



Plan Ahead Now



How are you going to pay for your winter heating bills?

Did you receive Heating Assistance this past winter? If the answer is yes, you need to plan ahead now for how you are going to pay for your heat this coming winter .

Budget cuts have resulted in the elimination of the Alaska Affordable Heating Program which assisted households with income between 151% and 225% of poverty. If you fall into this income category, you will not qualify for assistance this winter. If your income is less than 150% of the federal poverty income guidelines, you may receive a benefit but it will be about 30% lower than what you have received the past several years.

FY 2017 Poverty Guidelines

# of People in Household	Gross Monthly Income Less Than 150% of Poverty
1	\$ 1,855
2	\$ 2,502
3	\$ 3,150
4	\$ 3,797
5	\$ 4,445

What Can You Do To Prepare?

- Contact your vendor and get on a budget plan. These plans take into consideration your annual usage and then set you up for a set, budget, amount each month . This spreads out the cost of heating and makes the payments more manageable and easier to budget for.
- Create your own “energy fund.” Start to put a little money aside each week/month to cover your heating bills when winter comes.
- Sign up for weatherization or seal up drafts in your home yourself. Anywhere you can feel cold air coming in, the heat can also escape. For more information on free and low-cost weatherization go to <https://www.ahfc.us/efficiency/energy-programs/weatherization/> or call Alaska Housing Finance Corporation at 1-800-478-2432.
- Look for other resources. Call 211, the statewide agency hotline, to see if there are other programs in your community that can help you.



Plan ahead now to keep warm this winter.



If you have questions, please call Heating Assistance at 1-800-470-3058