

A Guide to Funding Opportunities for Home Heating and Energy Efficiency

Compliments of
U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand
New York



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This document will be continuously updated as information becomes available.

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Introduction

Dear Fellow New Yorker:

As we enter the winter months, I am committed to helping the most vulnerable New Yorkers meet the cost of heating their homes. New York, along with much of the Northeast, is vulnerable to fuel oil shortages and price spikes during the winter months due to high demand for home heating. With rising costs for food and other essentials coupled with more and more families struggling in this economic downturn, I am working to ensure that our most vulnerable residents do not have to choose between food and heat this winter.

The federal and state governments provide multiple programs that both can provide direct assistance with heating bills. To make sure that eligible households are taking advantage of these assistance programs, I have developed this guidebook to serve as a clearinghouse of information about programs to assist seniors and families with heating this winter. I have also compiled helpful links and information about incentives, programs and tips for residents and business-owners to help lower energy bills through simple weatherization and energy efficiency improvements.

As you move forward through this winter season, please contact one of my offices if you have issues getting help from the programs described below. To find the office nearest to you, visit <http://gillibrand.senate.gov/>.

Sincerely,

A

Kirsten E. Gillibrand

Section I: Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

- The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded grant program that assists low income households with home energy costs. Funds are distributed to states based on a need-based formula. The state then distributes this funding amongst individuals in need.

Information on New York's Home Energy Assistance Program

Overview:

- The State of New York operates the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) through the State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to distribute these federal funds. Services are provided in each county through the County Social Services Office and the County Office for the Aging.
- There are three different branches of the HEAP program, all of which will be explained over the following pages.

Eligibility:

- HEAP eligibility is based on a variety of factors including income level, households with young children, elderly or disabled individuals. Type of fuel used is also an important component of consideration.
- In order to determine eligibility, you should check with your County Social Services or Office for the Aging. At the end of this guide, there is a table with each county's contacts in charge of eligibility.
- Additionally, you should consult the following sections on the three different HEAP programs in order to determine which is the most applicable to your situation.

Resource Location:

- Visit <http://www.otda.state.ny.us/main/heap/program.asp#regular> for a rundown of the three main programs of New York HEAP, which are listed below.

HEAP Regular Benefit

- This program is the general branch of the HEAP program. A majority of individuals seeking this funding will receive benefits from this branch of the program.
- This program can provide as much as \$600 for individuals struggling with energy costs.

HEAP Emergency Benefit

- This program is designed to provide families in severe distress with funding in order to keep their electricity from being shut off. If you are in danger of having no heat this winter, contact your community office located at the bottom to learn how the government can help.

Furnace Repair or Replacement

- This program provides assistance to families in danger of losing heat due to a deficient heating system. The funding is flexible based on how much investment is needed to avert a failure.
- To attain this grant, the applicant must visit their community office in person.

Applying for HEAP benefits

Overview:

- If you would like to apply for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), you may apply by mail, in person at your local social services office, or over the internet depending on your situation. First it is important that you call your local office to determine eligibility criteria.
- Additionally, any public inquiries should be directed to 1-800-342-3009, which is where the New York region LIHEAP office can be found.

Applying by Mail

- You may apply by mail if you received a HEAP benefit last year and reside in the same county that your application was filed last year or if you are age 60 or older. Applications may be downloaded from the HEAP webpage. The application document can be found here: <http://www.otda.state.ny.us/main/heap/documents/3421.pdf>.

Applying in Person

- You may apply in person at the local social services office in the county in which you reside. The contact information and address of the local social services office can be found at the end of this guide.
- Applicants should bring documentation verifying residence, household composition, income, vendor relationship and vulnerability. (i.e. Proof of age if a household member is under age 6 or age 60 or older, or proof of disability if permanently disabled).

