APPLICATION: LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SFN 529 (9-2023)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received	Case Number

WHAT IS LIHEAP?

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps pay part of the heating bills (meter read dates/deliveries) from October through May for the <u>home you live in if</u>

- You are a home owner or renter and you pay your own heat bills.
- Your rent payment includes your cost of heat and you are not receiving housing assistance.

Applications are accepted from October 1 through May 31 (end of business day) or until program funds are used up, whichever comes first. If May 31 falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline for signed applications will be the end of the first work day following May 31. Applications received June 1-September 30 are limited to Cooling (if available) or Emergency Home Energy Services **only** as the regular heating season has ended.

LIHEAP APPLICATION

Please read the application carefully. Answer each question completely with printed or typed answers. <u>Attach</u> another sheet if you need more space to answer questions.

If you are mailing in your application, send it to the Customer Support Center. If you are applying in person, return the completed application to your local human service zone office. Failure to answer each question and provide required verifications may delay processing of your application or result in a denied application. Applications that are not signed will be returned. You can contact your Customer Support Center if you have questions about completing this application, need help getting verifications or if you need a translator. A worker may ask to schedule an interview to better assist in the application process. Tell the worker if it causes a hardship for you to get to the office so other arrangements can be made.

All verifications should be submitted within 30 days from the date a completed application (completed, signed and dated) is received by your regional eligibility team. You will be sent a "Notice of Action" letter within 45 days letting you know whether you qualify.

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

Fill in the information about the person living in your home who is the "head of household". Usually this should be the same person whose name is on the heating bill.

Name		Email Address	
Home Telephone Number	Cell Phone Number		
Physical Address			
City	State	ZIP Code	County
Have you lived at this physical address since September 1 Yes No - Date you moved in:	?		
Mailing Address (if different than physical address)			
City	State	ZIP Code	County

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Federally Recognized Tribe Are you or any household member enrolled in a federally recognized Tribe? Yes No If YES, list the name of the enrolled member(s), Tribe/State Affiliation, and their tribal enrollment numbers(s) Affiliation Name Enrollment Number Affiliation Enrollment Number Name Name Affiliation **Enrollment Number** Disability If YES, who has the disability? Do you or any member of your household have a disability? Yes No Other Programs Indicate the following programs you currently applied to receive by using "X" Health Care /Medicaid Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Housing Assistance Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) General Assistance Head of Household or Spouse Does the head of household or spouse reside away from home for education or work purposes? Yes No If YES: Specify: Reason Name Head of Household Spouse Education Work *PRIVACY STATEMENT: Disclosure of the social security number is voluntary and is requested for the purpose of accurate identification. Failure to disclose a social security number will not affect participation in this program. Codes are listed below

Household Members	Relationship to You	Social Security Number	Date of Birth	Age	Gender	Last Grade Completed	School Status	US Citizen (yes or no)	Race	Ethnicity
	SELF									

Examples of relationships to you: spouse, mother, father, son, daughter, grandma, grandpa, aunt, uncle, cousin, brother, sister, step-mother, step-father, step-son, step- daughter, foster child, foster parent, niece, nephew, not related.

Gender Codes: M - Male; F - Female

School Status codes: Full - Full time, Part - Part time, LP - Less than part time, NIS - Not in School

Race Codes: AL- American Indian/Alaska Native; **AP**- Asian; **BL** - Black/African American; **HP** - Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander; **WH** - White; **O** - Other

Ethnicity codes: NH - Non-Hispanic/Latino; C - Cuban; M- Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano; P - Puerto Rican; O - Other

INCOME

Proof is required for all income. You will need:

- Wage earners: Provide wage stubs showing gross earnings for last month and the current month. W2 forms are not acceptable
- Self-employed person: current, complete income tax return
- Social Security, SSI, Veteran's benefits, worker's compensation, interest, dividends, pensions, rental income, etc.: a recent award letter or copy of the monthly check, or record of automatic bank deposit
- Unemployment compensation: statement of eligibility from Job Service
- Child support/alimony: printout of payments received
- Regular contributions from friends/relatives: signed statement from the individual

List below the <u>**GROSS</u>** income of **ALL PERSONS** living in your home. Please attach proof of gross income for last month and current month. List anticipated income for next month.</u>

ELIGIBILITY CANNOT BE DETERMINED WITHOUT THIS INFORMATION.

