





# Financial Assistance Available for Duke Energy Customers in Ohio and Kentucky

If you or someone you know is having trouble paying utility expenses, there are many programs available to help.



# Assistance Agency Funds

Assistance agencies may be able to help make payments to cover some or all of your past-due utility bill balance. To learn about agencies that serve your area, please dial 211, visit 211.org or text your ZIP code to 898211.



# **Assistance Programs**

# **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program** (LIHEAP/HEAP)

This income-based assistance program allows those earning below certain income thresholds to qualify for energy bill assistance. Learn how to qualify and apply:

Ohio Dept. of Development: 800.282.0880 development.ohio.gov/individual/energy-assistance/1home-energy-assistance-program

**Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services:** 800.456.3452

chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs/dfs/pdb/Pages/liheap.aspx

# Share the Light Fund®

Share the Light Fund brings together customers and communities to help individuals and families struggling to pay their energy bills. Duke Energy works with agencies to distribute funds to qualifying customers in order to pay energy bills, deposits and reconnection/connection charges. Learn more at duke-energy.com/ShareTheLight.

# **Duke Energy Weatherization Program**

Duke Energy has joined People Working Cooperatively (PWC) to provide free weatherization such as duct sealing and insulation to lower energy bills. Call PWC to see if you qualify:

Ohio: 513.351.7921 Kentucky: 859.331.1991



# Other Assistance

#### **Budget Billing**

For those who like to know what to expect each month, Duke Energy's Budget Billing program allows you to pay one predictable monthly amount to help provide better control over your budget. To learn more or sign up online, visit duke-energy.com/BudgetBilling.

#### **Pick Your Due Date**

With Duke Energy's Pick Your Due Date option, you can choose the date you want your energy bill to be due each month. Learn more about Pick Your Due Date at duke-energy.com/PickYourDate.

# **Installment Plans**

Installment plans provide flexibility to pay back a past-due balance over time. Request a few extra days or restructure your past-due balance into a monthly payment plan. To learn more, visit duke-energy.com/MoreTime or call customer service at 800.544.6900.

# **Due Date Extension**

If you know you will miss your due date, this payment option allows you to extend your payment due date by up to 10 business days to avoid late fees. Learn more at duke-energy.com/ExtendDueDate.

# **Usage Alerts**

By having a smart meter and an email address on file, you'll automatically be enrolled to receive a notification showing how much electricity you're using and how much it may cost, in time to adjust before the end of your billing cycle. Learn more at duke-energy.com/UsageAlerts.





# Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus (PIPP Plus)

PIPP Plus is an income-eligible program that allows qualifying customers to pay a percentage of their income toward their energy bills, regardless of monthly usage. Information is available by visiting <a href="https://www.duke-energy.com/home/billing/special-assistance/percentage-of-income">https://www.duke-energy.com/home/billing/special-assistance/percentage-of-income</a> or by calling the Ohio Department of Development at 800.282.0880.

#### American Rescue Plan (ARP)

ARP is an income-based assistance program that allows those earning below certain income thresholds to qualify for federal energy bill assistance up to \$1,035 per utility account. Duke Energy customers in Ohio can contact the Ohio Department of Development at **800.282.0880** for more information.

# **Summer Crisis Programs**

The Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program (SCP) provides summer cooling assistance for low-income, elderly households and for Ohio residents with qualifying medical conditions. SCP applies to electric utilities only. Customers must be at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines, or have a member of the household who is at least 60 years old or has an illness that would benefit from assistance, verified by physician documentation. The program runs July 1 through Sept. 30. To learn more, visit <a href="https://development.ohio.gov/individual/energy-assistance/3-summer-crisis-program">https://development.ohio.gov/individual/energy-assistance/3-summer-crisis-program</a>.

#### **Winter Crisis Program**

The Winter Crisis Program helps income-eligible Ohioans who have pending utility disconnections, current disconnections or less than a 25% supply of bulk fuel in their tanks to maintain their utility service. The program is available Nov. 1 to May 1. More information is available at <a href="https://development.ohio.gov/is/is\_heapwinter.htm">https://development.ohio.gov/is/is\_heapwinter.htm</a> or by calling the Ohio Department of Development at 800,282,0880.

#### **Patriot Plan**

The Patriot Plan allows Ohio military reservists and National Guardsmen deployed on active duty to avoid utility disconnections for nonpayment. Visit <a href="https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/utilities/electricity/resources/patriot-plan">https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/utilities/electricity/resources/patriot-plan</a> for more information or contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio at 800.686.7826.