Applying Online

- If you live in one of the counties listed directly below, received a HEAP payment in 2009-2009 and live in the same county as in the previous year, you may apply online for the HEAP benefits. Visit this website (<https://www.otda.state.ny.us/otdaheap/>) in order to apply for the benefits.
- Eligible counties: Allegany, Broome, Chenango, Clinton, Greene, Herkimer, Jefferson, Livingston, Madison, Montgomery, Steuben, Warren and Washington

Section II: Increasing Energy Efficiency in Homes and Businesses

- According to the Department of Energy, many New Yorkers can save up to \$800 per year on energy costs depending on a number of environmental factors.
- In order to get a projected estimate of potential energy savings, visit <http://hes.lbl.gov/> and enter your zip code into the search box.

Home Efficiency

Overview:

- Our homes require a lot of energy and many were constructed during an era when efficiency took a backseat to cost. Thankfully, the federal government distributes funding for states to engineer their own energy efficiency programs.
- In our state, we have the New York Residential Energy Efficiency Program, which can provide on tax credits, incentives and financing assistance to making your home or rental property more energy efficient.
- Funding can also fund home energy audits to determine deficiencies and how they can be corrected.

Resource Location:

- Visit the following website for a walkthrough on how to increase the efficiency of your home.
- <http://www.getenergysmart.org/SingleFamilyHomes/ExistingBuilding/HomeOwner/Participate.aspx#Contracta>
- If you prefer to perform an energy audit yourself, visit http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/energy_audits/index.cfm/mytopic=11170

Small Business and Farm Efficiency

Overview:

- Much like our homes, local businesses and farms often are vulnerable to inefficiencies in energy use. The state government oversees two programs to correct this problem.

Resource Location:

- Visit the following website for information on how to increase the efficiency of your small business http://www.nyserda.org/programs/commercial_industrial/default.asp?i=2
- Visit the following website for information on how to increase the efficiency of your farm <http://www.nyserda.org/Programs/Agricultural/default.asp>

Section III: County Contacts for HEAP Benefits

Albany	
Albany County Department of Social Services 162 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12210 (518) 447- 7323	Albany County Department for Aging 162 Washington Ave Albany, NY 12210 (518) 447-7177

Allegany	
Allegany County Department of Social Services 7 Court Street Belmont, NY 14813 (585) 268-9622	Allegany County Office for the Aging 17 Court Street Belmont, NY 14813-1001 585) 268-9390

Broome	
Broome County Department of Social Services 36-42 Main Street Binghamton, NY 13905 (607) 778-2638	Broome County Office for the Aging PO Box 1766 Binghamton, NY 13902-1766 (607)778-2411

Cattaraugus	
Cattaraugus County Department of Social Services 1 Leo Moss Drive Suite 6010 Olean, NY 14760 (716) 701-8065	Cattaraugus County Office for the Aging One Leo Moss Drive, Suite 7610 Olean, NY 14760-1101 (716) 373-8032

Cayuga	
Cayuga County Department of Social Services 160 Genesee Street 2nd floor Auburn, NY 13021 (315) 253-1393	Cayuga County Office for the Aging 160 Genesee Street Auburn, NY 13021-3483 (315) 253-1226

Chautauqua	
Chautauqua County Department of Social Services 110 E. Fourth St. Jamestown, NY 14757 (716) 753-4385	Chautauqua County Office for the Aging 7 North Erie Street Mayville, NY 14757-1027 (716) 753-4471

Chemung	
Chemung County Department of Social Services PO Box 588 Elmira, NY 14902 (607) 737-5302	Chemung County Office for the Aging P.O. Box 588 Elmira, NY 14902-0588 (607) 737-5520

Chenango	
Chenango County Department of Social Services PO Box 590 Norwich, NY 13815 (607) 337-1574	Chenango County Office for the Aging 5 Court St. Norwich, NY 13815-1794 (607) 337-1770

Clinton	
Clinton County Department of Social Services 13 Durkee Street Plattsburgh, NY 12901 (518) 565-3258	Clinton County Office for the Aging 135 Margaret Street, Suite 105 Plattsburgh, NY 12901-2966 (518) 565-4620

Columbia	
Columbia County Department of Social Services 25 Railroad Avenue Hudson, NY 12534 (518) 828-9411	Columbia County Office for the Aging 325 Columbia Street Hudson, NY 12534 (518) 828-4258

