



September 30, 2009

## Missouri's Energy Assistance Program

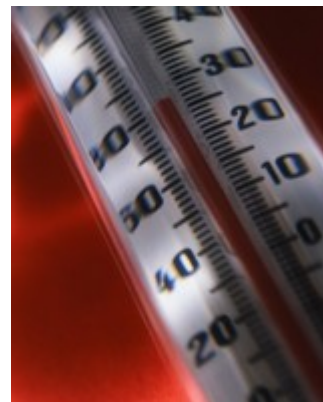
The leaves are turning and fall is here, which means winter is just around the corner. As the cold weather approaches, Missourians who meet certain requirements may qualify for assistance for their utility costs through Missouri's Utilicare program. These benefits vary based on household size, income, and type of fuel used for home heating

You may be eligible if you:

1. Are responsible for paying home heating costs; and
2. Do not have available resources in excess of \$3,000; and
3. Meet specific monthly income guidelines listed below.

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Monthly Income Limits</u>
1	\$1,218
2	\$1,639
3	\$2,060
4	\$2,481
5	\$2,901
6	\$3,322
7	\$3,743

Missouri's Home Energy Assistance Program is NOT only limited to home owners. If your home-heating costs are included in your monthly rental charges, you may also be eligible to receive benefits based on a percentage of your annual rental costs. And if you are living in subsidized housing, you may be eligible if you are paying any out-of-pocket expenses for your heating costs.



To confirm if are eligible for the Utilicare program, contact your local community action agency for more information. In Cape Girardeau, Madison, Perry, and Bollinger counties you can contact your action agency online at <http://www.eastmoaa.org/> or by phone at 1-800- 392-8663. For Mississippi and Scott counties, you can visit <http://www.daeoc.org/> or call 1-800-748-8320 for eligibility requirements.



For those who qualify for assistance, you can find the application for heating assistance online at <http://www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/eassist/pdf/hcapp.pdf>. As part of the application process, you will need a copy of your last energy bill, information on your income, and documentation on the members of your household. The application process begins October 1<sup>st</sup> for families where the head of household is over 60 or disabled, while all other applications will be accepted beginning November 1<sup>st</sup>. To make sure funds are available when the cold weather arrives, it is best to mail the completed application and additional information to the community action agency serving your county as soon as possible.

For additional tips about saving on heating during the winter, visit

<http://www.psc.mo.gov/> or call 1-800-392-4211.

### **Contact Me**

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions, and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: [jcrowell@senate.mo.gov](mailto:jcrowell@senate.mo.gov) or visit me on the web at <http://www.senate.mo.gov/crowell>.

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