Wages/Tips: How often are you paid: Weekly (W), Bi-weekly (BW), Semi-Monthly (SM), Monthly (M), Other (O)

Household Members	Employer	How Often Paid	LAST MONTH Income	THIS MONTH Income	NEXT MONTH Income
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$

Comments about your income:

CHECK YES OR NO ON ALL QUESTION

Income: How often are you paid: Weekly (W), Bi-weekly (BW), Semi-Monthly (SM), Monthly (M), Other (O)

Source of Income	Yes	No	Household Members(s)	How Often Paid	LAST MONTH Amount	THIS MONTH Amount	NEXT MONTH Amount
Social Security					\$	\$	\$
Social Security					\$	\$	\$
SSI					\$	\$	\$
Pensions (including Veteran Benefits)					\$	\$	\$
Annuities					\$	\$	\$
Rental Income					\$	\$	\$
Interest Income					\$	\$	\$
Spousal/Child Support					\$	\$	\$
Workers Compensation					\$	\$	\$
TANF					\$	\$	\$
Unemployment Benefit					\$	\$	\$

Other Income received or anticipated from last June 1st to next May 31st. Please provide verification

Source of Income	Yes	No	Household Member(s)	Amount	Date Received	Date Anticipated
Self-Employment (tax form)				\$		
Mineral Lease/Royalties				\$		
Lump Sum Payments				\$		
Individual Indian Monies				\$		
Tribal Payments				\$		
Trusts				\$		
Contract Payment				\$		
Yearly Payments				\$		
Inheritance				\$		
Other Income				\$		
If YES to Other Income, Spe	cify					

Does anyone outside your household deposit money into a household member's bank account?

No If yes, explain:

Yes

EXPENSES

Certain expenses paid may be deducted from your gross income. Attach another sheet if need more space to answer the question below.

Check the type of expense(s) the household members have paid since June 1 and list the details below.				
Child Care (not reimbursed by anyone)	Child Support	Spousal Support		
Court Ordered Garnishments	Representative Payee	Medical Prescriptions		
Medical Expenses	Health and Hospitalization	n Insurance Premiums		
Have you received or intend to receive reimburs Administration?	sement for any of these medical ex	penses from insurance or from the Veteran's		
Yes No				

All items in this section MUST be VERIFIED

Frequency: Is this expense ongoing?

If no, answer one-time.

• If yes, answer weekly, bi-weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, quarterly, annually or other.

Type of Expense	Who is Expense For	Amount Paid	Date Paid	Frequency
Other (explain)				

HOUSING

Type of Home		
House Mobile Home	Apartment Building (3 or	more units) Duplex (2 units)
Does your furnace heat other units?	Is the living unit a split level?	Split level: "split foyer" or "raised ranch" style homes generally have 4-5 feet of the lower level above ground level and exposed to the outside air.

Number of Bedrooms:

Main Floor	Upstairs Floor	Basement

Rent Status:

Do you?

Own

IF you RENT, attach a copy of your lease and your most recent rent receipt.

Renters:

Renters whose heating costs are included as an undesignated portion of their rent payment and are <u>not</u> on low-income housing assistance or live in subsidized housing will receive a monthly LIHEAP renter payment during the LIHEAP heating season, generally mailed out the third Thursday of each month.

Does your rent include the cost of heating?

Rent

Yes - My rent **includes** the cost of my heat.

No - My rent does **not include** the cost of my heat, as I am responsible to pay the heat bills.