Cortland	
Cortland County Department of Social Services 60 Central Avenue Cortland, NY 13045 (607) 753-5400	Cortland County Office for the Aging 60 Central Avenue Cortland, NY 13045-2746 (607) 753-5060

Delaware	
Delaware County Department of Social Services 111 Main Street Delhi, NY 13753	Delaware County Office for the Aging 6 Court Street Delhi, NY 13753-1066
(607) 832-5300	(607) 746-6333

Dutchess	
Dutchess County Department of Social Services 60 Market Street Poughkeepsie, NY 12601	Dutchess County Office for the Aging 27 High Street Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1962
(845) 486-3250	(845) 486-2555

Erie	
Erie County Department of Social Services 478 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14202	Erie County Department of Senior Services 95 Franklin Street, Room 1329 Buffalo, NY 14202-3985
(716) 858-7870	(716) 858-8526

Essex	
Essex County Department of Social Services PO Box 217 Elizabethtown, NY 12932	Essex County Office for the Aging 100 Court Street Elizabethtown, NY 12932-0217
(518) 873-3446	(518) 873-3695

Franklin	
Franklin County Department of Social Services Suite 331 Malone, NY 12953	Franklin County Office for the Aging 355 West Main Street, Suite 447 Malone, NY 12953-1826
(518) 481-1807	(518) 481-1526

Fulton	
Fulton County Department of Social Services PO Box 549 Johnstown, NY 12095	Fulton County Office for the Aging 19 N. William Street Johnstown, NY 12095-2534
(518) 736-5000	(518) 736-5650

Genesee	
Genesee County Department of Social Services 5130 E. Main St. Suite 3 Batavia, NY 14020	Genesee County Office for the Aging 2 Bank Street Batavia, NY 14020-2299
(585) 344-8501	(585) 343-1611

Greene	
Greene County Department of Social Services PO Box 528 Catskill, NY 12414	Greene County Department for the Aging 411 Main Street Catskill, NY 12414
(518) 719-3700	(518) 719-3555

Hamilton	
Hamilton County Department of Social Services PO Box 725 Indian Lake, NY 12842	Hamilton County Office for the Aging See Warren/Hamilton County
(518) 648-6131	

Herkimer	
Herkimer County Department of Social Services 301 N. Washington St. Herkimer, NY 13350	Herkimer County Office for the Aging 109 Mary Street, Suite 1101 Herkimer, NY 13350-2924
(315) 867-1220	(315) 867-1121

Jefferson	
Jefferson County Department of Social Services 250 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13601	Jefferson County Office for the Aging 250 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13601-2546
(315) 782-9030	(315) 785-3191

Lewis	
Lewis County Department of Social Services PO Box 193 Lowville, NY 13367	Lewis County Office for the Aging 7514 S. State Street Lowville, NY 13367
(315) 376-5400	(315) 376-5313

Livingston	
Livingston County Department of Social Services 1 Murray Hill Dr. Mt. Morris, NY 14510	Livingston County Office for the Aging Livingston County Campus Bldg. 8 Mt. Morris, NY 14510-1601
(585) 243-7300	(585) 243-7520

Madison	
Madison County Department of Social Services PO Box 637 Wampsville, NY 13163	Madison County Office for the Aging 138 Dominick Bruno Blvd. Canastota, NY 13032
(315) 366-2211	(315) 697-5700

Monroe	
Monroe County Department of Social Services 111 Westfall Rd. Rm B-14 Rochester, NY 14620	Monroe County Office for the Aging and Adult Svc 435 East Henrietta Road, Rm 1FE16 Rochester, NY 14620-4647
(585) 753-6477	(585) 753-6280

Montgomery	
Montgomery County Department of Social Services Broadway PO Box 745 Fonda, NY 12068	Montgomery County Office for the Aging 135 Guy Park Avenue Amsterdam, New York 12010
(518) 853-8325	(518)843-2300

Nassau	
Nassau County Department of Social Services 60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd. Uniondale, NY 11553	Nassau County Department of Senior Citizen Affairs 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard Suite #260 Uniondale, NY 11553-3691
(516) 227- 7605	(516) 227-8900

