

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Lydia L. Mihalik, Director

## Winter Crisis Program Starts November 1, 2024

The Ohio Department of Development and OIC of Clark County (HEAP), will help income-eligible Ohioans stay warm during the cold winter months. The Home Energy Assistance Winter Crisis Program provides eligible Ohioans assistance paying a utility or bulk fuel bill and an electric bill or assistance paying for heating system repairs. The program runs from November 1, 2024 until March 31, 2025.

To apply for the program, clients are required to schedule an appointment with OIC of Clark County HEAP department. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 937-342-3186 or schedule online @ <u>https://app.capappointments.com</u>.

Clients need to bring copies of the following documents to their appointment (a full list of required documents are included with the application):

- Copies of their most recent energy bills.
- A list of all household members and proof of income for the last 30 days or 12 months for each member over 18.
- Snap Benefits for last 12 months
- SSA/SSI/SSDI for all household members receiving.
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members.
- Proof of disability (if applicable).

Last year more than 1,000 families in Clark County were assisted through the Home Energy Assistance Winter Crisis Program. OIC serves over 6,000 Clark County residents annually. OIC strives to assist those families and individuals with energy, education and training assistance needs.

Eligible households can receive up to \$175 if they are a client of a regulated utility, or \$750 if they are a client of an unregulated utility such as electric cooperatives and municipal utilities. The main heating source and / or related electric energy source must be either in disconnect status, have been terminated, need to establish new service, need to transfer service, have a PIPP default, first PIPP, have 25% (or less) of bulk fuel supply remaining, or heating unit repair/replacement is needed. The assistance is applied to their utility bill and / or applied to heating system repair costs. Ohioans must have a gross income at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines for households up to seven members and 60% State Median Income (SMI) for households with eight or more members to qualify for assistance. An appointment no-show may result in utilities being shut off.

For more information about the features of the Winter Crisis Program, contact:

- OIC's Emergency Services Information line at: 937-325-8366
- OIC's website: <u>www.oicofclarkco.org</u>
- Email: <u>heap@oicofclarkco.org</u>
- Or visit <u>www.energyhelp.ohio.gov</u>
- Applications can be picked up at 600 W. Main St, the HEAP Drive-Thru, Monday Friday between 8:00am 5:00pm

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