



Wisconsin Home Energy Plus Program (WHEAP)

Home Energy Plus includes the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). WHEAP provides assistance for heating costs, electric costs, and energy crisis situation. WAP helps renters and homeowners improve energy efficiency and reduce their energy consumption. Operating with federal and state funding, the program provides assistance to households across the state to help lower the burden incurred with monthly energy costs.

Most types of fuel are eligible to receive assistance. Whether you use wood, propane, natural gas, electricity, or fuel oil to heat your home, energy assistance is available if you qualify.

Heating Assistance

WHEAP assistance is a one-time payment during the heating season (October 1-May 15). The funding pays a portion of the heating costs, but the payment is not intended to cover the entire cost of heating a residence. The amount of the energy assistance benefit varies depending on a variety of factors, including the household's size, income, and energy costs. In most cases the energy assistance benefit is paid directly to the household's energy supplier.

Electric Assistance

Your household may be eligible to receive a payment for non-heating electric energy costs through funding provided by Wisconsin's Public Benefits Program.

WHEAP electric (non-heating) assistance is a one-time payment during the heating season (October 1-May 15). The funding pays a portion of the household's electrical (non-heating) costs, but the payment is not intended to cover the entire cost of the non-heating costs. The amount of the non-heating assistance benefit varies depending on a variety of factors, including the household's size, income, and non-heating costs. In most cases the non-heating assistance benefit is paid directly to the household's energy supplier.

Crisis Assistance

A household may be eligible for crisis assistance if you have no heat, have received a disconnect notice from the vendor, or are nearly out of fuel and are unable to purchase more. Call the local energy assistance office if you are out of fuel at 715-395-1304. For emergency no-heat situations after hours or on weekends call 715-394-4432.

There are also non-emergency or proactive crisis services that include providing information on how to reduce fuel costs, counseling on budgeting and money management, providing payments to a fuel supplier, and co-pay agreements.

Furnace Assistance

WHEAP emergency heating system assistance can provide services to eligible home owners if the heating unit stops operating. Heating system assistance includes payment for repairs, or in some situations your residence may qualify for a total replacement of a non-operating furnace, boiler, or wood stove. Call the local energy assistance office immediately if you are experiencing a no-heat situation at 715-395-1304 or after-hours/weekends at 715-394-4432.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) helps homeowners and renters reduce energy consumption while increasing comfort in their homes. Weatherization improvements may also make your home environment healthier and safer. Improvements are installed by the local weatherization agency in your area.

If your residence qualifies for weatherization services, you may receive one or more of the following energy efficiency measures:

- **Insulation:** Adding insulation to the attic, walls, and crawlspace helps reduce energy use and increase comfort.
- **Sealing Air Leaks:** Sealing air leaks reduces cold drafts caused by gaps or cracks in the home's structure and may improve indoor air quality.
- **Heating System Update:** Repairing or replacing an inefficient furnace or boiler will save energy and money.
- **Energy-Saving Products:** Installing water saving faucet aerators and shower heads and ENERGY STAR® light bulbs will reduce your energy needs. Replacing an old refrigerator or freezer with a new ENERGY STAR® qualified model will also save energy.

Eligibility for Energy Assistance and Weatherization Assistance

Your household may be eligible for the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) and Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) based on a number of factors. If your household gross income is less than the amount shown on the following chart, you may be eligible for a benefit or services. One application covers both programs and is accepted at your local WHEAP agency.

INCOME GUIDELINES FOR THE 2019-2020 HOME ENERGY PLUS PROGRAM YEAR

| Household Size | Three Month | Annual Income |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1 | \$7,168.25 | \$28,673 |
| 2 | \$9,374.00 | \$37,496 |
| 3 | \$11,579.50 | \$46,318 |
| 4 | \$13,785.25 | \$55,141 |
| 5 | \$15,991.00 | \$63,964 |
| 6 | \$18,196.50 | \$72,786 |
| 7 | \$18,610.00 | \$74,440 |
| 8 | \$19,023.75 | \$76,095 |

The Home Energy Plus Program uses a previous three month income test which is annualized to determine program income eligibility.

Income for people who are self-employed, farmers, or seasonal workers is based on federal income tax forms for the previous year.

For information regarding the WHEAP program or to have an application mailed to you, please call our Energy Assistance Information Line at (715) 395-1651.

Applications are available at the Douglas County Department of Health & Human Services, Superior Water, Light, & Power, or online at www.homeenergyplus.wi.gov.

Appointments may be scheduled beginning September 16, 2019 by calling 715-395-1304.

Beginning October 1, 2019, completed applications can be dropped off at or mailed to:
Douglas County Department of Health & Human Services
1316 N 14th Street, Suite 400
Superior WI 54880

Home Energy Verification Checklist: <http://homeenergyplus.wi.gov/docview.asp?docid=28813&locid=25>

Home Energy Application: <http://homeenergyplus.wi.gov/docview.asp?docid=28799&locid=25>

Tips For Saving Energy Information: <http://homeenergyplus.wi.gov/docview.asp?docid=16544&locid=%2025>

For More information: 1- 866-HEATWIS (432-8947) or visit homeenergyplus.wi.gov