Past due on bills? LIHEAP might help

This time of year in Arkansas, we're still concerned with trying to keep cool.

But the COVID-19 pandemic might have turned up the heat on lower-income members trying to keep up with their electricity bills.

On July 20, Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced Arkansas has been allocated \$8.2 million in federal Coronavirus Aid. Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding "that will allow us to provide additional assistance for those who are struggling with their electricity bills."

Our cooperative does not administer these funds, but we want to direct you to those who do. Read on for "How to Get Help."

The Supplemental Crisis Program, offered as of July 27, is what Arkansas Energy Office Associate Director Mitchell Simpson calls "an exciting relaunch" of LIHEAP, which stands for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, adding it "will assist low-income Arkansans who have accumulated larger than normal past-due balances."

Simpson emphasized three points about the Supplemental Crisis program:

- "It differs from the traditional program, which is utility-focused, by not only focusing on utility," but also including those who have "depleted their supply of winter fuel, such as propane, natural gas or even
- "The maximum benefit has increased from \$500 per household to \$1,500 per household for the crisis program."
- "Typically the crisis program requires an applicant to provide a shut-off notice. During this time, especially when folks are affected by COVID-19, applicants

can submit a past-due notice to qualify for the crisis program."

According to Simpson, \$6.97 million will go to the Supplemental Crisis Program, and \$1.23 million will go to a Summer Cooling Program, which Simpson clarified "is for low-income qualifying folks. In addition to being incomeeligible, they must also meet one of four other qualifying conditions." A household must have either: an elderly family member; a disabled family member; a child age 5 or younger; or a family member with a verified medical condition requiring air conditioning.

Hutchinson said these programs will extend through "Sept. 30 of 2021 or until that \$8.2 million is expended."

How to Get Help

1. Find out if you qualify

See the included table or visit benefits.gov/benefit/1542 online to see the maximum household income per year based on family size. For example, a household of four would need to make no more than \$39,300 per year/\$3,275 per month before taxes to qualify for LIHEAP.

2. Contact your Community Action Agency

LIHEAP is operated by a network of 15 Community Action Agencies (CAA), which serves all 75 counties. We've included a list showing how to contact the CAA in each county. You can also visit acaaa.org online.

Maximum income for LIHEAP eligibility		
Household Size	Annual Income	Monthly Income
1	\$20,352	\$1,696
2	\$26,616	\$2,218
3	\$32,880	\$2,740
4	\$39,300	\$3,275
5	\$46,020	\$3,835
6	\$52,740	\$4,395
7	\$59,460	\$4,955
8	\$66,180	\$5,515
9	\$72,900	\$6,075
10	\$79,620	\$6,635

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint filing cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

U.S. Department of Agriculture !. Mail:

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Contact the Community Action Agency in your county for a LIHEAP Application.



ARKANSAS ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT | DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY | ARKANSAS ENERGY OFFICE

ARKANSAS (CDCAA) 1-877-915-7544

ASHLEY (SEACAC) 870-853-8606

BAXTER (001) 870-425-5118

BENTON (OHC) OHC.LIHEAP@OHCNWA.ORG

BOONE (001) 870-741-2089

BRADLEY (SEACAC) 870-226-2668 x319 or 307

CALHOUN (CADC) 501-326-6229

CARROLL (OHC) OHC.LIHEAP@OHCNWA.ORG

CHICOT (SEACAC) 870-265-3379

CLARK (CADC) 501-326-6229

CLAY (BRAD) 870-857-6308

CLEBURNE (CAPCA) 877-699-6924

CLEVELAND (CDCAA)

1-877-915-7558

COLUMBIA (CADC) 501-326-6229

CONWAY (ARVAC) 479-229-4861 (EXT 0)

CRAIGHEAD (CRDC) LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM CRAWFORD (C-SCDC) UTILITIES@CSCDCCAA.ORG

CRITTENDEN (CRDC) LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM

CROSS (CRDC)

LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM

DALLAS (CADC) 501-326-6229

DESHA (SEACAC) 870-222-3392

DREW (SEACAC) 870-460-0842

FAULKNER (CAPCA) 501-358-8653

FRANKLIN (ARVAC) 479-229-4861 (EXT 0)

FULTON (NADC) 870-895-3628

GARLAND (CSO) CSO_LIHEAPHELP@CSOARKANSAS.ORG

GRANT (CDCAA) 1-877-915-7552

GREENE (CRDC)

LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM

HEMPSTEAD (CADC) 501-326-6229

HOT SPRING (CADC) 501-326-6229

HOWARD (CADC) 501-326-6229

INDEPENDENCE (NADC) 870 793 2561

IZARD (NADC) 870-368-4329

JACKSON (CRDC) LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM

JEFFERSON (CDCAA) 1-877-915-7561

JOHNSON (ARVAC) 479-229-4861 (EXT 0)

LAFAYETTE (CADC) 501-326-6229

LAWRENCE (BRAD) 870-886-5461

LEE (M-DCS) 870-295-2125

LINCOLN (CDCAA) 1-877-915-7559

LITTLE RIVER (CADC) 501-326-6229

LOGAN (ARVAC) 479-229-4861 (EXT 0)

LONOKE (CADC) 501-326-6229

MADISON (OHC) OHC.LIHEAP@OHCNWA.ORG

MARION (001) 870-425-5118

MILLER (CADC) 501-326-6229

MISSISSIPPI (MCAEOC)

 BLYTHEVILLE 870-763-0483 LEACHVILLE 870-539-6604

MANILA 870-561-4533

 OSCEOLA 870-563-6819

 WILSON 870-655-8412

MONROE (M-DCS) 870-747-5610

MONTGOMERY (CADC) 501-326-6229

NEVADA (CADC)

501-326-6229 **NEWTON** (OOI) 870-741-2089

OUACHITA (CADC)

501-326-6229 **PERRY** (ARVAC)

479-229-4861 (EXT 0)

PHILLIPS (M-DCS) 870-338-3411

PIKE (CADC) 501-326-6229

POINSETT (CRDC) LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM

POLK (ARVAC) 479-229-4861 (EXT 0)

POPE (ARVAC) 479-229-4861 (EXT 0)

PRAIRIE (M-DCS) 870-998-2005

PULASKI (CADC) 501-326-6229

RANDOLPH (BRAD) 870-892-4547

SALINE (CADC) 501-326-6229

SCOTT (ARVAC)

479-229-4861 (EXT 0) SEARCY (001)

501-757-0155 SEBASTIAN (C-SCDC)

UTILITIES@CSCDCCAA.ORG

SEVIER (CADC) 501-326-6229

SHARP (NADC) 870-994-7353

ST. FRANCIS (CRDC) LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM

STONE (NADC) 870-269-4381

UNION (CADC) 501-326-6229

VAN BUREN (001) 501-757-0155

WASHINGTON (EOAWC)

479-872-7479

WHITE (CAPCA) 501-279-2015

WOODRUFF (CRDC) LIHEAPINFO@CRDCNEA.COM

YELL (ARVAC) 479-229-4861 (EXT 0)



Holiday Closing

The offices of C & L Electric Cooperative will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7, for Labor Day.

Have a safe and happy holiday.