



# Heating & Utilities

## Assistance in RI



Could your household use assistance to pay for utility bills?  
Use this guide to find programs that may help with heating, electric, internet, and more.

### LIHEAP—Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

LIHEAP helps to pay for fuel bills for home heating and energy-related home repairs. Once a household is enrolled in LIHEAP, the grant is paid directly to the energy provider. *Apply for LIHEAP at your local Community Action Program (CAP).*



Household Size	Annual Income Limit	Per Month Income Limit
1	\$33,645	\$2,804
2	\$43,997	\$3,666
3	\$54,350	\$4,529
4	\$62,702	\$5,392
5+	\$75,054	\$6,255

Find your local **CAP** agency  
[www.ricommunityaction.org/find-your-community-action-agency/](http://www.ricommunityaction.org/find-your-community-action-agency/)  
or call **2-1-1**

**DHS Energy Assistance Programs**  
[dhs.ri.gov/programs-and-services/energy-assistance-programs](http://dhs.ri.gov/programs-and-services/energy-assistance-programs)

**Income guidelines are current as of October 2021. \***

[dhs.ri.gov/programs-and-services/energy-assistance-programs/fy-2021-low-income-guidelines](http://dhs.ri.gov/programs-and-services/energy-assistance-programs/fy-2021-low-income-guidelines)

LIHEAP clients can also qualify for the **Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** and the **Heating System Repair and Replacement Program (HSRRP)**. Apply at a **CAP** agency!

#### Weatherization Assistance Program

*Benefits can include:*

- Insulate walls, attic, and basement
- Wrap pipes, weather stripping around doors
- Check for proper ventilation
- Caulk and seal windows
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Check for gas leaks

#### Heating System Repair and Replacement Program

HSRRP may provide a one-time service to increase the heating system efficiency of owner-occupied income-eligible households. In instances where heating systems cannot be made efficient and if a system meets certain requirements, the heating system may be replaced. Only households that qualify for **LIHEAP** may be eligible for this service.

Use this referral tool to find and connect guests, families, and yourself to helpful resources. If you are using a browser to view this guide, **click the blue text or an image** to visit the mentioned webpage.

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RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY  
**FOOD BANK**

Esta guía esta disponible en Español  
esta nuestra página de internet:  
<https://rifofoodbank.org/agency-resources/community-resources/>

## Other Heating Assistance Resources

These assistance programs may help families even if they do not qualify for LIHEAP.

### National Grid—Help Making Payments: [www.ngrid.com/ridiscount](http://www.ngrid.com/ridiscount) | 1-800-322-3223

National Grid has several ways to help low-income households save on energy bills.

- **You could be eligible for a lower rate on your monthly energy bill** if your household receives assistance from programs like SNAP or Medicaid. Learn more: [www.nationalgridus.com/RI-Home/Bill-Help/Discount-Rates](http://www.nationalgridus.com/RI-Home/Bill-Help/Discount-Rates)
- Income eligible households can schedule a **free Home Energy Assessment** to identify areas where you can save energy and money and to receive no-cost energy-saving improvements for your home. To schedule a free Home Energy Assessment, call **(401) 351-1800**.  
[www.nationalgridus.com/RI-Home/Energy-Saving-Programs/Income-Eligible-Services](http://www.nationalgridus.com/RI-Home/Energy-Saving-Programs/Income-Eligible-Services)
- National Grid **Customer Advocate Support**—Local advocates can help you identify the assistance solutions that are right for your household. For one-on-one support, email [consumeradvocatene@nationalgrid.com](mailto:consumeradvocatene@nationalgrid.com).

The **Good Neighbor Energy Fund** can provide grants for heating assistance to eligible low-income families. Households are able to receive this fund in addition to LIHEAP.

Apply at a **CAP** agency or visit [www.unitedwayri.org/gnef](http://www.unitedwayri.org/gnef) to learn more.

**Keep the Heat On!** is a program funded by the Archdiocese of Providence and parish members.

This program helps to heat the homes of families that have exhausted the all other resources for assistance with their heating bills. To apply for assistance, visit [www.heatri.com/apply-for-help](http://www.heatri.com/apply-for-help) or call (401) 421-7833.

**St. Vincent DePaul Society** conferences may be able to help families in their area with energy and heating costs. Visit [svdpri.org/basic-needs/](http://svdpri.org/basic-needs/) to find an SVDP nearby.

The **George Wiley Center** advocates for policies that protect consumers of utilities in Rhode Island.

Their program, **Avoid Utility Shut-off**, can assist households with serious arrears.

Contact (401) 728-555 or visit [www.georgewileycenter.org](http://www.georgewileycenter.org)

**Rent Relief RI** can provide rental and utility relief payments to help eligible renters maintain housing stability.

Rent Relief RI is funded from the federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program and is for Renters & Landlords.

Learn more and **apply** here: [www.rihousing.com/rentreliefri](http://www.rihousing.com/rentreliefri) or call 1-855-608-8756.



Call **2-1-1** or visit [www.unitedwayri.org/get-help/2-1-1](http://www.unitedwayri.org/get-help/2-1-1) to get connected to the resources you need!



## Internet & Phone Assistance

Households that are income-eligible for LIHEAP, or other assistance mentioned, may also be eligible for these internet and phone programs.

The **Emergency Broadband Benefit** is an FCC program that provides a temporary discount on monthly internet service bills for qualifying low-income households. Call 833-511-0311 or visit [getemergencybroadband.org](http://getemergencybroadband.org) to start the application.

**EveryoneOn** connects low-income families to affordable internet service and computers, and delivers digital skills trainings. Go to [www.everyoneon.org](http://www.everyoneon.org) to find low-cost internet and affordable computers in your area. EveryoneOn has partnered with the RI Office of Innovation to close the digital divide for Rhode Islanders—[www.innovate.ri.gov/connectri](http://www.innovate.ri.gov/connectri)

**Lifeline** is a federal program that lowers the monthly cost of phone and internet for eligible customers that receive government assistance benefits. Call 888-225-5322 or visit [www.lifelinesupport.org/how-to-get-lifeline/](http://www.lifelinesupport.org/how-to-get-lifeline/)

**DIGIAGE** is a program of the RI Office of Healthy Aging that aims to increase internet access for older adults. Explore the DIGIAGE website—[oha.ri.gov/digiAGE](http://oha.ri.gov/digiAGE) or call (401) 462-3000 to learn more.