



Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

Your Residential Utility Consumer Advocate

CONSUMERS' FACT SHEET

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

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SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM



The Summer Crisis Program helps Ohioans pay electric bills during the summer.

Program benefits

The program offers a payment to consumers for one unpaid electric bill or a scheduled air conditioning repair. Ohioans may also be able to receive a window air conditioning unit, while supplies last.

Customers of regulated utility companies can receive up to \$300. Customers of electric cooperatives, municipal power systems or other unregulated utilities can receive up to \$500.

The program begins July 1 and continues until August 31, or until funds are distributed. Funds are distributed through community action agencies.

Eligibility

To receive assistance from this program, household gross annual income (your income before deducting taxes) must be at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. The income guidelines are listed in the chart below. For example, a family of four with a total income of \$43,050 a year or less would meet the income requirement for this program.

In addition to the income guidelines, applicants must be 60 years old or older, or have a documented medical condition. Examples of eligible medical conditions include lung disease, asthma or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. Physician's documentation is required for medical conditions.

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The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), the residential utility consumer advocate, represents the interests of 4.5 million households in proceedings before state and federal regulators and in the courts.

The state agency also educates consumers about electric, natural gas, telephone and water issues.

For more information, please visit the OCC website at www.occ.ohio.gov.



The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel is an equal opportunity employer and provider of services.

Customers enrolled in PIPP Plus are not eligible to receive monetary assistance from the program. PIPP Plus customers should still contact their community action agency for assistance. PIPP Plus customers may be eligible to receive a fan or air conditioner if they haven't received one from the program in the last three years and if they are current with PIPP payments.

How to apply

Apply for the Summer Crisis Program through your local community action agency. You can apply for the program once a year. You must apply in-person or schedule a home appointment (if available).

Before you apply, prepare proof of income, a copy of a recent bill, a note from your doctor explaining your medical condition (if applicable) and a list of household members and their Social Security numbers. These materials are required with your application for the program.

To find your community action agency, call 614-224-8500 or visit www.oaca.org/directory.

For more information about the Summer Crisis Program, call the Ohio Development Services Agency at 1-800-282-0880 or TDD 1-800-686-1557. The ODSA has more information about this program and other ways you can receive help paying your utility bills.

Income Guidelines 2017

If your gross annual income is at or below the following, you may be eligible for the Summer Crisis Program.

Size of household*	Income
1	\$21,105
2	\$28,420
3	\$35,735
4	\$43,050
5	\$50,365
6	\$57,680
7	\$64,995
8	\$72,310
* For families/households with more than 8 persons, please contact your local community action agency.	