



ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA



37.70.601 BENEFIT AWARD

- (1) The department adopts and incorporates by reference the department's LIHEAP Benefit Award Matrix and Table of Multipliers, for the 2022-2023 heating season. The LIHEAP Benefit Award Matrix is located at <https://dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/energyassistance/> or a copy may be obtained from the Department of Public Health and Human Services, Human and Community Services Division, Intergovernmental Human Services Bureau, 1400 Carter Drive, P.O. Box 202956, Helena, MT 59620. These matrices are used to establish the benefit payable to an eligible household for a full heating season. The 2021-2022 benefit matrix will be used for the 2021-2022 heating season, and the 2022-2023 benefit matrix will be used for the 2022-2023 heating season. The benefit varies by:
 - (a) household income level;
 - (b) type of primary heating fuel;
 - (c) the type of dwelling: single family unit, multi-family unit, and mobile home;
 - (d) the number of bedrooms in the dwelling;
 - (e) the heating district in which the household is located, to account for climatic differences across the state;
 - (f) verification of the identities and citizenship or qualified alien status of those residing in the household; and
 - (g) the household's resources.
- (2) The benefit payable to an eligible household will be computed by multiplying the applicable amount in the table of base benefit levels found in the LIHEAP Benefit Award Matrix by the applicable matrix amount in the table of income/climatic adjustment multipliers found in the LIHEAP Benefit Award Matrix.
- (3) Publicly subsidized households whose energy costs are included as a fixed portion of their rent, or who reside in publicly subsidized housing and have an out-of-pocket obligation to pay a base-load electric bill, are not eligible for a regular LIHEAP benefit computed using the benefit matrices and multipliers in the LIHEAP Benefit Award Matrix and Table of Multipliers. However, these households may be eligible for a modified LIHEAP benefit. The modified LIHEAP benefit is equal to five percent of the regular LIHEAP benefit computed using the benefit matrices and multipliers in the LIHEAP Benefit Award Matrix and Table of Multipliers, or a minimum payment of \$25, whichever is greater, paid annually. Households determined eligible for the modified LIHEAP benefit whose economic and housing situation does not change are eligible for a period of five years.

Authorizing statute(s): 53-2-201, MCA

Implementing statute(s): 53-2-201, MCA

History: NEW, 1982 MAR p. 732, Eff. 4/16/82; AMD, 1982 MAR p. 1771, Eff. 10/1/82; AMD, 1983 MAR p. 131, Eff. 2/11/83; AMD, 1983 MAR p. 1362, Eff. 9/30/83; AMD, 1984 MAR p. 1481, Eff. 10/12/84; AMD, 1985 MAR p. 1412, Eff. 9/27/85; EMERG, AMD, 1986 MAR p. 362, Eff. 3/14/86; AMD, 1986 MAR p. 1606, Eff. 9/26/86; AMD, 1987 MAR p. 1805, Eff. 10/16/87; AMD, 1988 MAR p. 2042, Eff. 10/1/88; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 1571, Eff. 10/13/89; AMD, 1990 MAR p. 2307, Eff. 10/26/90; AMD, 1991 MAR p. 1857, Eff. 10/1/91; AMD, 1992 MAR p. 2201, Eff. 9/25/92; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 2437, Eff. 10/15/93; AMD, 1994 MAR p. 2642, Eff. 9/23/94; AMD, 1995 MAR p. 2157, Eff. 10/13/95; AMD, 1996 MAR p. 2887, Eff. 10/25/96; AMD, 1997 MAR p. 2296, Eff. 12/16/97; TRANS, from SRS, 1998 MAR p. 2059; AMD, 1999 MAR p. 414, Eff. 3/12/99; AMD, 1999 MAR p. 2575, Eff. 11/5/99; AMD, 2000 MAR p. 2707, Eff. 10/6/00; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 401, Eff. 3/9/01; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2037, Eff. 10/12/01; AMD, 2002 MAR p. 3635, Eff. 11/28/02; AMD, 2004 MAR p. 1026, Eff. 4/23/04; AMD, 2004 MAR p. 2818, Eff. 11/19/04; AMD, 2005 MAR p. 1786, Eff. 9/23/05; AMD, 2005 MAR p. 2078, Eff. 10/28/05; AMD, 2007 MAR p. 974, Eff. 7/6/07; AMD, 2007 MAR p. 1948, Eff. 11/22/07; AMD, 2008 MAR p. 810, Eff. 4/25/08; AMD, 2011 MAR p. 108, Eff. 1/28/11; AMD, 2011 MAR p. 2419, Eff. 11/11/11; AMD, 2013 MAR p. 61, Eff. 1/18/13; AMD, 2014 MAR p. 126, Eff. 1/17/14; AMD, 2015 MAR p. 2145, Eff. 12/11/15; AMD, 2018 MAR p. 108, Eff. 1/13/18; AMD, 2018 MAR p. 1886, Eff. 9/22/18; AMD, 2019 MAR p. 2383, Eff. 12/28/19; AMD, 2020 MAR p. 1844, Eff. 10/10/20; AMD, 2021 MAR p. 1060, Eff. 10/1/21; AMD, 2022 MAR p. 1879, Eff. 9/24/22.