

LIHEAP Crisis

State	FY	Crisis Definition	Type	Eligibility Criteria	Max Benefit
Alabama	2014	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	2014	The household's gross monthly income is less than the household's shelter costs; the applicant has suffered, or will suffer within 48 hours, termination of fuel or home heating-related utility services; the applicant requests expedited service.	heating	150% FPG	\$5,250
Arizona	2014	A crisis is defined as a delinquent or shut-off notice. If utilities are included in rent, an eviction notice is required. Added to the definition of a crisis is the determination of a Human Service Emergency made by the Department of Economic Security.	heating and cooling	60% SMI or 150% FPG	\$500
Arkansas	2014	A household has a crisis if its energy fuel has been depleted, services disconnected, notice of intent to disconnect received, furnace is in need of repair, etc.	year-round	60% SMI	\$500
California	2014	CSD uses the federal definition of a crisis to operate the Crisis Program which is "weather related and supply shortage emergencies and other household energy related emergencies". <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Home energy costs, b. Home energy disconnections, c. Enrollment in public benefit programs, or d. Unemployment and layoffs, or 4. An official emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, 	year-round	60% SMI	\$1,000
Colorado	2014	The eligible household must be in a "non-fuel" emergency due to an inoperable furnace, inability to access a fuel tank due to severe snowstorms, or the need for emergency clothing, blankets, alternative fuel provisions or emergency shelter in cases of severe cold, fire, flood or major heating system failure.	year-round	150% FPG	\$700

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Connecticut	2014	Crisis is defined in all cases as being unable to secure primary heat, causing a life-threatening situation during the program delivery period. A life-threatening situation is defined as being without or within one week of being without primary heating fuel (latter defined for oil and kerosene as the lesser of either 70 gallons or one quarter tank.) Crisis assistance is only available for deliverable fuels because CT has statutory utility shut-off protections for electricity and gas (Nov. 1 to April 15; Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-262c).	heating	150 FPG (200% FPG - 6-% SMI - for vulnerable)	\$410
Delaware	2014	<p>Income eligible households are deemed to be experiencing an energy crisis whenever:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the local administering agency determines through a financial assessment, that the household is currently without sufficient financial resources and has no prospect for receiving financial resources within the next 48 hours, that could be utilized to alleviate the crisis; or 2. has already been disconnected from the utility services which provided heating to the household; or 3. has received a notice from the utility service which provides heating to the household that the services will be disconnected within 48 hours; or 4. the household is out of bulk heating fuel; or 5. exorbitant rise in price of any home energy fuel type may be deemed a crisis at the discretion of the State. <p>In addition, the current weather conditions or the weather conditions forecast for the next 24 hours, must, in the judgment of the local administering agency, be such that they pose a threat to the health or safety of one or more members of an eligible household if heating is not provided to the household during these weather conditions.</p>	heating	200% FPG	\$600
District of Columbia	2014	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

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Florida	2014	A client requesting crisis assistance must provide proof of an energy obligation which reflects either a delinquent payment notice, disconnect (shut-off) notice or information regarding fees required for a new connection. Determination of a crisis is decided at the local level by the individual LIHEAP provider. The crisis category allows for a benefit payment on behalf of eligible households that have an unavoidable heating (payment made October-March) or cooling (payment made April-September) emergency. It may pay the actual home energy bills owed by eligible households and/or other necessary expenses to maintain or restore heating and /or cooling. This may include repairs to heating or cooling equipment or support systems. The state sets a maximum amount per season. Each LIHEAP provider sets its own definition of a crisis and DCA monitors their policies.	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$600
Georgia	2014	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	2014	Utility power at the household's current residence has been terminated within 30 days of application or will be terminated within seven days of application because of nonpayment of utility bill.	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$250
Idaho	2014	Eligibility for Crisis:1. Household meets income eligibility. 2. Household being placed on the weatherization waiting list and/or the home being held to the 'previously weatherized' timeline would result in imminent health and safety hazards for a household member. 3.The heating or cooling situation (i.e. heating with an oven or for outdoor use propane heater) is assessed to be creating unsafe or significantly unhealthy conditions in the home. A crisis may also exist due to extreme cold or heat which constitutes a threat to the health of a member of the household.	heating and cooling	150 FPG	\$700

