

# Alaska Affordable Heating Program

Do you need help paying your winter heating bills?

If your income is less than 225% of the federal poverty income guidelines for Alaska as indicated in the chart below, you may qualify for heating assistance this winter through the Alaska Affordable Heating Program. This program is funded through the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant and state general fund dollars.

<b>Family Size</b>	<b>Gross Monthly Income*</b>
1	\$2,549
2	\$3,447
3	\$4,343
4	\$5,238
5	\$6,136
6	\$7,031
7	\$7,927
8	\$8,825
Please add \$896 per month for each additional household member.	

\*Payments from the Senior Benefits Program and the PFD do not count as income.

Eligibility is not solely based upon income. A point system is used. Other factors that affect your eligibility and final benefit amount include the community in which you live, the type of dwelling you reside in, and how you heat your home. The program counts all gross income received by all household members except earned income from students under the age of 18 who are not the head of household, from the month prior to the date you signed your application. Income points are awarded using a sliding scale with households at the lowest income level receiving the most number of points.

Households may even choose to have 25% of their grant go to their electric vendor. To do so, you would need to check “yes” on question 21 of the application, include information about your electric vendor on question 23, and include a copy of your electric bill.

It can take up to 45 days to process your application. The fastest way to receive benefits is to make sure your application is completed in full, including social security numbers and dates of birth for all household members, and you have attached any necessary documentation including proof of income and copies of your heat and utility bills and/or a receipt from your wood vendor. In most cases, payments are made directly to your vendors and a notice will be sent to you informing you of your benefit amount if you are found eligible.

**It is easy to apply. You can pick up an application at any Department of Public Assistance office, download one at [heatinghelp.alaska.gov](http://heatinghelp.alaska.gov) or call 1-800-470-3058 to request an application by mail.**