

Sharing warmth – LIHEAP and PIPP

Energy assistance for Nicor Gas customers

Nicor Gas is committed to making a meaningful impact in the communities we serve. Financial assistance is available for customers struggling to pay their Nicor Gas bills.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides qualifying households with monetary relief for energy bills. Eligibility is based on several factors, including household size and income. Funds are provided in one lump sum from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

To qualify for LIHEAP, a household's combined income for the 30 days prior to application must be at or below a certain level. For renters, heat and/or electric must be included in the rent, and rent must be greater than 30 percent of total income in order to be eligible for benefits. To apply, contact one of the local agencies listed in this brochure.

Eligible customers can apply for LIHEAP starting July 27th.

Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP)

Eligible Nicor Gas customers pay a percentage of their monthly income to maintain utility service. PIPP offers an affordable payment plan and a chance to eliminate past-due balances.

Eligible customers can apply for PIPP starting July 27th.

To apply, contact one of the local agencies listed in this brochure.

For income guidelines information please see the chart below.

Payment arrangements

Customers behind on their natural gas bill payments may be eligible to make a payment arrangement. A down payment will be required, but the remaining balance can be broken up into four to 12 monthly installments, which is combined with the current monthly balance. To check eligibility and enroll, call **888.Nicor4U (642.6748)**.

| Family Size | Maximum Gross Monthly Income 200% |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | \$2,127 |
| 2 | \$2,873 |
| 3 | \$3,620 |
| 4 | \$4,367 |
| 5 | \$5,113 |
| 6 | \$5,860 |
| 7 | \$6,607 |
| 8 | \$7,353 |
| 9 | \$8,100 |
| 10 | \$8,847 |

Required Documents

Proof of current 30-day gross income

Social Security card for all household

Current utility bills

Valid driver's license or state ID

Local agencies

Champaign County Regional Planning Commission
217.384.1226
ccrpc.org
County served: *Champaign*

Community Action Partnership of Central Illinois
217.732.2159
capcil.org
County served: *Dewitt*

Community Action Partnership of Lake County
847.249.4330
caplakecounty.org
County served: *Lake*

CEDA
800.571.2332
cedaorg.net
County served: *Cook*

Community Contacts, Inc.
847.697.4400 (*Kane*)
815.758.3835 (*DeKalb*)
cci-hci.org
Counties served: *DeKalb and Kane*

DuPage County Department of Human Resources
630.407.6500
dupageco.org
County served: *DuPage*

East Central Illinois Community Action Agency
217.443.2705
comaction.org
Counties served: *Ford, Iroquois and Vermillion*

Kankakee County Community Services, Inc.
815.933.7883
kccsi-cap.org
County served: *Kankakee*

Kendall-Grundy Community Action
630.553.9100 (*Kendall*)
815.941.3262 (*Grundy*)
health.co.kendall.il.us
Counties served: *Grundy and Kendall*

McHenry County Housing Authority
815.338.7752
mchenrycountyhousing.org
County served: *McHenry*

Mid-Central Community Action, Inc.
309.829.0691
815.844.3201
mccainc.org
Counties served: *Livingston and McLean*

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency
815.232.3141
nicaa.org
Counties served: *JoDaviess and Stephenson*

Project NOW
309.793.6391
projectnow.org
Counties served: *Henry, Mercer and Rock Island*

Rockford Human Services Department
844.710.6919
rockfordil.gov/human-services.aspx
Counties served: *Boone and Winnebago*

Tazewood Community Services
309.694.4391
tazewoodcs.org
Counties served: *Tazewell and Woodford*

Tri-County Opportunities Council
800.323.5434
tcohelps.com
Counties served: *Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark and Whiteside*

Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials
217.224.8171
trrcopo.org
Counties served: *Brown, Pike and Schuyler*

Western Illinois Regional Council
309.837.2997
wirpc.org
Counties served: *Hancock and Henderson*

Will County Center for Community Concerns
815.722.0722
wcccc.net
County served: *Will*

For additional information on programs please visit nicorgas.com/energyassistance

Conservation Tips

Stoves

- Match the size of the pan to the burner. A six-inch pan over an eight-inch burner wastes 40 percent of its heat.
- Cover pots and pans with lids when cooking. This will reduce your cook time and decrease wasted heat.
- Minimize the number of times an oven door is opened during cooking. Opening the door loses between 25 and 50 degrees of heat.

Sinks and Showers

- Limiting your showers to four to five minutes can cut water use almost in half and conserve energy used to heat the water.
- Fix leaky faucets and toilets. Even one drip per minute from one faucet can waste 34 gallons of water per year!
- Install faucet aerators and high-efficiency showerheads. Using faucet aerators can reduce tap water consumption by 50 percent, saving 1,100 to 1,500 gallons of water per month. Similarly, high-efficiency showerheads can cut a typical 40-gallon shower to just 12.5 gallons of water.

Washers and Dryers

- Use a water-level setting that matches the size of the washer load. Your washer will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the load, so make sure to fill it up.
- Dry full loads but be sure not to overload your dryer. If your dryer is full, it will take longer for clothes to dry. Similarly, loads that are too small will spend more per item when running only to dry a few things. Air dry items when possible to balance this out.
- Separate heavier clothes (towels, heavy cottons) from the lightweight fabrics (synthetics) for more efficient drying.

Water Heaters and Furnaces

- Lower the temperature on your water heater to 120 degrees. For every 10-degree reduction in temperature, you can save up to five percent on your water heating costs.*
- Use a water heater insulating blanket. Insulating a water heater can cut standby heat losses up to 45 percent and save you up to 16% annually on your water heating bill.
- Install a programmable or smart thermostat to automatically adjust the temperature when no one is home. Homeowners can save \$50 to \$70 a year with these devices.

Weatherization

- Caulk and seal air leaks where plumbing, ductwork or electrical wiring penetrates through exterior walls, floors and ceilings. Between 20 and 30 percent of air is lost through holes, leaks and poor duct connections in your home.
- Add more insulation. Homeowners can save 15 percent on heating and cooling costs by air sealing and adding insulation to attics and walls. The amount of insulation you need depends on climate and your heating and cooling system.
- Seal and insulate your home with weather-stripping, caulking and out gaskets. For just a couple of hours of your time, weather-stripping can save 10 to 20 percent of your energy usage.

**Lowering the temperature setting is not recommended if you have a suppressed immune system or chronic respiratory disease.*



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

**! Leaks, Odor or Emergencies
888.Nicor4U (642.6748)**

Free Weatherization

Provides free air sealing, insulation and energy efficiency improvements for homes.

877.411.WARM (9276) | nicorgasrebates.com/freeweatherization