

ABCD FUEL ASSISTANCE

PROGRAM RUNS NOVEMBER 2018 - APRIL 2019

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU FILE YOUR APPLICATION?

After you've submitted your ABCD fuel assistance application, it gets processed at our central office at 178 Tremont Street, 4th floor, in Boston. Here's what to expect:

- Within 25 to 45 days of receiving your application, ABCD will review it for eligibility and completeness.
- If you qualify for assistance, we'll notify you by mail. At this time, we will inform you of the maximum benefit we can apply to your heating bills.
- When we inform you of your eligibility, we also inform your fuel vendor. If you need oil, you can call your fuel dealer directly. If you use gas or electric heat, we will request your current billing from your utility company. (You do not have to send us any bills after you are found eligible.)
- If you are denied fuel assistance, you may appeal. You must submit a statement to the ABCD Fuel Assistance program requesting the appeal.

The ABCD Fuel Assistance program helps people with their heating bills by making payments directly to the participant's fuel vendor up to the participant's maximum benefit level.

As a participant, it's important to continue to pay your heating bill during the winter, as we pay your vendor based on your usage/consumption up to your maximum benefit. You will not lose any benefits.

Participants whose heat is included in the rent receive assistance based on their benefit level and total monthly rent.

Don't forget to return the Weatherization application you received at the time of intake and, if you're found eligible, take advantage of many energy related discounts and no cost services!

This federally funded program serves income qualifying, elderly and disabled residents in thousands of households every year.





DISCOUNT RATES

Another great benefit to fuel assistance eligibility? You'll automatically receive discounted gas and electric rates!



SAVE EVEN MORE

Remember to return the weatherization application we gave you because weatherizing your home can drive significant savings in fuel costs.

What's more, to experience peak energy efficiency, you might qualify for heating system repairs or replacement.



OVERDUE BILLS? THERE'S A PLAN FOR THAT.

If you're running behind on your gas or electric bills, call your utility company and ask about their Arrearage Forgiveness program. As you pay an affordable amount of your bill every month, your utility will reduce the outstanding amount that you owe.

For EVERSOURCE Electric and Gas, call 866.315.2496.

For NGRID Gas, call 800.233.5325.



HOW ABOUT LOWER ELECTRIC BILLS?

We also recommend an audit of your home appliances to reduce your electric bill. We can take steps to conserve and achieve far better efficiency by replacing light bulbs, improving insulation, and even replacing an inefficient refrigerator, freezer, air conditioner, dehumidifier or front loading washing machine.

For information about these innovative programs or to check the status of your application, call us at 617.357.6012

APPLY TODAY!

- **Residents of Boston, Brookline, and Newton** can reach ABCD Fuel Assistance at: 178 Tremont Street, Boston MA. Call us at 617.357.6012 TTY: 617.423.9215
- **Residents of Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Stoneham, Winchester, and Woburn** can reach ABCD Fuel Assistance at: 18 Dartmouth Street, Malden MA. Call us at 781.322.6284

Or make an appointment at your nearest ABCD intake site (listed on back/next page.)