# **Ohio Fuel Fund**

Ohio Fuel Fund is administered by community action agencies and provides assistance to eligible low- to moderate- income customers who have made a good faith payment of any amount on their electric/natural gas bill within the past 90 days. Customers must be at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines, have a past-due electric/natural gas bill and must apply for the HEAP or HEAP Crisis Program, if available.

# **Medical Certification**

Medical Certification allows a customer who falls behind on bill payments due to family health problems to temporarily avoid disconnection of natural gas and/or electric service. This certification is designed for those times when disconnection of service would be especially dangerous to the health of a permanent household resident.

Certification will prevent disconnection of service for 30 days or restore services if the certificate is provided within 21 days of the disconnection of service. Each household may be eligible for three medical certifications in a 12-month period. Customers who use the Medical Certification will be required to enter into an extended payment plan. Customers may call **800.544.6900** for more information.

# Hamilton County Senior Utility Assistance and Home Repair Program

This program is aimed at expanding help to those income-eligible seniors who are ineligible for other utility and home modification programs. The program is for Hamilton County residents age 60 and older whose income is up to 300% of the poverty level. The Utility Assistance portion of the program provides a one-time credit of up to \$500 toward water or gas/electric bills. The Home Repair portion of the program covers home modification and repairs such as ramps, railings, bathroom grab bars, HVAC repair or other maintenance to help older adults continue to remain living at home. Eligible older adults can apply for assistance by visiting help4Seniors.org or by calling 513.743.9000.

## 513 Relief

Hamilton County commissioners launched the COVID-19 Economic Recovery and Relief Task Force in January 2021 to meet the critical needs of Hamilton County families and businesses affected by COVID-19. Find housing and utility relief, employment assistance, small business assistance and more by visiting <a href="https://513relief.org/">https://513relief.org/</a>.



#### **Council on Aging**

If you're 60 or older and have problems paying heating bills this winter, contact the Council on Aging at 513.721.1025.

# **Community Action Agencies**

Emergency funds may be available for utility bills through Community Action Agencies. Find out more by calling the agency in your area.

 Adams County:
 937.378.6041
 Clermont County:
 513.732.2277
 Hamilton County:
 513.569.1850

 Brown County:
 937.378.6041
 City of Franklin:
 937.746.7791
 Highland County:
 937.393.3458

 Butler County:
 513.868.9300
 Clinton County:
 937.382.8365
 Warren County:
 513.970.6737



# **Home Energy Assistance (HEA)**

Home Energy Assistance is a program in partnership with Community Action Kentucky, Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission and Duke Energy. Eligible customers may receive up to \$693 in bill assistance January through April. The program includes a subsidy component and a crisis component for households with incomes up to 200% of poverty guidelines.

**Crisis Assistance:** Active Duke Energy customers who have a past-due balance and/or are in danger of disconnection can apply for immediate crisis assistance up to \$400. The customer may also apply for enrollment for subsidy assistance.

**Subsidy Assistance:** This program offers active Duke Energy electric or natural gas and electric customers an affordable electric and natural gas bill payment by providing a \$99 subsidy credit to their Duke Energy account for the peak heating (January-April) and cooling (July-September) seasons. The Subsidy program offers natural gas-only customers an affordable natural gas bill payment by providing a \$173.25 subsidy credit for the peak heating months.

Duke Energy customers may locate a neighborhood center for assistance by visiting www.nkcac.org/neighborhood-centers/ or call to schedule an enrollment appointment at 859.439.4004.

#### **Certificate of Financial Need**

Eligible customers may qualify for two winter certificate-of-financial-need programs from Nov. 1 through March 31. For more information, visit https://www.capky.org/ or contact your local Community Action Agency.

#### **Payment Plus**

The Payment Plus program is an energy efficiency program in partnership with the Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission and Duke Energy. It offers incentives to income-eligible customers to attend budget counseling and energy efficiency education. Customers who complete the program can receive up to \$500 in incentives toward their energy bill arrearage.

## **Maintenance Services**

Maintenance Services is another program for Duke Energy customers in Kentucky in collaboration with NKCAC. This program assists elderly and/or disabled homeowners to maintain their heating and air conditioning equipment.



#### **Community Action Agencies**

Emergency funds may be available for utility bills through Northern Kentucky Community Action Commissions. Find out more by calling the agency in your area.

The following agencies may also be able to provide assistance.

Brighton Center: 859.491.8303 The Salvation Army: 859.261.0835 Boone County: 859.586.9250

Find more information to help you manage bills at duke-energy.com/LowerBills.