



NATIONAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

Press Release

LIHEAP Is Open for Business: Despite Funding Delays, Energy Assistance Is Available to Help Families Struggling to Pay Utility Bills National Energy Assistance Day: February 2, 2026

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February 2, 2026 is National Energy Assistance Day. The National Energy Assistance Directors Association (NEADA) has designated February 2 as National Energy Assistance Day to help get the word out to low-income families that energy assistance funds are available to help them pay their home energy bills.

Why is National Energy Assistance Day important? [NEADA estimates](#) that households will spend on average 9.2 percent more on home heating this year, more than three times the rate of inflation. These rising costs are driven by rising electricity and natural gas prices and colder-than-average temperatures this winter. NEADA's [Energy Hardship Report](#), released today, reports that about 21.5 million households are behind on their energy bills.

States have funding available: Despite the lack of a final federal appropriation and the partial government shutdown, states have received funding from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and are working to help low-income individuals and families pay their utility bills. However, many eligible low and moderate-income families do not realize they are eligible for assistance, and elevating the availability of assistance through National Energy Assistance Day would help reach more of those in need.

Sign-up is easy: There are more than 1,000 locations to sign up for assistance across the country. Go to energyhelp.us to find your local sign-up location. Eligibility varies by state.

Quote from Mark Wolfe, Executive Director of the National Energy Assistance Directors Association:
“No one should be without heat when the temperature drops to unsafe levels. Keep your heat on this winter with bill help from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Find your local office at energyhelp.us.”

Promoting National Energy Assistance Day: We are encouraging the media to run stories on the availability of funds as well as list contact info on their “news you can use” sections of their websites. Find contacts and details about the program in your area at energyhelp.us.

Social Media: Use #KeepTheHeatOn and #NationalEnergyAssistanceDay to follow us on social media.

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The National Energy Assistance Directors' Association (NEADA) is the primary educational and policy organization for the state directors of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP is a federal program providing grants to states to help low-income families pay their heating and cooling bills.