NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF TEMPORARY & DISABILITY ASSISTANCE
HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
40 NORTH PEARL STREET
ALBANY, NY 12243-0001

Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

# 2013
# LIFE in Action Conference

Center for Employment and Economic Supports

# AGENDA

- 2012 - 13 HEAP Program Summary
- 2013 -14 HEAP Program Outlook
- myBenefits  Overview
  - Increase Program Access Opportunity
  - Increase Participation in OTDA Programs
- Question and Answers

# 2012-13 Home Energy Assistance Program

- November 2012 Federal Appropriation $3.5B
- March 2013 Sequestration $3.068B
- NYS's allocation is $339M (to date)
- 1.45M households served (to date)

# 2012-13 HEAP Program Year

| Component | Opening Date | Closing Date |
|---|---|---|
| Regular | November 19, 2012 | March 15, 2013 |
| Emergency | January 2, 2013 | March 15, 2013 |
| Heating Equipment | October 1, 2012 | February 1, 2013 |
| Cooling Assistance | April 1, 2013 | August 30, 2013 |

# 2012-13
# REGULAR BENEFIT AMOUNTS

- Heat included with rent
  - Tier I = $25
  - Tier II = $20
- Oil, kerosene, propane = $600
- Wood, coal, other deliverable = $500
- Natural gas or electric = $400
  - Add ons:
    - Income in Tier I = $25
    - Vulnerable household member = $25

# 2012-13 EMERGENCY BENEFITS

- Oil, kerosene, propane = $600
- Wood, coal, other deliverable = $500
- Natural gas heat only = $400
- Natural gas and electric = $560
- Electric heat = $560
- Heat-related electric = $160
- Propane Installation/Deposit = $500/year
- Temporary Relocation = $500/year
- Heating Equipment Repair = $3,000/year
- Heating Equipment Replacement = $6,500/ten year period

# 2013-14 HEAP Season

- President's proposed budget appropriation $3.02B
- NYS share ?? – potentially $303M
- Serve the same number of households
- Similar benefit structure
- Similar program timeframes opening/closing dates
- myBenefits will be available statewide with the exception of NYC in August
- www.ACCESSNYC.gov

# myBenefits

**Website: https://mybenefits.ny.gov**

1. Screening tool to determine potential benefit eligibility

2. Apply for SNAP (FS) and HEAP benefits

3. Log in to myBenefits with an existing account to:
   - continue a previously started application
   - start a new application
   - check their application status
   - view their case details
   - submit a change report
   - recertify for benefits electronically

4. SNAP clients may check EBT account information online

# myBenefits Home Page

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myBenefits Home

Wednesday Apr 17, 2013

Welcome to myBenefits!

Before you begin Click Here to find the fast and easy ways to use myBenefits

1

**Am I Eligible?**

- Assistance Programs
- Health Insurance
- Tax Credits

2

**Check Your EBT Balance**

- SNAP and Cash Account
- Transaction History
- Activate Your Card

**If you would like to:**

- Apply for Benefits
- Continue Application
- Track Application
- Recertify Benefits
- Report Changes
- View Case Details

3

New Users

Returning Users

4

# Am I eligible?

- "CLICK ON" Am I eligible to access the screening tool
- Enter basic demographic information
- Information screened for the following programs:

SNAP
Temporary Assistance
HEAP
WIC
School/Summer Meals
Veterans' Affairs

Medicaid
Child/Family Health Plus
Healthy NY
EPIC/Prescription Saver
EITC
Child/Dependent Care

# Applying for Benefits

**User's must:**

- Set up a secure account
  - Start a new application for benefits
- Log in using an existing account
  - Start a new application for benefits
  - Continue an application previously started in myBenefits
  - Recertify for benefits
  - Track an application that was filed
  - Report Changes
  - View case details

** THIS WEBSITE SHOULD ONLY BE USED FOR TESTING AND TRAINING **

## What would you like to do?

Start A New Benefits Application? — Start New Benefits Application

Start A New Recertification Application? — Start New Recertification Application

View Case Details Or Online Change Report? — View Case Details or Report a Change

** THIS WEBSITE SHOULD ONLY BE USED FOR TESTING AND TRAINING **

## Applications in Progress

1

Show A

Click the corresponding Action Button to proceed with your Application

| Application Number | Benefit Programs | Type | Date Saved | Available Actions |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| No Applications found for your account | | | | |

** THIS WEBSITE SHOULD ONLY BE USED FOR TESTING AND TRAINING **

## Submitted Applications

2

Show All

If you wish to view a previously submitted application or submit required documentation for it,click the corresponding Action Button below.

| Application Number | Benefit Programs | Type | Date Submitted | Application Status | Available Actions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No Applications found for your account | | | | | |

# Applying for Benefits

- When the user submits an application through myBenefits, they will be able to:
  - **Print the application**
  - **Track the application**
  - **Submit required documentation.**

**If the district that the applicant is applying in has IEDR, then the applicant will have the ability to scan in their required documentation.

# Timeframes and Notices

- The local district has 30 business days to process all regular HEAP benefit applications
- The 30 business day processing requirement includes the issuance of all eligibility notices within 30 business days of the receipt of a signed, completed application

# Questions ?

# Summary

- 2012 – 13
  - Challenging
- 2013 – 14 HEAP Program
  - State Plan in process
- myBenefits
  - Assists Us Expand Program Access
  - Assist Residents Access To OTDA Programs
  - Opportunity To Those In Need

# Thank you