

Heating Assistance is available to make ends easier to meet.

Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)

The purpose of the LIEAP is to provide home energy assistance to eligible low income households. The program is funded by the Federal Government and administered through the South Dakota Department of Social Services. The awards are based on your household income, number of people in the household, type of heating fuel used, and the location of your home.

Montana-Dakota encourages you to complete your application today for the federal energy assistance program so you can start receiving your benefits this heating season which runs from October 1, 2017 through May 15, 2018.

You can download the application form from the South Dakota Department of Social Services Web site <http://dss.sd.gov/economicassistance/energyassistance/lowincome.aspx>. You may also call the State office at 1-800-233-8503.

Who should apply?

- Households who buy their heating fuel from a fuel dealer or utility company, and households whose rent payments include the cost of heat.
- Households who need assistance with: non-repairable furnaces and fuel costs that are high due to houses that are older or in poor shape.
- Households who have difficulty paying fuel bills due to other rising costs and are in danger of losing their heating source.

What Services are available?

- Heating Assistance: LIEAP can pay for a portion of fuel used to heat the home you live in during the months your household is eligible between October 1 and May 15 during a particular heating season.
- Weatherization: The weatherization program helps low income people make their homes more energy efficient. Weatherization seals a home to keep warm air in and cold air out during the winter.
- Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP): You may qualify for the ECIP if you have not already been approved to receive heating assistance and are in a crisis situation such as:
 - Have a shut-off or disconnection scheduled to occur between October 1 and March 31,
 - Have an eviction notice for non-payment if heat is included in the rent.

In order to determine the services you may qualify for, you must fill out the application form and submit it to:

**Office of Energy Assistance
910 E. Sioux Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501**

Church Response Bill Assistance: Church Response is a private nonprofit organization established to help people in hardship circumstances with energy-related emergencies. It assists people with energy problems when no other resources are available to them and when these problems are caused by circumstances beyond their control. For more information contact Church Response at 605-342-5360.



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