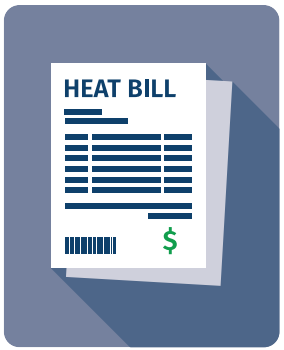
Help is available through the Home Heating Credit (HHC)

The HHC helps low-income households with their heating expenses if they are a qualified Michigan homeowner or renter.

The amount of credit is based on income, household size, and heat cost. If you received a credit in the last year, an application will be mailed to you near the end of the year.



How do I apply for the HHC?

The HHC application, **MI-1040CR-7** is available at your local library, MDHHS office, community agencies or the Department of Treasury.

You must complete the application between **Jan. 1 and Sept. 30**, or electronically when filing your tax returns.

More information can be found at Home Heating Credit Information **(Michigan.gov)**.

For more information, visit **NewMIBridges.Michigan.gov** or scan the QR code below.

MDHHS
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, national origin, color, sex, disability, religion, age, height, weight, familial status, partisan considerations, or genetic information. Sex-based discrimination includes, but is not limited to, discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, and pregnancy.

DHS-Pub-631 (Rev. 12-24)
Previous editions may be used.

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP assistance funds programs to help low-income households with energy needs. Help for high energy bills, shut offs, and home energy repairs is available to YOU.

Crisis Assistance also known as **State Emergency Relief Assistance (SER)** administered through the local DHHS offices.

Weatherization Assistance administered by MDHHS through local Community Action Agencies (CAA).

Heating Assistance, including the Home Heating Credit (HHC), is administered through the Department of Treasury.

What is Crisis Assistance?

You are responsible for your heat and electric costs, however there is assistance to help you, known as crisis assistance, through MDHHS.

First, you must understand how to read your bills, be careful how you use energy, and keep your costs as low as possible to avoid shutoff.

Reach out to your heat or electric provider as they may be able to assist. Don't wait until the last minute to ask for help. Call them about setting up a payment plan before you get shut off.

What help is available from MDHHS?

If you are in danger of shutoff, MDHHS may be able to assist with crisis money. However, there is an annual limit on how much can be paid depending on the type of heating fuel used.

You will first want to complete an application either online through MI Bridges or by completing a MDHHS-1171, Assistance Application along with the SER, supplemental form or DHS-1514, Application for State Emergency Relief. Paper applications are available online or at your local DHHS office. Apply online at:

NewMIBridges.Michigan.gov

How can I lower my energy bills?

There are several ways to reduce energy usage and lower your bills.

Turn Down Your Heat. You'll typically save 1-3 percent on your heating costs for every degree you dial down.

Don't use space heaters.

Close heat registers and turn off radiators in unused rooms, such as a spare bedroom, attic, basement, and storage areas to save 5 to 10 percent on your heating costs.

Clean or replace the furnace filter often during the heating season.

Close your attic, basement, garage and exterior doors to prevent cold drafts and keep in heat. Seal places where cold air gets into your home with caulk or plastic.

Keep furniture, carpeting and curtains from blocking heat registers and air return ducts.

Weatherization is key in lowering your energy bills. Services offered through weatherization help to improve your home to make it more energy efficient. **Some services include:**

- Home energy audit.
- Weather stripping, caulking.
- Insulation in attic, foundation and walls.
- Programmable thermostat installation.
- Furnace, water heater replacement or repair.

These are just a few of the services that are available. You must contact your local Community Action Agency (CAA) to inquire at State Map of Weatherization Operators (**Michigan.gov**).