**ENERGY ASSISTANCE RESOURCES**

**How to apply for Crisis Intervention Program and Low Income Energy Assistance Programs**

* In person at [local Department of Social Services](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/local-dss-directory)
* [Paper applications can be submitted](https://policies.ncdhhs.gov/divisional/social-services/forms/dss-8178-energy-programs-application/@@display-file/form_file/dss-8178-ia.pdf) by mail or email at [local Department of Social Services](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/local-dss-directory)

**Crisis Intervention Program (CIP):**

* Assists individuals and families who experience a heating or cooling related crisis.
* Face to face interview is not required.
* Applicants must have a past due, final notice or have no primary source of heating or cooling source and **must** have a health related or life-threatening emergency to potentially qualify under this program.
  + Temperatures could cause someone’s life to be threatened without a heating or cooling source
  + Young child or elderly individual in the home could be at risk
* CIP payments are paid directly to the heating or cooling provider.
* Households eligible for up to $600 per state fiscal year
* Basic eligibility criteria:
  + Have at least one US citizen or non-citizen who meets eligibility criteria.
  + Meet the [income test](https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/documents/files/dss/cip_lieap/Crisis-Intervention-Program-Income-Levels-Based-on-150--FPL.pdf) (150% FPL).
  + Have an energy related crisis such as a past due bill or discontinue notice for primary heating or cooling source.
  + Have a utility statement showing how much is owed to alleviate the crisis.
* Total CIP Allocation available to counties $40,298,637
  + $5 Million made available to counties on July 1, 2020
  + $35,298,637 available to counties on July 22, 2020

**Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP):**

* Assists individuals and families to help pay their heating bills.
* Assistance is in the form of a one-time payment made directly to the heating provider.
* Households including person age 60 or older or disabled receiving services through NC Division of Aging and Adult Services are eligible to apply from December 1 to March 31 each year.
* All other households, including those with persons age 60 or older or disabled receiving services through NC Division of Aging and Adult Services, are eligible to apply from January 1 to March 31 each year.
* Basic eligibility criteria:
  + Have at least one US citizen or non-citizen who meets eligibility criteria.
  + Meet the [income test](https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/documents/files/dss/cip_lieap/Low-Income-Energy-Assistance-Income-Levels-Based-on-130--of-Federal-Poverty.pdf) (130% FPL).
  + Have liquid resources less than $2,250.00.
  + Be responsible for their heating costs.
  + Households are eligible for $300, $400 or $500 per state fiscal year, amount is determined by the household size, income and primary heating source.
* $40,298,637 will be available to counties December 1, 2020 to assist with heating needs
* Approximately $18 Million available to counties November 1, 2020 from CARES Funding for heating needs

**Information Links:** [NCDHHS Crisis Intervention Program](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/low-income-services/crisis-intervention-program) [NCDHHS Low Income Energy Assistance](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/low-income-services/low-income-energy-assistance)

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS**

**ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

**How to Apply for Community Services Block Grant Programs.**

* In person at local Community Action Agencies <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity>.
* Contact Community Action Agencies for intake application.

**CARES Act Funds:**

* Assists individuals and families with a range of emergency assistance activities including employment, education, health, food, transportation and housing among other activities.
* Targets individuals and families that have income below 200% of the poverty rate and unmet needs as a result of COVID-19.
* Directory of Community Action Agencies and poverty guidelines can be located at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity>.
* Total CARES NC Allocation $26,243,124
  + $23,618,812 made available to Community Action Agencies on June 1, 2020

**Standard CSBG:**

* Helps low-income individuals and families at or below 200% of the federal poverty level achieve self-sufficiency and improve social and economic well-being.
* Eligible activities are employment, housing, child-care, food, health care, case management and emergency assistance among other services.
* Directory of Community Action Agencies and poverty guidelines can be located at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity>.
* Total Standard CSBG Allocation $21,088,498
  + $18,979,648 made available to Community Action Agencies on July 1, 2020

**Information Links:** <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity>

<https://www.nccaa.net/>

Also, individuals can call **NC 2-1-1** to learn of resources in their communities for emergency needs, including utility assistance. Simply dial 2-1-1.