



Governor Daniel P. Malloy |

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Energy Assistance - Guidelines

Household Income Guidelines

Connecticut Energy Assistance Program

The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program helps households pay for primary heating bills. If the household's primary heating costs are included in your rent, you may also apply for assistance.

For households with incomes up to sixty percent of the state median income

Household Size – including homeowners and renters that pay separately for heat. At this level, renters are not eligible if heat is included in the rent.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Under \$33,132	Under \$43,327	Under \$53,521	Under \$63,716	Under \$73,910	Under \$84,105	Under \$86,016

For households with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty guidelines

Household Size – includes renters whose heat is included in the rent, as long as more than 30% of gross income is paid towards rent.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Under \$17,655	Under \$23,895	Under \$30,135	Under \$36,375	Under \$42,615	Under \$48,855	Under \$55,095

Note: Any household in which all household members are participating in one or more of the following Department of Social Services programs are automatically considered income eligible for winter heating assistance benefits, **but must meet all other eligibility requirements to receive benefits:** Temporary Family Assistance, State Supplement to the Aged, Blind and Disabled, Refugee Cash Assistance Program. Mixed-income households (those receiving income from both DSS and non-DSS sources) are considered income-eligible for winter heating assistance benefits if the combined household annual gross income, including DSS cash benefits, remains within income guidelines.

Household Asset Guidelines

There is also a liquid assets test. Liquid assets include: checking, savings, CD's, stocks/shares, bonds, annuities, certificates of deposit and individual retirement accounts. (Individual retirement accounts are considered to be liquid assets if the accounts are in the name of a household member who is at least 59-and-one-half years old.) The purpose of the liquid assets test is to try to ensure that winter heating assistance dollars go to households most in need; that is, to people without the financial means to heat their home. For homeowners, the first \$15,000 in liquid assets, and for other households, the first \$12,000 in liquid assets, is disregarded. Any amount over that limit, when added to the annual gross income must be below the income guidelines.

Clients must provide proof of income and assets for all household members who may reside with them, for the four weeks prior to the application date. If natural gas or electricity is the heating source, the client must provide a copy of that bill which must be in the applicant's name or a household member who is of majority status, or an emancipated minor. Applicants must also submit a current copy of their electric bill to assist with determining the household's energy burden.

[Return to Energy Assistance - Winter Heating Assistance Program Homepage](#)

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