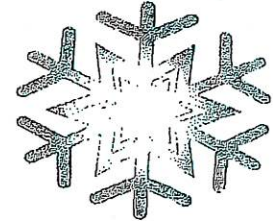


Home Energy Assistance Program

HEAP is a federally funded program to help low income households meet their immediate home energy expenses. HEAP benefits are based on income, household size, and energy costs. Regular benefits are available to households paying separately for heat. If you received a regular benefit last year and are over 60 years old you should have already received your application. If you are receiving food stamps, you are automatically enrolled in HEAP. If you would like to apply for HEAP and did not receive it last year, please call our office as applications will be mailed out beginning **November 1, 2024**



Regular HEAP opens – November 1, 2024

Emergency opens – January 2, 2025

Heating Baseline Benefit Amounts

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Oil, kerosene, propane | \$900 |
| Wood, coal, other deliverable | \$635 |
| Natural gas or electric | \$400 |

HEAP Income Guidelines

| Household Size | Gross Monthly Income |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 1 | \$3,322 maximum |
| 2 | \$4,345 maximum |
| 3 | \$5,367 maximum |

Information required for new applicants:

- Proof of each household member's identity
- Proof of applicant's Social Security Number and for each household member
- Proof of residence
- Proof of fuel and/or utility bill if you pay for heat or proof that you pay rent which includes heat
- Proof of income for all household members
- Must sign & date application

New applicants must have an interview and may opt for an in person or phone interview BEGINNING November 1, 2024. For more information, please call the Columbia County Office for the Aging at 518- 828-4258.



HEAP Clean and Tune Program

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) Heating Equipment Clean and Tune Program, is a service which provides assistance to a HEAP eligible applicant household to have their primary heating system cleaned and tuned. The benefit is scheduled to open **October 1, 2024**.

The HEAP Clean and Tune benefit may provide for all or some of the following, depending on each case's circumstances: Clean and tune of primary heating equipment; chimney cleaning, if the primary heat source is wood or wood products; minor repairs essential for safe operation of the heating equipment; and labor, materials and administrative costs.

Heating Equipment Repair or Replacement Benefit

The 2024-2025 Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement benefit is scheduled to open **October 1, 2024**.

Eligible homeowners can access the benefit to help repair or replace their furnace, boiler, and/or essential heating equipment. These amounts are not to exceed \$4,000 for a repair and not to exceed \$8,000 to replace the equipment.

Homeowners are required to apply through the Columbia County Department of Social Services. The Columbia County Department of Social Services will determine if the homeowner meets all the eligibility conditions, including the income and resource requirements.

All work MUST be approved and authorized by the Columbia County Department of Social Services BEFORE it is started. Payment for service will be made directly to the vendor after the work is completed.

If you are interested in either or both of these programs, please call the Columbia County Department of Social Services at 518-828-9411 and ask to speak to someone in the HEAP department.