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Illinois	2014	Emergency Assistance will be provided only after a household has actually been disconnected or deemed eminent (within 7 days) by the utility from its primary heat source, its cooling source if medical conditions require cooling, or any secondary energy source that is heat-related. Emergency Service funds may also be used to prevent disconnection where the household has a documented life-threatening medical condition.	heating	150% FPG	
Indiana	2014	A crisis occurs when a household is in imminent danger of disconnection, is shut-off or low or out of heating fuel.	heating	150% FPG	\$400
Iowa	2014	A potentially life-threatening situation created by a faulty heating system, or emergency delivery for deliverable fuels only, lack of utility service, and/or inadequate supply of deliverable fuel.	heating	150% FPG	\$500
Kansas	2014	Household has no heating fuel or no energy to operate the primary heating system.	heating	130% FPG	\$1,446
Kentucky	2014	A crisis situation involves imminent loss of heating energy (applicants must provide a utility disconnect notice) or have four or fewer days worth of fuel oil, propane, kerosene, wood or coal available or, have received an eviction notice citing unpaid rent (applies to applicants whose heating costs are included as an undesignated portion of the rent.	heating	130% FPG	\$400
Louisiana	2014	Crisis is defined as an adverse situation that jeopardizes the health and/or safety of a member of the targeted priority population. The adverse situation can be either(1) be faced with threatened or actual interruption of service or lack a heating/cooling source, and (2) be faced with a health and/or safety hazard due to the crisis situation.	year-round	60% SMI	\$475
Maine	2014	A crisis is considered to be a life threatening, energy-related emergency which poses a threat to the health or safety of one or more members of the Household. 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	heating	150-170% FPG or 60% SMI (the lesser)	
Maryland	2014	Any household who has a weather-related supply shortage emergency and/or other household energy-related emergency.	11/-3/31	175% FPG	\$1,290

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Massachusetts	2014	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 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	
Michigan	2014	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.	11/1 - 5/31	150% FPG	\$850

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Minnesota	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household has a disconnected service or a past due bill • Household with less than 20% fuel remaining and a vendor refusal to deliver fuel • Household has a current bill they can't pay (only households with at least one senior member age 60 or older) OR • Homeowners must have a mechanical heating system emergency that affects heat of dwelling or health and safety. Heating Crisis Assistance is available in two parts. Part 1, Emergency Benefits, available to households in danger of being without heat due to past due energy bills (up to \$500). Part 2, Emergency Benefit Adjustments will increase the amount of crisis assistance available to households that have applied for the Cold Weather Rule, if possible, and made regular, reasonable payments (add another \$200). Repair emergencies are limited to heating systems and, in rare cases, water heaters. 	heating	60% SMI or 110% FPG	\$1,000
Mississippi	2014	Two types of crisis: 1) emergency crisis is a relief following a natural or man-made disaster that is considered unexpected or life threatening such as income loss due to layoff, persons on life-support, natural disaster or severe weather, unexpected expense (death related or medical); 2) non-Emergency crisis is any other cause(s) that are not considered life threatening such as employment, education, income management.	year-round	60% SMI	\$2,500
Missouri	2014	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 or when the propane tank is filled at less than 20% capacity.	heating and cooling	135% FPG	\$800
Montana	2014	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; • elevated carbon monoxide, etc,	year-round	60% SMI or 150% FPG for households with 7 or more members	

