



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
*LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER*

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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*A Community Action Agency*

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### *LIHEAP OFFER AND PIPP HELP WITH ENERGY COSTS*

Rockford – Information is now available for the annual Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for eligible residents in Winnebago and Boone Counties. LIHEAP pays a benefit directly to energy companies on behalf of eligible households or directly to eligible renters if all energy costs are included in their rent.

There are many area sites that will be scheduling appointments during the LIHEAP season. Appointments are made by phone only. Handouts with site lists, program information, eligibility criteria and call-in schedules are available at the City of Rockford Human Services Department, 555 N. Court St., Suite 301 in Rockford, and at the Belvidere City Hall, 401 Whitney Blvd. and Boone County United Way, 220 W. Locust St. in Belvidere. You must have this information before you call to make an appointment. You can also find information at [www.rockfordil.gov](http://www.rockfordil.gov).

Residents can begin calling the sites serving their category on the following dates to make an appointment: September 6 for seniors and disabled households, October 3 for disconnected households and households with children under 6 years old, and November 1 for all other low-income households. Residents who were not able to receive an appointment during their category month can continue to call monthly on the dates listed on the site list, or until funds are exhausted.

The Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) is back as an option offered to all eligible clients at their LIHEAP appointment. PIPP is a monthly budget plan where on-time payments can help forgive a portion of past due balances.

LIHEAP is a program of the IL Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Office of Energy Assistance funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and administered locally by the City of Rockford Human Services Department, A Community Action Agency.

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2016 - 2017

## LISTS OF LIHEAP SITES AND SCHEDULES

For Winnebago and Boone Counties

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is a program for eligible residents in Winnebago and Boone Counties. LIHEAP pays a benefit directly to energy companies on behalf of eligible households, or directly to eligible renters if all energy costs are included in their rent.

◆ Residents can begin calling for appointments according to the attached schedule. Sites schedule a set number of appointments per month in order to allow time for processing applications.

Applications are filled out at the appointment and not available in advance. If you did not receive an appointment during your call-in month, you can try again beginning at 8:00am on the dates listed.

◆ Appointments are made by phone only on a first come, first served basis - no walk-ins. Please be advised that because of the high demand for this assistance, you may experience phone delays and busy signals. We apologize for this inconvenience.

◆ The program continues until May 31, 2017 or ends sooner if funds run out. You can only receive a LIHEAP Direct Vendor Payment (DVP) ONCE during this program year. Households who become disconnected after applying, contact our office.

◆ The PIPP (Percentage of Income Payment Plan) will be back again this year. PIPP is a monthly budget plan where on-time payments can help forgive a portion of past due balances. Eligible households will have this option discussed at their LIHEAP appointment. You will have to choose between PIPP or LIHEAP DVP; you cannot receive both.

◆ If you are disconnected, you may be eligible to apply for Reconnection Assistance (RA). The RA amount, plus your Direct Vendor Payment, needs to be enough money to pay your entire bill in order to turn on your service. If you are not able to make up the difference, the application will be denied due to "Client Portion Required" (CPR). When you are able to make a personal payment directly to the utility to make up the difference, or set up a payment arrangement with them, then you can reapply for assistance.

◆ Please review the attached documentation needed and income guidelines before calling for an appointment. Please note that applying for LIHEAP funds does not guarantee assistance.

◆ Before coming to your appointment, *make sure all your documents are out of envelopes and in one spot.* Worker will make copies. If you are not prepared ahead of time, it slows up your appointment. Please make sure you read the attached documents list carefully.

