

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency
PY21 LIHEAP, PIPP, and Weatherization Assistance Programs

Assistance available for gas, propane, and electric bills

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency has funding from the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to assist residents of Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties with home heating utility costs (gas, propane, electric) through the Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), and Weatherization Programs.

The LIHEAP and PIPP programs for Program Year 2021 began on July 27, 2020 and will end on June 30, 2021. All income eligible households are eligible to apply beginning July 27, 2020. Households with disconnect notices, high past due balances, and those affected by loss of income due to Covid-19 are encouraged to apply. **Propane customers are strongly encouraged to apply in August when prices are at their lowest.**

Applicants may apply for a DVP payment or the PIPP program. The Direct Vendor Payment (DVP) is a one time payment to gas or propane and electric utilities. Applicants with ComEd and /or Nicor Gas as utility providers may have the option of choosing the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) instead of the DVP. The PIPP program is a bill payment program that assists eligible customers by paying a monthly state benefit while the customer pays a percentage of their household income. PIPP applications will be taken on a first-come first served basis until March 31, 2021 or until funding is exhausted.

Please call the office at 815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111 between 8:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. to receive an application packet. **All applications will be taken by mail, email, phone, or fax in response to Covid-19.**

INCOME GUIDELINES

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>DVP 30 Day Income</u>	<u>PIPP 30 Day Income</u>
1	\$2,127	\$1,595
2	\$2,873	\$2,155
3	\$3,620	\$2,715
4	\$4,367	\$3,275
5	\$5,113	\$3,835
For each additional person add	\$747	For each additional person add \$560

**** The following documents will be required to apply for assistance. ****

- Social Security Cards for all members of the household. **No other document can be accepted as proof of social security number.**
- Proof of all gross income for all household members for 30 days including the application date such as pay check stubs, SSA/SSI/SSD current benefit letters, pension/retirement statements, child support, unemployment reports, TANF/AABD/Township GA assistance notices, self employment reports and zero income.
- Complete current heat and electric bills **and** disconnect notices you may have received
- Medical Card from Illinois Department of Human Services
- Copy of current lease or rent receipt
- Proof of Homeownership (Title for Mobile Homes) and tax bill are required for weatherization assistance

The office is closed to the public and outreach appointments are suspended until further notice.

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency
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