

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHAT IS WEATHERIZATION?

This is a program that can install attic and/or wall insulation and perform air sealing measures to prevent loss of heat from your home.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The eligibility requirements are basically the same as for Fuel Assistance. Your proof of income for Fuel Assistance can be used for the Weatherization Program, but may need to be updated. Additional information may be requested. Priority of service is given to households with the elderly, the disabled, children (under the age of six), Native Americans and high-energy usage.

HOW DO I APPLY?

The application for the Weatherization Assistance Program is the same as the application for Fuel Assistance.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

After your Weatherization application is complete and you are determined eligible, an energy auditor will come to your home to see what should be done to help with your heat loss and then explain the scope of work. Professional contractors do the actual work and it is thoroughly checked by the Weatherization agency.

HEATING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE RETROFIT TASK PROGRAM (HEARTWAP)

WHAT IS HEARTWAP?

This is a program to repair or replace your primary heating system.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Homeowners who qualify for Fuel Assistance are eligible. In winter, priority is given to people with no heat or unsafe heating situations.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Contact your local agency about completing a Fuel Assistance application. Or, if your heating system is in need of a repair, call: *P.A.C.E., Inc.* 508.999.9920 to determine whether you are eligible and if the repair will be covered.

D.H.C.D.

Department of Housing and Community Development
HEAT LINE: 1-800-632-8175
Website: www.mass.gov/dhcd

For information and help, call:

P.A.C.E., INC.

508.999.9920

P.A.C.E., Inc.

BROCHURE



DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILLS?

IS YOUR HOME WARM ENOUGH?

The Fuel Assistance Program can help pay part of your home's winter heating bill if your annual income does not exceed 60% of the estimated State Median Income.

The Weatherization Assistance Program can make your home warmer and reduce heating bills.

The HEARTWAP program can repair or replace your primary heating system.

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(LIHEAP)

Also known as the FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHAT IS FUEL ASSISTANCE?

It's a program to help pay a portion of your winter heating bills. It begins November 1 and ends April 30 of each year.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility is based on the gross annual income of all household members and the number of household members. Self-employed households have additional requirements. For some homeowners, owning additional property other than where you currently live may disqualify you. For "Income Eligibility Guidelines," see the table below:

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Household Size	Maximum Annual Gross Income
1	\$33,126
2	\$43,319
3	\$53,511
4	\$63,704

For households of 5 or more, please visit the website www.mass.gov.

Some households are eligible for an extra "high energy" cost supplement benefit. To qualify, the cost of heating your home for a year must be higher than the threshold set by DHCD each year.

As proof you'll also need to bring either your heating bills during the 12-month period from the date that you apply or a printout of those bills from your utility or fuel company.

ARE THERE ELIGIBILITY EXCEPTIONS?

Yes. If you have a housing subsidy or live in a subsidized building, the cost of your heat is included in your rent and your rent is less than 30% of your income, you are **not** eligible.

CAN I RENT OR OWN A HOUSE AND QUALIFY?

Yes. You can either rent or own your home and qualify. Applicants whose heat is included in their rent may also qualify.

HOW DO I APPLY?

It's easy. For information, please contact:

P.A.C.E., INC.
166 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
508.999.9920

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?

When you call for information a staff member will tell you when you can come in to fill out an application and what you need to bring. This may include but it is not limited to: a photo I.D., income documentation for the past 4 weeks, Social Security numbers for all household members, an electric bill and proof of housing costs.

HOW DO I RECEIVE MY BENEFIT?

The heating company will send your bill to the agency where your application was approved and the agency will pay the heating company directly. The agency will make payments up to your benefit amount for energy used from November through April.

DO I PAY ANY OF MY HEATING BILL?

Yes. The Fuel Assistance Program pays a portion of your heating bill and you pay the

remainder. Fuel Assistance does not pay your entire winter heating bill. You can estimate what your part of the heating bill will be. To do that, contact your fuel vendor and find out what you paid last winter for heat. Then, subtract your fuel assistance benefit from what you paid last winter. What's left is approximately what you'll need to pay this year.

CAN I GET A DISCOUNT ON MY HEATING UTILITY BILLS?

Yes. Eligibility for fuel assistance may offer you a discount on your gas and electric bills. You may also receive a discount on your local phone bill. The discounts vary from company to company.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

Your Fuel Assistance Program can offer you information about other agency programs such as Food Stamps, health insurance enrollment, tax preparation, employment, and other types of non-financial assistance.

For utility company problems, please call:

- Department of Public Utilities (DPU) at 1- 877-886-5066.

For limited income households who are not eligible for fuel assistance, please contact:

- The Good Neighbor Energy, in Area Codes 617, 508, 781, or 978: 1-800-334-3044. In Area Code 413: 1-800-262-1320 or visit the website at: www.maqoodneighbor.org.
- United Way: 1-800-231-4377 or visit the website at: www.supportunitedway.org.
- MASS 2-1-1: For non-emergency social service programs, dial 211.