.00

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER APPLYING AND APPROVAL?

LIHEAP will send you a letter explaining that you have been approved and details where the funds will be sent. Most of the time, the funds will be transferred directly to your utility company.

OTHER WAYS TO GET PAYMENT ASSISTANCE:



Black Hills Cares

At Black Hills Energy, we have our program that supports our neighbors who are struggling to pay their energy bills. Visit blackhillsenergy.com/community/black-hills-cares.



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Provides resources like utility assistance, housing, food programs and more. For more information call **211** or visit **211.org**.

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