New York City	
New York City HRA Department of Social Services 180 Water Street New York, NY 10038 (800) 692-0557	New York City Department for the Aging 2 Lafayette Street, 7th Floor New York, NY 10007-1392 Within five boroughs of NYC - 311 Outside of boroughs - (212) 639-9675

Niagara	
Niagara County Department of Social Services PO Box 506 Lockport, NY 14095 (716) 439-7744 or (716) 278-8645	Niagara County Office for the Aging 111 Main Street, Suite 101 Lockport, NY 14094-3718 (716) 438-4020

Oneida	
Oneida County Department of Social Services 800 Charlotte Street Utica, NY 13501 (315) 798-5559	Oneida County Office for Aging and Continual Care 235 Elizabeth Street Utica, NY 13501-2211 (315) 798-5456

Onondaga	
Onondaga County Department of Social Services 421 Montgomery St. Syracuse, NY 13202 (315) 435-8295	Onondaga County Department of Aging and Youth Civic Center - 13th Floor 421 Montgomery Street Syracuse, NY 13202 (315) 435-2362

Ontario	
Ontario County Department of Social Services 3010 County Complex Dr. Canandaigua, NY 14424 (585) 396-4060	Ontario County Office for the Aging 3010 County Complex Drive Canandaigua, NY 14424-9502 (585) 396-4040

Orange	
Orange County Department of Social Services Quarry Rd. Box Z Goshen, NY 10924 (845) 291-2002	Orange County Office for the Aging 18 Seward Avenue Middletown, NY 10940 (845) 615-3700

Orleans	
Orleans County Department of Social Services 14016 Rt 31W Albion, NY 14411	Orleans County Office for the Aging 14016 Route 31West Albion, NY 14411- 9382
(585) 589-3182	(585) 589-3191

Oswego	
Oswego County Department of Social Services PO Box 1320 Mexico, NY 13114	Oswego County Office for the Aging PO Box 3080 Oswego, NY 13126-3080
(315) 963-5288	(315) 349-3484

Otsego	
Otsego County Department of Social Services 197 Main Street County Office Building Cooperstown, NY 13326	Otsego County Office for the Aging Meadows Office Complex - Suite 5 140 Co Hwy 33W Cooperstown, NY 13326
	(607) 547-4232

Putnam	
Putnam County Department of Social Services 110 Old Rte Six Building #2 Carmel, NY 10512	Putnam County Office for the Aging 110 Old Route 6, Bldg. A Carmel, NY 10512-2196
(845) 225-7040	(845) 225-1034

Rensselaer	
Rensselaer County Department of Social Services 1801 6th Avenue Troy, NY 12180	Rensselaer County Unified Family Services 1600 Seventh Avenue Troy, NY 12180-3798
(518) 270-3935	(518) 270-2730

Rockland	
Rockland County Department of Social Services P.O. Box 307 Pomona, NY 10970 (845) 364-3480	Rockland County Office for the Aging Robert L. Yeager Health Center, Bldg. B 50 Sanatorium Road Pomona, NY 10970-0350 (845) 364-2110

St. Lawrence	
St. Lawrence County Department of Social Services 6 Judson Street Canton, NY 13617 (315) 373-2303	St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging 80 State Highway 310, Suite 7 Canton, NY 13617-1497 (315) 386-4730

St. Regis Mohawk Tribe	
St. Regis Mohawk Tribe 412 State Route 37 Akwasasne, NY 13655 (518) 358-2272 ext. 212	St. Regis Mohawk Tribe 29 Business Park Road Hogansburg, NY 13655 (518) 358-2963

Saratoga	
Saratoga County Department of Social Services 152 West High Street Ballston Spa, NY 12020 (518) 884-4146	Saratoga County Office for the Aging 152 West High Street Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3528 (518) 884-4100

Schenectady	
Schenectady County Department of Social Services 787 Broadway Schenectady, NY 12305 (518) 388-4412	Schenectady County Office of Senior Services 107 Nott Terrace, Suite 202 Schaffer Heights Schenectady, NY 12308-3170 (518) 382-8481

