

Tier I Income Benefit Levels
(Categorically Eligible and Income - Tested Households
at or Below Tier I Income Limits)

Households with Separate Fuel Bills

Federal Funding Level	Heating Region	Households with Heat included in Rent and Subsidized Housing Tenants Which Pay Directly for		
		Fuel Oil, Kerosene LP Gas, PSC Regulated Electric and Village of Greenport	Natural Gas, Wood, Coal Heat	Municipal Electric Heat
<u>\$.9B</u>	I	\$135	\$ 95	\$ 75
	II	135	90	70
	III	145	90	75
	IV	160	110	85
<u>\$1.065B</u>	I	\$160	\$110	\$ 85
	II	160	105	85
	III	170	110	90
	IV	185	130	100
<u>\$1.1B</u>	I	\$160	\$110	\$ 85
	II	160	105	85
	III	170	110	90
	IV	185	130	100
<u>\$1.2B</u>	I	\$175	\$120	\$ 95
	II	175	115	95
	III	185	120	100
	IV	205	145	110

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<u>\$1.3B</u>	I	\$190	\$130	\$100	\$100
	II	185	125	100	100
	III	200	130	105	105
	IV	220	155	120	120
<u>\$1.4B</u>	I	\$200	\$140	\$110	\$110
	II	200	130	105	105
	III	215	135	110	110
	IV	230	165	125	125
<u>\$1.5B</u>	I	\$215	\$150	\$115	\$115
	II	215	140	115	115
	III	230	145	120	120
	IV	250	175	135	135

Regular HEAP Income Eligibility Guidelines

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Tier I</u>	<u>Tier II</u>
1	0 - \$ 738	\$ 739 - \$1,149
2	0 - 996	997 - 1,503
3	0 - 1,253	1,254 - 1,856
4	0 - 1,511	1,512 - 2,210
5	0 - 1,769	1,770 - 2,564
6	0 - 2,027	2,028 - 2,917
7	0 - 2,285	2,286 - 2,984
8	0 - 2,543	2,544 - 3,050
Each Additional Person	+ \$258	+ \$ 66

Emergency HEAP Income Guidelines

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Maximum Income</u>
1	0 - \$1,149
2	0 - 1,503
3	0 - 1,856
4	0 - 2,210
5	0 - 2,564
6	0 - 2,917
7	0 - 2,984
8	0 - 3,050
Each Additional Person	+ \$ 66

Heating Degree Day Regions

Region I	Region II	Region III
Nassau	Albany	Ontario
New York City	Cayuga	Orleans
Orange	Chautauqua	Oswego
Putnam	Chemung	Saratoga
Rockland	Columbia	Schenectady
Suffolk	Dutchess	Schuyler
Westchester	Erie	Seneca
	Genesee	Tompkins
Region IV	Livingston	Ulster
	Monroe	Wayne
Essex	Niagara	Yates
Franklin	Onondaga	
Hamilton		
Herkimer		

Benefit amounts were determined utilizing the annual energy costs and the income level of the eligible households. Benefit amounts are based on a percentage of average annual heating costs for the type of heating situation and heating region. See Attachment V for these percentages. The regular benefit for households with heat included in the rent is 64% of the average of the fuel oil and natural gas benefit for the household's income level. Subsidized housing tenants which pay directly for heat shall be provided the "rent with heat" included benefit since they are already receiving a shelter/fuel subsidy and their net heating costs are lower than a similarly situated non-subsidized household.

The methodology utilized to estimate annual heating costs is the same as that utilized in previous HEAP State Plans. Such methodology is available upon request.

Emergency Benefits

The following HEAP emergency benefit types are available to resolve the heat-related emergency needs of eligible households:

(A) **Domestic Utility Disconnection**

When an eligible household's domestic utility service is necessary to operate its primary heating equipment, an emergency benefit equal to two (2) times the most recent monthly bill or an amount equal to the most recent bi-monthly bill may be authorized to resolve a threat of disconnection or restore service and "buy" two (2) months of prospective utility service.

(B) **Heating Utility Disconnection**

When an eligible household's utility service is its primary heating source an emergency benefit equal to two (2) times the most recent monthly bill or an amount equal to the most recent bi-monthly bill may be authorized to resolve a threat of disconnection or restore service and "buy" two (2) months of prospective utility service.

(C) **Non-Utility Heating Fuel**

A benefit of \$250 may be issued to obtain a delivery(ies) of an eligible household's primary heating fuel.

