



2016 Home Heating Credit

The Michigan Agency for Energy (MAE) doesn't want you to miss your chance to receive the Home Heating Credit (HHC) from the state of Michigan! The HHC can help pay your winter heating bills and is funded by the federal Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). If you use a large portion of your monthly income to pay heating costs, you may be eligible for the HHC for the 2016 tax year.

Who can apply?

Eligible customers must meet the following guidelines:

- Homestead is in Michigan
- Own or rent your home (including a rented apartment or mobile home on a lot in a mobile home park) where you live
- Income is within the limits listed in the chart below or you qualify based on alternate guidelines including household income, exemptions, and heating costs. Check the HHC form (MI-1040CR-7 for more information).

Income Guidelines	
Exemptions	Income Ceiling
1	\$13,070
2	\$17,642
3	\$22,185
4	\$26,756
5	\$31,299
6	\$35,842
Add \$4,571 for each additional exemption	

How to apply?

You can apply for the HHC by filling out form MI-1040CR-7 for 2016. You do not have to file a Michigan tax return to apply for the HHC. There are many ways to get a HHC form:

- The Michigan Department of Treasury website, michigan.gov/treasury. Enter "Home Heating Credit" in the search box.
- Call the Department of Treasury at 517-636-4486 to receive a copy.
- Paper copies of forms also available at most public libraries, Northern Michigan post offices, Department of Health and Human Services offices, and locations where income tax forms are available.
- For hearing or speech impaired, teletypewriter (TTY) is available through the Michigan Relay Center, 800-649-3777 or 711.
- Some utility companies have forms available and personnel who can help with the form. Call your utility to see if they can assist.
- Call 2-1-1 to find local agencies that provide assistance completing tax forms.

** Customers who qualify for the HHC are also eligible for the Winter Protection Plan. Contact your local utility for more information.*

When to apply?

File your HHC form as soon as you know your household income for 2016.

THE DEADLINE FOR FILING THE FORM IS SEPTEMBER 30TH OF EACH YEAR.

Before sending in your form, check to make sure it is complete, accurate, and has been signed. Keep a copy of the number of exemptions you are claiming, the date you filed, and the amount of the credit to use in verifying the status of your application with the Department of Treasury.

If you have trouble paying your heating bills before you receive the credit or receive a shut-off notice, call your utility company immediately.

If your utility company is regulated by the MPSC, you cannot have your heat shut-off while you are waiting for the credit.

When will you get the credit?

Once you have filed your credit, you can check on its status by calling 517-636-4486 or online at Mlfastfile.org.

Who Do You Call For Help?

2-1-1 is a free and confidential phone service available 24 hours a day. It provides information and referrals for agencies in your community that can assist with utilities, food, housing, employment, childcare, transportation, and more.

The MAE staff can assist if you are having difficulty resolving issues with your utility company. Call toll free, at 800-292-9555, or write to:

**Michigan Agency for Energy
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, Michigan 48909**

or visit: michigan.gov/energy

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