Schoharie	
Schoharie County Department of Social Services PO Box 687 Schoharie, NY 12157 (518) 295-8334	Schoharie County Office for the Aging 113 Park Place, Suite 3 Schoharie, NY 12157 (518) 295-2001

Schuyler	
Schuyler County Department of Social Services 323 Owego Street Montour Falls, NY 14865	Schuyler County Office for the Aging 323 Owego Street, Suite 165 Montour Falls, NY 14865-9625
(607) 535-8303	(607) 535-7108

Seneca	
Seneca County Department of Social Services PO Box 690 Waterloo, NY 13165	Seneca County Office for the Aging 1 DiPronio Drive Waterloo, NY 13165-1681
(315) 539-1800	(315) 539-1765

Seneca Nation of Indians	
Seneca Nation of Indians 12837 Route 438 Irving, NY 14081	Seneca Nation of Indians Office for the Aging 28 Thomas Indian School Drive Irving, NY 14081
(716) 532-4900 ext. 5058	(716) 532-5778

Steuben	
Steuben County Department of Social Services 3 E. Pulteney Square Bath, NY 14810	Steuben County Office for the Aging 3 E. Pulteney Square Bath, NY 14810-1510
(607) 664-2500	(607) 776-7813

Suffolk	
Suffolk County Department of Social Services P. O. Box 18100 Hauppauge, NY 11788	Suffolk County Office for the Aging P.O. Box 6100 Hauppauge, NY 11788-0099
(631) 853-8820	(631) 853-8200

Sullivan	
Sullivan County Department of Social Services PO Box 231 Liberty, NY 12754	Sullivan County Office for the Aging P.O. Box 5012 Monticello, NY 12701
(845) 807-0142	(845) 807-0241

Tioga

Tioga County Department of Social Services 1062 Rte 38N Owego, NY 13827 (607) 687-8300 or (877) 882-8313	Tioga Oppurtunities Inc. 9 Sheldon Guile Blvd. Owego, NY 13827 (607) 687-4120
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Tompkins

Tompkins County Department of Social Services 320 W. State Street Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 274-5264	Tompkins County Office for the Aging 320 N. Tioga Street Ithaca, NY 14850-4206 (607) 274-5482
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Ulster

Ulster County Department of Social Services 1021 Development Court Kingston, NY 12401 (845) 334-5436	Ulster County Office for the Aging 1003 Development Court Kingston, NY 12401 (845) 340-3456
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Warren

Warren County Department of Social Services 1340 State Rte 9 Municipal Ctr Annex Lake George, NY 12845 (518) 761-6300	Warren/Hamilton Counties Offices for the Aging 333 Glen Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 306 Glens Falls, NY 12801 (518) 761-6347
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Washington

Washington County Department of Social Services 383 Broadway Fort Edward, NY 12828 (518) 746-2300	Washington County CARES 383 Broadway Fort Edward, NY 12828 (518) 746-2420
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Wayne

Wayne County Department of Social Services PO Box 10 Lyons, NY 14489 (315) 946-4881	Wayne County Department of Aging and Youth 1519 Nye Road, Suite 300 Lyons, NY 14489-9111 (315) 946-5624
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Westchester	
Westchester County Department of Social Services 112 E. Post Rd., 5th Fl. White Plains, NY 10601 (914) 995-5619	Westchester County Department of Senior Programs 9 South First Avenue, 10th Floor Mt. Vernon, NY 10550-3414 (914) 813-6400

Wyoming	
Wyoming County Department of Social Services PO Box 231 Warsaw, NY 14569 (585) 786-8900	Wyoming County Office for Aging and Youth 8 Perry Avenue Warsaw, NY 14569 (585) 786-8833

Yates	
Yates County Department of Social Services 417 Liberty Street Suite 2212 Penn Yan, NY 14527 (315) 536-5183	Yates County Area Agency on Aging 417 Liberty Street, Suite 1116 Penn Yan, NY 14527 (315) 536-5515