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Nebraska	2014	Household has shutoff notice, disconnected service, or lack old home delivery and one additional criteria from a list of 7 in the plan	year-round	116% FPG	\$500
Nevada	2014	Fast Track: To receive fast-track case processing, the applicant household must meet EACH of the following five (5) 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) . Crisis Intervention: assists households in crisis who are above 150%. Arrearage Payment Program: combined one-time arrearage payment and ongoing fixed annual credit (see plan for criteria).	year-round	150% FPG	
New Hampshire	2014	A crisis is defined as a condition that poses a serious threat to the health and safety of a household due to the lack of home energy. A household heating with a regulated utility must have a shut-off notice, a household heating with deliverable fuel must be low on fuel or have an empty tank and a household renting with heat included must have an eviction notice.	heating	200% FPG up 60% SMI if funds available	\$1,125
New Jersey	2014	Household is without heat or is in danger of being without heat and has insufficient income available to purchase fuel or when a household which pays for heating costs which are included in a monthly rental charge is faced with eviction due to nonpayment of rent	heating	200% FPG	\$2,000

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New Mexico	2013	Heating - any one of the following: Disconnect notice from utility provider; Insufficient funds to get a delivery of bulk fuel; Insufficient funds to initiate utility service. Cooling - all of the following, disconnect notice, at least one household member must be at least 60 years of age, disabled or a child five years of age or younger, and household must have paid the utility bill two out of the past three months.	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$224
New York	2014	Currently without heat fuel or have less than 10 days of fuel and are unable to get a delivery OR fuel tank less than 1/4 full OR have scheduled disconnect or be disconnected OR if social services determines that the home heating situation is detrimental to the health and safety of household members AND not have assets greater than \$2,000 (\$3,000 if household has a member 60 years or older).	heating	60% SMI or 150% FPG for hh of 11+	\$600
North Carolina	2014	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. North Carolina's Crisis Program does not assist with rent payments.	year-round	150% FPG	
North Dakota	2014	Assistance to low-income households necessitated by weather related or supply shortage emergencies or because the household is unable to secure home energy (heating or cooling) for financial or other reasons.	heating and cooling	60% SMI	
Ohio	2014	For Heating Crisis assistance: actual disconnection, notice of disconnection, or less than 10 day supply of fuel, or furnace disrepair. For Cooling Crisis assistance: medical certification of need for room air conditioner or elderly/disabled household.	heating and cooling	60% SMI	\$750
Oklahoma	2014	A crisis exists when a household is without heating/cooling service, at risk of having the service disconnected within 72 hours of application, has a notice of refusal to provide additional fuel when current supply will be depleted with 72 hrs, or need assistance to establish a new connection. The crisis must exist as a result of a valid precipitating factor.	heating and cooling	110% FPG	\$500

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Oregon	2014	A crisis exists when a household faces an energy burden which depletes or threatens to deplete financial resources, or which poses a health and/or safety threat to the well being of the household. Households wishing to receive crisis assistance must have exhausted a regular benefit prior to accessing crisis funds.	heating	60% SMI, exhausted regular benefit	\$500
Pennsylvania	2014	Households may apply for and, if eligible, receive crisis benefits regardless of whether they apply for or receive a LIHEAP cash benefit. 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. Note: An individual scheduled for automatic delivery service is protected from having a home-heating emergency and therefore does not qualify for a LIHEAP crisis grant.	heating	150 FPG	\$500
Rhode Island	2014	A Crisis is considered to occur when a client is unable to maintain heat in the home. This may be the result of: 1. Heat shut-off due to failure to pay a regulated heating bill (gas or electricity), or 2. The inability of a client to pay for additional deliverable fuel (oil, propane or wood), or 3. Breakdown of a heating system. SUMMER CRISIS 1. Household is determined income eligible. 2. If the household has a primary or secondary service disconnected they may be eligible for a Crisis Grant. 3. Depending on availability of funds and the severity of the summer heat, electric fans and or window air conditioning units may be purchased and distributed to households in need.	heating and cooling	60% SMI, shut-off notice or empty tank, exhausted regular benefit, or received eviction notice or medically necessary	\$1,000

