

Utilities Resources October 2026



Heating Assistance

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP provides assistance with heating and energy bills. Applications for new registrants begin in October. Eligibility is based on household income (residents at or below 60% of RI median income). SNAP recipients typically also qualify for LIHEAP. For more information, visit: <https://dhs.ri.gov/programs-and-services/energy-assistance-programs-heating/low-income-home-energy-assistance-1>

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

WAP helps low-income households reduce heating bills by providing whole house energy efficiency. Tenants (with landlord approval) and homeowners are eligible for weatherization. Assistance is available year-round and households can pre-qualify through LIHEAP. Households must not have had an energy audit in the last 10 years. For more information, visit: <https://dhs.ri.gov/programs-and-services/energy-assistance-programs/weatherization-assistance-program-wap>

Electricity

Discount Rate Program

Rhode Island Energy customers who are currently enrolled in certain government assistance programs qualify for either a 25% or 30% discount on their monthly RIE bills. To receive your RIE discount, you'll need to provide documentation confirming your eligibility through their secure platform, Globalscape. Include a confirmation letter from one of the following assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid
- Rhode Island Works Program

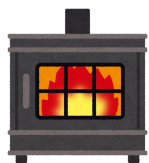
If you need help accessing documentation confirming your eligibility, contact the Rhode Island Department of Human Services at [855-697-4347](tel:855-697-4347).

Good Neighbor Energy Fund (GNEF)

The GNEF is run by the United Way of Rhode Island. Individuals and families who seek assistance through this fund must not have received GNEF funding during the previous year. For more information regarding eligibility visit: <https://www.unitedwayri.org/gnef/>

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Additional Services



Keep the Heat On

Keep the Heat On is a public assistance program operated by the Diocese of Providence to assist individuals and families during the winter months (starting in December). Households seeking assistance from this program must have applied and been denied for LIHEAP in order to qualify. For more information about the program visit <https://heatri.com/apply-for-help>.

Free Home Energy Assessment Program

At no cost, an energy specialist will assess your current energy use, help you develop a plan to make your home more energy-efficient, and educate you on rebates and incentives. Free home energy assessments are available to all households, including homeowners and renters. For more information, go to: <https://www.rienergy.com/site/ways-to-save/ways-to-save-energy/home-energy-assessment>

RI Department of Human Services (DHS) Energy Support List

DHS issues a comprehensive list of programs, organizations, and other resources that can provide Rhode Islanders with assistance paying their energy bills. This list provides contact information, program requirements and more. To access this list, visit: <https://dhs.ri.gov/programs-and-services/energy-and-water-assistance-programs/energy-support-ri>.

Housing

Public Housing & Section 8

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program & the Section 8 Subsidized Apartment Rental Assistance Program are federal programs that assist families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities, afford safe, healthy homes in their communities. Wait lists exist for both forms of housing. Applicants can apply through RI Public Housing Authority at <https://www.rihousing.com/public-housing-authorities/>

Regional Access Points (RAPs)

Raps provide individuals and families at imminent risk of homelessness, or experiencing homelessness, with centralized, easy-to-access entry points to housing-related services, including case management, housing navigation, emergency shelter, mental health and substance use services, and other critical resources. For more information visit <https://housing.ri.gov/resources/individuals-experiencing-homelessness>

FFY 2027 Low Income Guidelines

Household Size	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
1	\$43,410	\$10,852	\$3,617
2	\$56,767	\$14,191	\$4,730
3	\$70,124	\$14,191	\$5,843
4	\$83,481	\$20,870	\$6,956
5	\$96,837	\$24,209	\$8,069
6	\$110,194	\$27,548	\$9,182
7	\$112,699	\$28,174	\$9,391