

# 2014-15 Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

HEAP is a federally funded program through the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). HEAP is funded on an annual basis. New York State's program is locally administered with state oversight.

## **2013-14 RECAP:**

New York State operated a program comprised of the following components: Regular, Emergency, Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement and Cooling.

### **Funding:**

Federal Appropriation \$3.4B

NYS's allocation is \$366,647,950

### **Benefits Authorized:**

Regular Component -1.4 M

Emergency Component - 132,000

Heating Equipment Repair/Replacement Component - 1,649

Cooling Assistance Component – 3,353

### **2013-14 Program Dates:**

<u>Component</u>	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Closing</u>
Regular	November 18, 2013	March 14, 2014ar
Emergency	January 2, 2014	March 17, 2014
Heating Equipment	November 12, 2013	January 31, 2014
Cooling Assistance	May 1, 2014	June 26, 2014

## **2014-15 PROGRAM:**

New York State will operate a program comprised of the following components: Regular, Emergency, Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement and Cooling.

## Funding:

President signed a Continuing Resolutions (CR) to provide funding through December 11, 2014. HHS released \$343.7 million on October 15, 2014.

## Projected 2014-15 Program Dates:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Closing</u>
Regular	November 17, 2014	March 16, 2015*
Emergency	January 2, 2015	March 16, 2015
Heating Equipment	November 10, 2014	March 16, 2015**
Cooling Assistance	May 1, 2015	August 28, 2015**

\*Closing date contingent upon approval.

\*\*Components will run until the projected closing date or until funding allocated to each component is exhausted, whichever comes first.

## Components:

- **Regular benefit** – assists eligible low income households to supplement that household's annual energy cost.
  - Regular HEAP Benefits ranged from \$21 to \$625.
  - Heat included with rent:
    - Eligible households who have heating costs included as part of their rent:
      - Tier I = \$35
      - Tier II = \$30
    - Eligible households that live in government subsidized housing or a group home setting with heat included in their rent receive a \$21
  - Eligible households whose primary heat is oil, kerosene, or propane and who make direct payments to the vendor for heating costs received a \$575.
  - Eligible households whose primary heat is wood, wood pellets, coal, corn or other deliverable fuel and who make direct payments to the vendor for heating costs received a \$500.

- Eligible households whose primary heat is electricity or natural gas and who make direct payments based on their household's actual usage to the vendor received a \$350.
- Add-ons:
  - Income in Tier I (households with income less than 130% Federal Poverty Level) = \$25.
  - Vulnerable household member (Under the age 6, age 60 or older, or permanently disabled) = \$25.
- **Emergency component** – assists eligible low-income households who are facing a heat or heat related energy emergency.
  - Emergency fuel benefits ranged from \$140-\$575
  - Oil, kerosene, propane = \$575
  - Wood, coal, other deliverable = \$500
  - Natural gas heat only = \$350
  - Natural gas and electric = \$490
  - Electric heat = \$490
  - Heat-related electric = \$140
  - Propane Installation/Deposit = \$500/year
  - Temporary Relocation = \$500/year
- **Heating Equipment Repair Replacement (HERR) benefits** – assist eligible low-income households with the repair or replacement of primary heating equipment.
  - Heating Equipment Repair = \$3,000/year
  - Heating Equipment Replacement = \$6,500/ten year period
- **Cooling Assistance benefit** – assists eligible low-income households with cooling assistance services for individuals with a documented medical condition that is exacerbated by extreme heat.

- The purchase and installation of an air conditioner or fan up to \$800.

**Income Guidelines**

- Income guidelines increased an average of, 1% for Tier I and 1% for Tier II.

<b>2014-15 HEAP Maximum Monthly Income Eligibility Guidelines</b>			
<b>Household Size</b>	<b>Tier I</b>	<b>Tier II</b>	<b>Change in Income Guidelines</b>
1	0 - 1,264	1,265 – 2,194	+ \$19
2	0 - 1,704	1,705 – 2,869	+ \$25
3	0 - 2,144	2,145 – 3,544	+ \$31
4	0 - 2,584	2,585 - 4,219	+ \$37
5	0 – 3,024	3,025 - 4,894	+ \$42
6	0 - 3,463	3,464 - 5,569	+ \$48
7	0 - 3,903	3,904 - 5,696	+ \$50
8	0 - 4,343	4,344 - 5,822	+ \$50
9	0 - 4,783	4,784 - 5,949	+ \$52
10	0 - 5,223	5,224 - 6,076	+ \$53
11	0 - 5,663	5,664 - 6,534	+ \$73
11+	\$440	\$508	+\$5

**Federal Reporting/Performance Measures**

- Workgroup to be developed.