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South Carolina	2014	<p>A crisis exists when extreme weather conditions, fuel supply shortages or increases in home energy costs have depleted or threatened to deplete household financial resources creating an energy burden that poses a health and/or safety threat to the well-being of the household; particularly households with elderly, disabled and those with children age 5 or younger. Payment of the energy bill may be paid by the subgrantee if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudden Reduction in Household Income – Primary wage earner has died or become disabled; or loss of job. • Dwelling is burned or damaged by tornado or hurricane. • Utility Termination Notice. • Utility has already been turned off. • Empty fuel tank. • Medical necessity. • Home heating/cooling system inoperable; needs repair/replacement. 	year round	150% FPG	\$1,000
South Dakota	2014	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	175% FPG (1-6 members) 60% AMI (7 members), 150% FPG (8+ members)	\$1,200

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Tennessee	2014	<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> <p>a) Household has an unanticipated medical or major household expense. Out of pocket expense should exceed 100% of current utility bill.</p> <p>b) Household wage earner with at least a year of stable work history has lost his/her job within the last twelve (12) months.</p> <p>c) Household wage earner has left the home within the past forty-five (45) days.</p> <p>d) Death of wage earner within the last twelve (12) months.</p> <p>e) Significant loss of work hours.</p> <p>f) Household wage earner is unable to work due to illness and does not receive sick leave or time away from work.</p> <p>i) Household has a non-functioning or malfunctioning heating system.</p> <p>k) household has child under 6 or elderly 60+ or disabled member</p>	heating and cooling	150% FPG	\$600
Texas	2014	A utility disconnection notice may constitute an energy crisis. Extreme hot or cold weather, defined at the local level.	year-round	125% FPG	\$4,900
Utah	2014	<p>A crisis is any weather-related emergency, any supply shortage emergency, or any other household energy-related emergency as approved at the Regional or State Office level. Examples of approvable household energy-related emergencies could include but are not restricted to: a) Energy costs above 25% of the client's gross income. b)Arrearage when the client has demonstrated a good faith attempt to resolve the problem. c) Repairs to prevent loss of energy from a dwelling, etc.</p>	year-round	150% FPG	\$500
Vermont	2014	An emergency due to a lack of heating capacity, which might be due to a lack of fuel or electric shut-off notice if needed to run the heating system.	heating	200% FPG	

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Virginia	2014	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. 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	2014	The following (including but not limited to) constitutes a crisis: a disconnection notice, notice of termination from a budget or average payment plan, less than a ten-day supply of oil, wood or propane, insufficient funds to reorder and a substantially dysfunctional or unsafe heating system.	heating	125% FPG	\$1,000
West Virginia	2013	Individuals and families who are without home heating or who are imminently faced with the prospect of being without home heating.	heating	130% FPG	\$500
Wisconsin	2014	Household must have existing/imminent lack of adequate heat/cooling in dwelling (emergency), or a risk of a heating emergency (proactive). While there is not a formal asset test, consideration will be given to resources available to the household before assistance is provided. Determination of eligibility for regular heating assistance benefits will determine a household eligible for crisis assistance for the remainder of the program period if the household has contributed \$25 or more towards their heating costs in the three months prior to applications. A household may receive more than one crisis assistance payment.	heating and cooling	60% SMI, cooling must be medically necessary and for purchase of AC	\$1,200

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Wyoming	2014	A crisis is a life or health threatening situation relating to a heat loss emergency. Crisis situation arise when clients do not have the funds to make deposits for utility hook-ups or to avoid potential shut-off during the winter months. Heating system failure during the cold winter months is also an example of a crisis. Wyoming considers an empty tank to be any tank less than 10% full and therefore eligible for Crisis. Wyoming uses this guideline in order to avoid incurring additional charges for pressure checks and to ensure that clients are able to heat their home in the winter.	heating	60% SMI	\$500