(D) **Repair of Primary Heating Equipment**

The maximum benefit provided for the repair of applicant-owned primary heating equipment may not exceed \$500.

(E) **Temporary Emergency Shelter or Relocation**

The maximum benefit may not exceed \$500.

(F) **Propane Installation/Reconnection**

The maximum benefit may not exceed \$500.

(G) **Weather Related and Supply Shortage**

In the event of weather-related emergencies and/or a temporary fuel shortage, the local department of social services is authorized to purchase an appropriate supply of safe supplemental heating devices which meet local building codes and which can be loaned to eligible households until such time as a delivery of the household's primary heating fuel can be obtained. Provision of emergency shelter or temporary relocation is also an acceptable form of assistance which is appropriate to resolve such household's immediate energy needs until the weather improves sufficiently or a supply of fuel is obtained.

NOTE:

Eligible households may potentially receive one of each type of emergency benefits (A-C) described above. Emergency benefit types D through G may only be authorized once each program year to eligible households. Where emergency types A and B are part of a combined bill, only one emergency benefit equal to two (2) times the most recent monthly combined bill or an amount equal to the most recent bi-monthly bill may be authorized to resolve a utility termination threat or disconnection and "buy" two (2) months of prospective service.

Weatherization Activities

o **Local District Targeted Weatherization Component**

If sufficient funding is available beyond the amount earmarked for DOS/WAP weatherization activities, NYSDSS may implement a targeted weatherization component administered by its local districts. Such a component would allow for up to \$2500 in weatherization services or energy related home repairs to be provided to households which meet one or more of the target criteria identified on page 11A of the State Plan Preprint. Energy audits will be required to assess what type of weatherization services or repairs are appropriate and local district will be required to solicit a minimum of two bids before requesting a final expenditure approval from NYSDSS.

Benefits will be provided until allocated funding has been exhausted.

o **Furnace Replacement Component**

If sufficient funding is available beyond the amount earmarked for DOS/WAP weatherization activities, NYSDSS may implement a Furnace Replacement Component. The maximum benefit for replacement of primary applicant owned heating equipment may not exceed \$2500 except in situations where the local department of social services has

received a case by case waiver by NYSDSS. The household's heating equipment must be applicant owned, inoperable and not repairable. A minimum of two bids must be solicited prior to a local districts request of final expenditure approval from NYSDSS.

Benefits will be provided until allocated funding has been exhausted.

Additional Benefit

If sufficient administrative and program funds are determined to be available by NYS after April 30, 1993, an additional benefit will be available to eligible Tier I households whose bill for the primary heating source for the previous twelve (12) months exceeds 150% of the average heating cost for the household's heating region of residence. Heating regions are identified on page 2 of this Attachment. Completion of an application would be required and benefits would be available on a first come, first served basis and would be equal to the household's regular benefit. Applications would be accepted only as long as earmarked funds are available.

150% of the average heating costs by heating type and region are outlined below.

Heating Region

Primary Heating Source

	Fuel Oil, Kerosene, Electric, LP Gas	Natural Gas, Wood, Coal	Municipal Electric Heat
1			
2	\$1,470	\$1,013	\$2,150
3	1,454	968	913
4	1,557	990	1,260
	1,690	1,194	1,127

Leveraged Resources

New York State has developed a variety of leveraged resources which it believes meet the basic criteria of the LIHEAP leveraging incentive program for FFY 1993. The following resources as identified and described, while not provided to low income households as part of (through or within) New York State's HEAP program, are distributed to HEAP eligible households in coordination, cooperation, and conjunction with 1992-93 (FFY 1993) HEAP.

1. New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) regulations and/or State law prohibit collection by regulated utilities of security deposits and in some cases reconnect fees from any person known to be a recipient of public assistance, supplemental security income (SSI), or additional state payments. This population is categorically income eligible for HEAP under New York State HEAP State Plan and the resulting leveraged benefit to the household is readily quantifiable.
2. Each year part of NYS's LIHEAP appropriation is utilized by the New York State Department of State (DOS) to provide weatherization services to HEAP eligible households through the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). The WAP program is able to leverage additional weatherization services for each eligible household as a result of mandated landlord contributions above and beyond LIHEAP funding earmarked for the household. This additional private funding which allows the purchase, delivery, and/or installation of weatherization material is a countable leveraged resource.
3. Federal guidelines provide that state cash resources that are used in any base period for cash benefits to or on behalf of HEAP benefit recipients for heating, cooling, energy crisis, weatherization assistance including payment towards recipient household's home energy costs, are countable as leveraged resources. New York State, as part of its fully State/locally funded Home Relief (HR) assistance program, provides eligible households with a basic annual fuel for heating allowance to pay household heating costs. In addition, each eligible household is given a home energy allowance and supplemental home energy allowance which by definition are provided to eligible households to cover increases in the cost of energy. All HR recipients are categorically income eligible for HEAP under the NYS HEAP State Plan and these benefits are provided over and above any HEAP related benefit which the household may receive. As such, they represent a net addition to the total home energy resources available to these low income households.

