

What if I need help with my application?

If you are confused about how to fill out the application forms, or what proof of income you need to send, **ASK FOR HELP**. You can go to any of these places to get help:

- your local **Public Assistance Office**
- your **senior citizen's center**
- your **community center**
- the local **Alaska Legal Services office**
- the **Heating Assistance Information Line** at **1-888-804-6330** (outside Anchorage) or **(907) 269-5777** (in Anchorage)

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Your application is due **April 30th**. Benefits begin **November 1st**. So, to receive heating assistance for the winter of **2005-2006**, you must apply before **April 30, 2005**.

*For more information, call Alaska Legal Services at
1-800-478-9431*



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DON'T GET LEFT OUT IN THE COLD

What you need to know about Alaska's Heating Assistance Program



**Provided by
Alaska Legal Services Corporation
Statewide Office
1016 West 6th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 272-9431 or (800) 478-9431**

The State of Alaska provides help paying heating costs for low-income households.

Who is eligible?

Income guidelines are used to determine whether you are eligible. Your household's gross income per month is considered — this is your income before you pay rent, bills, etc. If you are self-employed or only work during certain seasons, an average of your household's gross monthly income over the past year is used to see if you are eligible.

Here are some examples:

If you live alone, and your monthly gross income is less than \$1,454 . . . you are eligible.

If you are a family of four, and your monthly gross income is less than \$2,946 . . . you are eligible.

If you are a family of three, and you earned \$5,000 during seasonal work during the summer, but only earned \$500 a month for the rest of the year (for an average monthly income of about \$790) . . . you are eligible.

Your PFD and Longevity Bonus ARE NOT counted as income.

If you receive heating assistance from another program or from a native organization, you are not eligible for this program. If someone else in your household receives heating assistance under this program, you are not eligible.

Do I have to own my house to qualify?

NO. Renters are eligible for heating assistance too, even if your heating costs are included in your rent. The only requirement is that you actually live in the house you need help heating.

If you are part of a public housing program that sets your rent at 30% of your income and pays all your heating costs, you do not qualify for this program.

How do I apply?

The State Division of Public Assistance has an application form for you to fill out. You will need to tell them

- **your name and personal information**
- **the names and personal information of everyone living in your household**
- **the income for your whole household (this is what you earn, plus what each person in your household earns)**
- **proof of income for you and the members of your household**
- **information about your home**
- **information about your heating and electric needs**
- **information about your seasonal and/or self-employment income (if any)**

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER TO INCLUDE PROOF OF YOUR INCOME AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD MEMEBERS' INCOME WITH YOUR APPLICATION. IF YOU DON'T, YOUR APPLICATION COULD BE DELAYED OR DENIED.