Low-income housing assistance/subsidized housing is when your rent is partially paid by an outside group. Do you receive any low-income housing assistance or have subsidized rent? Yes No						
Landlord's Name	Landlord's Telephone Number Amount of rent you pay \$					
HEATING (Attach a copy of your most recent heating bill)						
Primary Heat Source:						
What is your <u>primary</u> type of heat?						
Natural Gas Electricity Propane Fuel Oil Co	oal Other					
Using non-installed appliances such as space heaters or electric fireplace natural gas, fuel oil or propane and is powered by electricity, then electric oil, or propane as your primary source of heat.						
Renters: Contact your landlord if you do not know the type of heat your h	ome uses.					
Besides providing heat for your house, does this source provide fuel and/ power for any other buildings, machinery, vehicles or any other uses?	or Yes No					
If YES, Explain						
Automatic Payments (auto pay): the vendor automatically withdraws your	monthly payment from your bank account.					
Are you <u>currently on</u> auto pay? Yes No						
If YES, do you want LIHEAP to pay your vendor while on autopay?						
YES, I would like LIHEAP to pay my vendor. I am aware if my vend money from my bank account to pay my bill. Once the vendor recei my account with my vendor.						
NO , I would like to continue to pay my bill each month and turn my	paid bills in each month to the county office for reimbursement.					
Have you recently received a shut-off notice?	If YES, Shut-Off Date					
Do you need fuel immediately?	If YES, Approximate Remaining Quantity					
Name of Primary Heating Supplier	City					
Name on Primary Heating Account Account Number on Primary Heating Bill						
Secondary Heat Source: LIHEAP may pay for a secondary heat source if it is used in a primary living space, such as a bedroom that is in use, a kitchen, a living room, or a family room. Using non-installed appliances such as space heaters or electric fireplaces are not an allowable source of heat. If your furnace runs on natural gas, fuel oil or propane and is powered by electricity, then electricity is not your source of heat. Example: baseboard heat is an example of a secondary electric heat source.						
Do you have a qualified <u>secondary</u> heating supplier? Yes No)					
If YES, what type?						

If YES, what type?					
Natural Gas Electricity Propane Fuel Oil Coal Other					
Name of Secondary Heating Supplier	City				
Name on Secondary Heating Account	Account Number on Secondary Heating Bill				
Utility Vendor (lights): Same as Primary vendor or Secondary vendor as listed above or Lights vendor below					
Name of Utility Vendor	City				
Name on Utility Account	Account Number on Utility Bill				

PRIOR MONTHS' ELIGIBILITY AND REIMBURSEMENTS

LIHEAP may go back to determine eligibility for months prior to your application date **within the current heating season**. Each new heating season starts October 1. LIHEAP can assist with unpaid bills or reimburse you on the bills you have paid. **YOU MUST PROVIDE VERIFICATION** of your income, heating bill, and proof of payment (for reimbursement) for any months you are requesting assistance.

Please check the back months you are requesting assistance:				
October November December January February March April				
Please check the back months you have paid in full and are requesting reimbursement:				
October November December January February March April				

WEATHERIZATION AND OTHER SERVICES

If approved, your signature on this application will permit the Community Action Agency in your area to contact you about weatherization. To prevent a heating crisis and promote safety and energy conservation the following services are available. If approved for LIHEAP and interested in weatherization, contact your local Community Action Agency.

- Weatherization services can help you save money on your energy costs with no cost or obligation to you.
- Self-Reliance Program can help you with budget counseling.
- Energy Share can help you with non- heat utility bills in emergency situations.
- Furnace/Chimney cleaning can help you with the cost to clean and tune your furnace/chimney. See the LIHEAP brochure for price limits and eligibility.

FURNACE / CHIMNEY CLEANING

The eligibility worker will not be able to choose the vendor. Please contact the Customer Support Center if you need a list of vendors in your area.

Would you like to have your furnace cleaned?	If YES, Specify Furnace Vendor
Would you like to have your chimney cleaned?	If YES, Specify Chimney Vendor

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED JUNE 1 - SEPTEMBER 30

What are you applying for since the heating season (October 1 - May 31) has ended?

Cooling Assistance can assist with a cooling device (an air conditioner or a fan, as the need dictates), if a member of the household is elderly (60 years of age or older) or has a documented medical need and is income eligible for LIHEAP. Cooling Assistance does not cover the cost to cool your home, it only covers the cost of the cooling device.

Emergency Home Energy Assistance can assist a household, when there is a home emergency that may threaten the life of your family. You will also need to complete SFN 62, LIHEAP Emergency Application.

