



Heating Assistance Program

Fact Sheet

Alaska’s Heating Assistance Program provides a one-time (per program year) benefit to help defray home heating costs for eligible Alaska residents with incomes up to 225% of Alaska’s federal poverty income guidelines. The program is funded through the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and state’s Alaska Affordable Heating Program (AKAHP).

The programs are administered by the Division of Public Assistance and 13 Tribal organizations.

- Association of Village Council Presidents
- Bristol Bay Native Association
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- Kodiak Area Native Association
- Orutsaramiut Native Association
- Tanana Chief Conference
- Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
- Aleutian Pribilof Island Association, Inc.
- Chuathbaluk Traditional Council
- Kenaitze Indian Tribe
- Kuskokwim Native Association
- Seldovia Village Tribe
- Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority

Recipients

In 2014 a total of \$24,893,735 in heating assistance benefits were distributed between 21,407 households across Alaska. Benefits were paid out of LIHEAP and AKAHP funds.

2014 LIHEAP Households Served – State and Tribes				
Program	# of Households Served by State DPA	# of Households Served by Tribal Organizations	Total Households Served	Average Benefit
LIHEAP	10,425	8,271	18,696	\$1,238
AKAHP	1,995	716	2,711	\$ 643
Total	12,420	8,987	21,407	

Clients Served By Priority Groups and Income Levels - State Data Only: (Tribal data not available)										
Program	HH’s With Vulnerable Member			Households Served At Each Federal Poverty Level						
	Elderly	Disabled	Children under 6	LIHEAP Income Levels				AKAHP Income Levels		
0-75%				76-100%	101-125%	126-150%	151-175%	176-200%	201-225%	
LIHEAP	3,213	2,968	2,712	4,376	3,053	1,700	1,296	0	0	0
AKAHP	842	446	547	0	0	0	0	1,017	615	363
Total	4,055	3,515	3,259	4,376	3,053	1,700	1,296	1,017	615	363

Program Funding and Expenditures

- LIHEAP funding is supplemented with state funds for LIHEAP eligible households in order to meet the benefit amount defined in state statute (AS47.25.623).
- As of February 1, 2015, the state received \$10,142,441 in LIHEAP funding for FY 2015. To date Tribal programs received \$7,315,133 in LIHEAP fund for a total of \$17,457,574 federal funding for FY 2015.
- AKAHP funding serves the higher income households and augments LIHEAP funding shortfalls. FY 2015 AKAHP funding is at \$12.6 million. AKAHP funding and expenditures includes tribal grants.

State/DHSS LIHEAP Funding and Expenditures As Reported to the Administration for Families and Children (Does not include tribal grants)					
Year	Leveraging Incentive Awards	Emergency Funds	Block Grant Funds	Total Funds Received	Total Program Expenditures*
2008	\$ 0	\$ 4,177,248	\$ 7,503,659	\$ 11,680,907	\$ 11,174,843
2009	\$ 359,009	\$ 5,100,014	\$ 16,332,944	\$ 21,791,967	\$ 20,644,506
2010	\$ 1,144,721	\$ 1,830,172	\$ 15,513,764	\$ 18,488,657	\$ 16,486,189
2011	\$ 0	\$ 646,161	\$ 14,327,158	\$ 14,973,319	\$ 14,852,401
2012	\$ 664,795	\$ 0	\$ 10,641,269	\$ 11,306,064	\$ 14,348,388
2013	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,149,914	\$ 10,149,914	\$ 15,933,445
2014	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 11,172,660	\$ 11,172,660	\$ 10,088,833

Source: LIHEAP Performance Measurement Web Site (<https://liheapdev.ncat.org>)
*Includes Administration, heating and crisis benefits, and weatherization services.

AKAHP Funding and Expenditures (Includes Tribes)							
Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Funding	\$0	\$19,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$13,500,000	\$20,864,700	\$13,600,000
Program Expenditures	\$0	\$18,219,244	\$2,024,865	\$5,007,211	\$13,472,599	\$9,972,083	\$10,142,166

Eligibility and Payments

As of February 1, 2015, the state has received 10,030 applications and issued benefits to 5,784 LIHEAP households and 1,035 AKAHP households to date with, as of 2/1/2015, an average LIHEAP benefit of \$1,353 and an average AKAHP benefit of \$625.00.

History

The state has participated in LIHEAP since the 1980's. AKAHP was created in July of 2008 and implemented in SFY 2009. Both programs use the same application, have the same requirements, and use the same eligibility and benefit determination formula. The "program year" runs from October 1, to September 30, however the last day to apply for assistance is April 30.