In addition, New York State Law requires the payment of up to four months of utility arrearages to eligible households in order to prevent termination of utility service. Two State/locally funded programs of financial assistance, HR and Emergency Assistance to Adults (EAA), are utilized to make such payments on behalf of applicants who do not meet the eligibility criteria for other federally funded assistance programs. To the extent that these HR

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and EAA payments are made on behalf of HEAP eligible households, NYS intends to consider them as leveraged resources.

4. Many PSC regulated utility companies in New York State operate non-public funded fuel funds to assist their service territory population with the payment of energy bills. Most are targeted to some segment of the HEAP eligible population as established for the current program year. These benefits are provided to households which have exhausted their eligibility for other public forms of crisis assistance and, to the extent they are provided to HEAP eligible households, will be counted as leveraged resources.
5. New York State has exempted the collection of sales taxes from public assistance recipients whose ongoing utility/fuel bills are restricted and paid by the local department of social services. The NYS Department of Social Services Energy Bureau, which coordinates the State's HEAP program, was instrumental in pursuing and obtaining this exemption several years ago. The purchasing power of these PA recipients is materially enhanced by the fact that they do not have to pay any sales tax. The exemption is in effect a discounted price available to a specific segment of the categorically HEAP eligible population in New York State.
6. For the FY 1993 year NYS is proposing the implementation of a HEAP emergency component leveraging activity. Although arrearage forgiveness is a more common practice by utilities in other states and has never been seriously considered before in NYS it is a concept which could prove mutually beneficial to all parties.

Our suggestion is that households receiving a HEAP emergency benefit to resolve a heat related utility termination threat be given an opportunity to have a modest amount of their outstanding arrears forgiven if, during the two (2) months of extended service, the household enters into a deferred payment agreement which ultimately results in the payment of their outstanding utility bill. Upon successful completion of the agreement we are proposing that \$75 be credited to the customer's account. This \$75 could either result in the reduction of an actual charge for service or in the finance charge incurred by a customer over the course of the deferred payment agreement. There is an obvious benefit for all parties. The utility customer will see a reduced bill. The utility company will realize revenues in the form of payments on accounts that may otherwise be uncollectable and the State should realize some fiscal relief due to decreased State funded utility arrearage payment expenditures. Additional LIHEAP funding could also be drawn into the State through the LIHEAP leveraging incentive awards process.

1992-93 HEAP Funding Plan*

Federal Funding Level	\$.9B	\$ 1.065B	\$ 1.1B	\$ 1.2B	\$ 1.3B
NYS Allocation	110.884M	131.850M	134.662M	147.734M	159.800M
Carry Forward	13.730M ¹	13.730M ¹	13.730M ¹	13.730M ¹	13.730M
Total to be Allocated	\$124.614M	\$145.580M	\$148.392M	\$161.464M	\$173.530M
Administration	11.088M	13.185M	13.466M	14.773M	15.980M
Weatherization	16.63	19.777	20.199	22.16	23.970M
Emergency	22.296	26.518	28.327	28.831	31.980M
P.A. (446,613 HHLDS)	35.500	40.800	40.800	45.400	48.100M
NPA I (250,000 HHLDS)	23.700	27.600	27.600	30.500	32.500M
NPA II (50,000 HHLDS)	3.400	3.800	4.100	4.400	4.700M
SSI (146,559 HHLDS)	12.000	13.900	13.900	15.400	16.300M
Total	\$124.614	\$145.580	\$148.392	\$161.464	\$173.530
% Est. Annual Heat cost met					
Tier I	14.0%	16.5%	16.5%	18.0%	19.33%
Tier II	10.0%	11.0%	12.0%	13.0%	14.0%

¹ Assumes carry forward from 1991-92 to 1992-93 of \$13.7 million.

* NOTE: This funding plan assumes all FFY 1993 Federal Funds will be available for draw down prior to 9/30/93.