**2016 - 2017**

**DATES and SITES TO CALL for APPOINTMENTS**

**NO WALK-INS**

<b>SENIORS</b> (age 60 and above) and <b>DISABLED</b> (not pending)	<b>DISCONNECTED HOUSEHOLDS            AND HOUSEHOLDS WITH            CHILDREN UNDER 6</b>	<b>GENERAL            PUBLIC</b>
You can call the sites below on these dates: <b>Sept. 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 1,</b> <b>Dec. 1, Jan. 3, Feb. 1, March 1,</b> <b>April 3, May 1</b> 	You can call the sites below on the these dates: <b>Oct. 3, Nov. 1, Dec. 1, Jan. 3,</b> <b>Feb. 1, March 1, April 3, May 1</b> 	You can call the sites below on these dates: <b>Nov. 1, Dec. 1, Jan. 3, Feb. 1,</b> <b>March 1, April 3, May 1</b> 
<b>Lifescape Community Services</b> 815-963-1609 <i>Seniors</i> 705 Kilburn Ave. Rockford <i>(No disconnected households)</i>	<b>City of Rockford Human Services</b> 844-710-6919 555 N. Court St. #301 Rockford	<b>City of Rockford Human Services</b> 844-710-6919 555 N. Court St. #301 Rockford
<b>City of Rockford Human Services</b> 844-710-6919 555 N. Court St. #301 Rockford	<b>Central Terrace Co-op</b> 815-962-4112 <i>Rockford Residents Only</i> 1121 Bishop Washington Ave. Rockford <i>(No disconnected households)</i>	<b>Central Terrace Co-op</b> 815-962-4112 <i>Rockford Residents Only</i> 1121 Bishop Washington Ave. Rockford <i>(No disconnected households)</i>
<b>Northwestern Illinois Area Agency            on Aging (NIAAA)</b> 779-221-3717 <i>Seniors</i> 1111 S. Alpine Rd, Suite 600, Rockford <i>(No disconnected households)</i>	<b>Rockton Township</b> 815-624-7788 <i>Residents of Roscoe, Rockton, S. Beloit, Durand,            Shirland, Machesney Park, Loves Park,            Incorporated Areas of Winnebago County only</i> 1315 N. Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton	<b>Rockton Township</b> 815-624-7788 <i>Residents of Roscoe, Rockton, S. Beloit, Durand,            Shirland, Machesney Park, Loves Park and            Incorporated Areas of Winnebago County only</i> 1315 N. Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton
<b>Central Terrace Co-op</b> 815-962-4112 <i>Rockford Residents Only</i> 1121 Bishop Washington Ave. Rockford <i>(No disconnected households)</i>	<b>United Way of Boone County</b> 815-544-3144 <i>Boone County Residents</i> 220 W. Locust St. Belvidere	<b>United Way of Boone County</b> 815-544-3144 <i>Boone County Residents</i> 220 W. Locust St. Belvidere
<b>Rockton Township</b> 815-624-7788 <i>Residents of Roscoe, Rockton, S. Beloit, Durand,            Shirland, Machesney Park, Loves Park and            Incorporated areas of Winnebago County only</i> 1315 N. Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton		
<b>Boone County Council on Aging</b> Keen Age Center 815-544-9893 <i>Seniors and Boone County Residents Only</i> 2141 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere <i>(No disconnected households)</i>		
<b>United Way of Boone County</b> 815-544-3144 <i>Boone County Residents</i> 220 W. Locust St. Belvidere		

## NEEDED DOCUMENTATION FOR APPLICANTS

Before coming to your appointment, make sure all your documents are out of envelopes, wallets, etc. and in one spot. Staff will make copies. If you are not prepared ahead of time, it slows up your appointment. Please make sure you read the attached documents list carefully.

- Photo ID issued by a third party, such as driver's license, state ID, work ID, college ID, FOID card (no copies)

- Proof of gross income from all household members 18 years and older for the 30-day period prior to the application date. This includes TANF and other public benefits, child support, as well as wages from a job and other forms of income (such as SSI, SSDI, etc.)
- Your **current/latest** heat and electric bills, both front & back, that includes name and address, issued within the last 30 days. Disconnect notices are not accepted in place of bills.
- If both utilities are included in rent, a copy of rental agreement showing that utilities are included, the monthly rental amount and landlord contact information.
- **Social Security cards for all household members – it cannot be a copy or an application for a card.** Certified birth certificates will be accepted in place of Social Security Cards for children under the age of 6 months. Hospital birth certificates are NOT accepted (unless a child is under 1 month old).
- ONLY IF ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD IS CLAIMING ZERO INCOME, you must provide proof that the household receives PUBLIC benefits, such as SNAP/Link, public housing verification, or a letter from someone who is supporting you.
- If applying during the seniors and disabled sign up period, households must contain a member who is elderly (age 60 and above), or, if resident is under 60 and disabled, must bring in proof of social security disability benefits. Pending disability is NOT accepted. Disability includes SSI, SSDI, Vet Disability, or AABD
- If applying during the households with child(ren) under 6 sign up period, child must still be 5 yrs. on date of application; must prove age with birth certificate or Medicaid card with birthdate.
- In specific circumstances, additional documents may be requested.

### INCOME REQUIREMENTS

Household Size	Total household 30 day income no more than:	Total household annual income no more than:
1	\$1,485	\$17,820
2	\$2,003	\$24,030
3	\$2,520	\$30,240
4	\$3,038	\$36,450
5	\$3,555	\$42,660
6	\$4,073	\$48,870
7	\$4,591	\$55,095
8	\$5,111	\$61,335
9	\$5,631	\$67,575
10	\$6,151	\$73,815

For households with more than 10 members, for each member add \$520 for 30 day income (\$6,240 for annual income) These figures are based on the Federal Poverty Guidelines of 150% of poverty. The state reserves the right to adjust these levels based on the availability of federal appropriations.