

# **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 is from Oct. 1 through March 31.

#### HOW DO I APPLY?

- In Person: Visit your local DHHS office.

- Online: Apply through the DHHS website at dhhs-access-neb-menu.ne.gov.

- By Phone:

Lincoln: 402-323-3900

Other Nebraska Communities (Toll-Free): 800-383-4278

#### INCOME GUIDELINES

Household size	LIHEAP Gross Income Limit
1	\$21,870.00
2	\$29,580.00
3	\$37,290.00
4	\$45,000.00
5	\$52,710.00
6	\$60,470.00

<sup>\*</sup>For each additional household member, add \$7,710.00

#### 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.



#### 2-1-1

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