



Applying for the South Dakota Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)

The LIEAP helps South Dakotans who are having troubles affording the costs of heating their residence during the winter months. There are a few important things to keep in mind during the application process.

1

The household's income must be within the income eligibility guidelines. For the 2018/2019 season, the income limits were:

- 1 Person Household - \$5,311 max 3-month income
- 2 Person Household - \$7,201 max 3-month income
- 3 Person Household - \$9,091 max 3-month income
- 4 Person Household - \$10,981 max 3-month income

You must report all of the income made by household members over the age of 18 years old when completing the application for LIEAP. Proof of income must be supplied by providing pay stubs from the last 3 months, supplying a statement from the employer, or if self-employed, sending the full tax return statement from the last year.

2

The application must also include proof of heating costs. The cost can be either paid directly to the energy supplier or paid to the landlord as part of rent. The applicant can provide proof of cost by:

- A copy of a recent bill statement or fill ticket
- A statement from energy supplier that verifies account number and type of heat used
- Statement from landlord that verifies that heat is paid as part of or in addition to rent

If the application is not complete with income and heat cost verification, the application will be automatically denied. Make sure to double check that all of the necessary paper work is included with the application to avoid denial. The applicant is also unable to receive LIEAP and Tribal Energy Assistance within the same year.

3

If all of the paperwork is in order and the applicant is found to be eligible for assistance, the payment will be sent straight to the energy supplier or landlord, not as a reimbursement to the applicant. Types of heating that qualify for assistance with LIEAP are:

- Natural gas and electric heat
 - Assistance for these types of heat are available from October 10 through May 15th.
- Propane and fuel oil
 - Assistance with tank refills are available from July 1 through April 30.

The application is done through the Department of Social Services at: DSS.SD.GOV

4

If the household is income eligible and also in an energy crisis, it may be eligible for Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP). An energy crisis is:

- Having a disconnection notice for the current primary heat source
- Needing cash-on-delivery and being unable to come up with the cash
- Having an eviction notice for unpaid heat bills if the heat is included in rent or paid in addition to the rent to the landlord.

ECIP runs from October 1 through March 31.



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Need help? Contact us at: WWW.SDLAWHELP.ORG/Apply

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