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

You have the right to appeal and request a fair hearing if you disagree with any decision made on your Heating Assistance or Emergency Assistance application, or if you do not receive a written notice of the action taken on your Heating Assistance application within 45 days from the date your application is received. **Your written request for a hearing must be received within 30 days of the date of the notice of action.** Contact your Customer Support Center for instructions on how to request an appeal or fair hearing.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

In accordance with Federal law, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (US HHS) policy, and North Dakota state law, HHS is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, sex, including gender identity and sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, religion, or status with respect to marriage or public assistance. In accordance with the USDA, HHS is also prohibited from discriminating against political beliefs or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA. A written complaint may be filed with your local **Human Service Zone Office**; or the **Legal Division, Department of Health & Human Services**, 600 E. Boulevard Ave - Dept 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250; Phone: 701-328-2311; TTY 711; Fax: 701-328-2173; Email: <u>dhslau@nd.gov</u>; or ***Centralized Case Management Operations, *U.S. Department of Health & Human Services,** 200 Independence Ave SW, Room 509F HHH Bldg, Washington DC 20201; Toll-free: 1-800-368-1019; TTY: 1-800-537-7697; Fax: 202-619-3437; Email: <u>ocrcomplaints@hhs.gov</u>; or ***U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office for Civil Rights**, Region VIII, 1961 Stout Street, Room 1185, Denver, CO 80294-3538; Toll-Free: 1-800-368-1019; TDD: 1-800-537-7697; FAX: (202) 619-3818; Email: <u>ocrcomplaint@hhs.gov</u>.

*State and local agencies are required to comply with North Dakota Human Rights Law that prohibit discrimination based on "status with respect to marriage or public assistance." Federal agencies are not required to investigate complaints based on North Dakota Human Rights Laws.

A Civil Rights Complaint form (SFN 143) is also available in a pdf format at: <u>https://www.nd.gov/eforms/Doc/sfn00143.pdf</u>

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HOUSEHOLD REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Report and provide verifications of these changes within <u>10 days of the date they occur</u> to the Customer Support Center. Failure to report timely may cause an overpayment and case closure.

Report if:

- you <u>move</u> to a different home
- you change your **<u>type of heat</u>**
- there is loss or addition of persons living with you
- your low-income housing assistance/rent subsidy status changes (starts or ends)

READ, SIGN AND DATE THE APPLICATION

I certify that the information given above is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that knowingly giving false information may result in a fine, imprisonment or both, and that I must pay back any benefits received as a result of giving wrong information. I agree to notify the Customer Support Center whenever I have changes that were mentioned in the household reporting requirements section, and to refund upon request the value of unused fuel purchased by LIHEAP.

I/We authorize:

- this agency to verify information affecting my/our energy assistance eligibility and benefits;
- any person having custody or knowledge of the information relating to me or other household members to disclose any requested information, including confidential information other than protected health information, to any authorized agent to the Department of Health and Human Services;
- Child Support to release any records of any child support payment that I/we have made or received;
- my/our heating and electric vendors to give data about my/our account, usage and billing information to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Human Service Zone offices and HHS contractors for the Energy Assistance Program, Weatherization Program, and Federal reporting.
- LIHEAP, Health and Human Services Zone Office(s), Community Action, Community Options and Energy Share, to verify and share information affecting my eligibility and benefits.

I acknowledge that I have read the information regarding non-discrimination.

] I understand that by checking this box and typing my name, I am signing this SFN 529 application. I agree that my electronic signature is the legal equivalent of my handwritten signature.

Signature	Date
Signature	Date
Worker Signature	Date

Community Options (if applicable)

LIHEAP Outreach Worker Name	Location	Date

Return your signed and dated application to your local human service zone office

OR Submit by mail to: Department of Health and Human Services Customer Support Center PO Box 5562 Bismarck ND, 58506 OR FAX: (701)-328-1006 OR Email: applyforhelp@nd.gov

For questions call Customer Support Center at: 1-866-614-6005

Human service zone office locations can be found here: https://www.hhs.nd.gov/human-service/zones

THIS APPLICATION WILL BE PROVIDED IN AN ALTERNATE FORMAT UPON REQUEST.