

# APPLYING FOR LEAP

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**LEAP is designed to help eligible low-income households with winter home heating costs. LEAP is not intended to pay the entire cost of home heating. LEAP benefits are available to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, sex, age, handicap, national origin, political beliefs or religious beliefs.**

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

**YOU QUALIFY FOR LEAP IF:**

- You pay home heating costs to an energy provider, fuel dealer, or as part of your rent.
- You are a permanent legal resident of the United States and Colorado or you have household members that are U.S. citizens.
- You provide proof of lawful presence in the U.S.
- Your maximum family household income falls within the guidelines given below. "Household" means people who live with you and for whom you are financially responsible.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MONTHLY INCOME 185% OF POVERTY
1	\$ 1,670
2	\$ 2,246
3	\$ 2,823
4	\$ 3,400
5	\$ 3,976
6	\$ 4,553
7	\$ 5,129
8	\$ 5,706
<b>EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON</b>	<b>\$ 577</b>

For more information call toll-free 1-866-HEATHELP (1-866-432-8435) or your county department of social services.

**REVIEW YOUR APPLICATION BEFORE YOU TURN IT IN.**

Make sure you've answered all the questions and have attached all the requested information. Your attention to detail now helps us process your application. If your application is not complete, we cannot process your request. The sooner your application is received, the sooner it will be processed, and a decision on your application can be made.

**VERIFICATION OF LAWFUL PRESENCE.**

State law requires applicants for LEAP must provide additional documents with each LEAP application. A readable copy of one of the following valid identifications must be provided:

1. A Colorado Driver License; or, a Colorado Identification Card; or,
2. A United States military card or, military dependant's card; or,
3. A United States Merchant Mariner card; or,
4. A Native American Tribal document.
5. Any other document authorized by rules adopted by the Department of Revenue (DOR).

The applicant for LEAP must also complete, sign and date the affidavit located on page 5 of the application. For more information go to DOR webpage: [www.revenue.state.co.us](http://www.revenue.state.co.us)

**CONTINUE PAYING YOUR HEAT BILL, AS LEAP ASSISTANCE WILL NOT PAY FOR YOUR ENTIRE HEAT BILL.**

Do not wait for help from LEAP. Our process takes time, so you must keep your account current by making a payment towards your heat bill on time. If you apply for LEAP and receive a shutoff notice before you know the outcome of your application, or you have your heating service disconnected, notify your county department of social services immediately. Remember, simply filling out this application does not mean that you can ignore your current bills and notices from your energy company.

**YOUR PARTICIPATION IN OTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS WILL NOT BE AFFECTED IF YOU APPLY FOR LEAP.**

No other government program will cut or limit your participation in that program. This includes Medicare, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Colorado Works/TANF, Food Stamps, Old Age Pension (OAP), and Aid to Needy Disabled (AND)/Aid to the Blind (AB).

# APPLYING FOR LEAP

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS SIDE

## YOU CAN RECEIVE ONLY ONE LEAP BENEFIT PER HEAT SEASON.

The heat season runs from November 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Although your LEAP assistance may be split into two (2) separate payments, any benefit you receive during a heat season will be the only one for that year—plan accordingly.

## MAIL, FAX, OR DROP-OFF YOUR APPLICATION TO YOUR COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1, 2009 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2010. PLEASE COMPLETE THE CHECKLIST BELOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE.

- I have answered all questions in all sections on my application.
- I have enclosed a readable copy of the applicant's valid (Photo) Identification.
- I have included social security numbers and birth dates for ALL household members.
- I have completed and signed the affidavit.
- I have attached proof (copies of pay stubs, award letters, loans, etc.) for all income received by my household last month.
- I have attached a copy of my most recent heating (not lighting) bill showing company name, address, and account numbers.
- I have attached a copy of my most recent rent receipt. (if heating costs are included in rent.) The rent receipt must clearly show heat is included.
- I have signed my application.

## ADDITIONAL LEAP ASSISTANCE

### Crisis Intervention Program (CIP)

If you are eligible for LEAP, you may qualify for emergency help such as repair or replacement of your primary heating system. If you have this type of emergency during business hours you must contact your county department of social services office and request a CIP application before any work is done.

If you have a life-threatening emergency after business hours or on the weekend, have the work done but you must apply within five (5) working days after the next business day to receive benefits. If you have a non-life-threatening emergency, wait until the next business day to contact your county department of social services.

## WEATHERIZATION

You may also qualify for free weatherization services that will improve your home through the Governor's Energy Office Weatherization Program. Weatherization will reduce your home energy usage, help you save money, and keep your home safer and more comfortable year round. For more information please call toll-free 888-206-2122.

## COLORADO PROPERTY TAX/RENT/HEAT REBATE PROGRAM

THIS PROGRAM IS THROUGH THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.

### YOU MAY QUALIFY IF YOU ARE:

- A Colorado full year resident.
- 65 years old, or a surviving spouse at least 58 years old, or disabled.

### AND

- Single with income below \$12,000 per year.

### OR

- Married with income below \$15,700 per year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE (DOR) AT (303) 238-7378, PRESS 2, THEN 1 OR TO CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR APPLICATION CALL (303) 238-3278, PRESS 3 AND PROVIDE YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN).