



Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

Your Residential Utility Consumer Advocate

CONSUMER FACT SHEET

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

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SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM

Summer electric assistance available for low-income households

Help is available for eligible Ohioans working to cope with the summer heat. The Summer Crisis Program allows eligible consumers of regulated utilities to a benefit amount up to \$500, while customers of unregulated utilities may receive a benefit not to exceed \$800. These benefits can help pay an electric utility bill, pay towards a central air conditioning repair, and/or an air conditioning unit or fan.

To be eligible for assistance, households must have a gross annual income that is at or below 175 percent of the federal income guidelines. In addition to the income guidelines, households must meet at least one of the following additional eligibility requirements:

- ▶ A household member is 60 years of age or older;
- ▶ A household member has a medical necessity documented by a qualified medical professional;
- ▶ A household member has a documented COVID-19 diagnosis within the last 12 months;
- ▶ The household has a disconnection notice, has been disconnected, or is establishing new electric service; or
- ▶ The household is enrolling in the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP Plus) for the first time or has a PIPP default.

New for 2021: The utility assistance benefit is separate from the additional benefit for central air conditioner repair and receiving an air conditioner unit or fan.

Additional information

To apply for the Summer Crisis Program, consumers need to contact their local community action agency. The community action agency determines the benefits that can be provided. The program is available from July 1 until September 30, 2021.

For additional information on the Summer Crisis Program, and to locate the nearest community action agency, contact the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) at 1-800-282-0880 (TDD 1-800-686-1557) or online at https://development.ohio.gov/is/is_heapsummer.htm.

For information on other utility assistance available, visit: www.occ.ohio.gov/utilityassistance.

2021 Income Guidelines

Size of household*	Total Gross Annual Household Income
	175%
1	\$22,540
2	\$30,170
3	\$38,010
4	\$45,850
5	\$53,690
6	\$61,530
7	\$69,370
8	\$77,210

* For families/households with more than 8 persons, please contact your local community action agency.