

News Release

Ohio

Development
Services Agency



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For Immediate Release

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Summer Crisis Program Ends Aug. 30 at MYCAP

The Ohio Development Services Agency and MYCAP will help income-eligible Ohioans stay cool during the hot summer months. The Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program provides eligible Ohioans assistance paying an electric bill or assistance paying for central air conditioning repairs. The program runs from July 1 until August 31, 2018.

To apply for the program, customers are required to schedule an appointment with MYCAP. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 1-866-223-1125 for those whose service is not off. The walk-in line number is 1-866-471-7029. Amount owed to restore must not be from a Percentage of Income Payment Plan balance and a copayment may be necessary.

Customers need to bring the following documents to their appointment:

- Photo identification for all individuals age 18 and over in the household
- Social Security cards or formal proof for all household members
- **Proof of citizenship:** actual social security card, birth certificate, voter registration card, or passport
- Any Income to the household for the past 30 days and (12 months for seasonal, self employed and possibly wage earners)
- Current Gas and Electric bills or a Bulk Fuel receipt or Pending Account Numbers
- **Physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for a household member's health (if there isn't a household member over the age of 60)**
- **If disabled, proof of disability must also be provided**

Once the IVR line fills, those still needing Summer Crisis assistance will be able to be seen on a first come first serve basis on August 30, 2018.

Last year more than 816 families in Mahoning County were assisted through the Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program.

The Summer Crisis Program assists low-income households with an older household member (60 years or older), or households that can provide physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for a household member's health. Conditions can include lung disease, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, or asthma. Ohioans enrolled in the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus Program (PIPP Plus) are not eligible for bill payment assistance through the program but are encouraged to work with MYCAP to identify other opportunities for assistance.

Eligible households can receive up to \$300 if they are a customer of a regulated utility, or \$500 if they are a customer of unregulated utilities such as electric cooperatives and municipal utilities. The assistance is applied to their utility bill or applied to central air conditioning repair costs. Ohioans must have a gross income at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines to qualify for assistance. **A PIPP Plus customer is not eligible for an electric payment and must be current with their electric bill to receive an Air Conditioner or a Fan. Air Conditioners and Fans can only be given if not previously received or received in 2014 or prior, age and or medical eligibility must also be met.**

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For more information about the features of the Summer Crisis Program locally, contact MYCAP at 330-747-7921. Additional information can also be found at www.energyhelp.ohio.gov or by calling (800)282-0880.