uppco

7 Getting Assistance With Your Energy Bill is Easy

We know our customers may face situations that make it difficult to pay their energy bills. Several energy assistance programs are available and administered through state departments, agencies, and *Community Partner Organizations*.

How do I get started?

The first step is to qualify for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance on the MI Bridges website.

Visit the link to apply for benefits and get help! newmibridges.michigan.gov



State Emergency Relief (SER)

SER is a crisis intervention program administered by MDHHS that provides assistance for energy-related expenses such as electricity. SER can provide temporary utility assistance for eligible low-income families and individuals when heating or electric service has been or will be shut off, or your bill is past due.

To qualify for SER, a customer must have an income at or below 150% of the poverty level and be past due on their bill, facing imminent shut off, or have had their service shut off already.

To apply for SER, visit <u>newmibridges.michigan.gov</u>, scan the QR code, or return a paper application to the local MDHHS office.

I'm already qualified for SER, can I get additional help?

Yes!

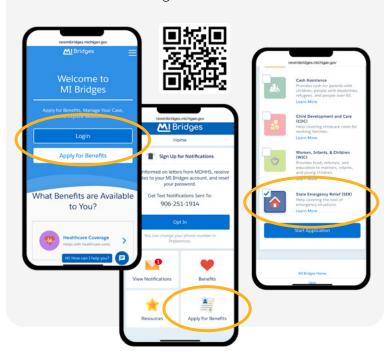
You can apply for the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP)

Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) works with customers to provide supplemental bill payment assistance, including enrollment in UPPCO's EASE Affordable (24 month) Payment Plan, and self-sufficiency services to low-income households.

To qualify for MEAP, customers must already have qualified for SER for this fiscal year (October-September).

To apply for MEAP, customers must enroll with one of UPPCO's *Community Partners* listed below.

The MI Bridges website is mobile friendly and easy to use! Scan the code to get started with SER.



Contact one of UPPCO's Community Partners to help with your SER or MEAP applications.



Superior Watershed Partnership 906) 273-2742



(800) 866-8429





(517) 741-0202



Hancock/ Western UP (906) 482-3420

(616) 929-1640 (855) 929-1640

Do I qualify for anything else?

If you qualify for SER and MEAP, you may also qualify for HHC.

You do not have to apply for SER or MEAP to receive HHC.

Home Heating Credit (HHC) is a way the State of Michigan helps low-income families pay some of their heating expenses.

To qualify for HHC, customers must have an income at or below 110% of the Federal Poverty Level. You do not have to apply or have received SER or MEAP benefits.

To Apply for HHC, customers should visit <u>michigan.gov/taxes</u> or dial 211 to find help with your application.

Can I get help controlling how much energy I use?

Yes!

UPPCO has many options for reducing your energy usage.

UPPCO's Empower Energy Efficiency Program offers free, in-home energy use review and insights, as well as free efficiency upgrades.

To qualify for Empower, customers must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

To apply for Empower, customers must enroll and schedule an in-home energy review with UPPCO.

Visit <u>ee.uppco.com/Energy-Efficiency</u> or call (906) 449-2222 to enroll and learn about other energy saving programs and tips.







Scan the code to visit the State of Michigan website for eligibility information, checklists, and forms to apply for a Home Heating Credit.



Income Eligibility Tables are updated every year to correspond to the Federal Poverty Level, set by the Census Bureau. Check complete eligibility guidelines for each program. Customers may be eligibile for other assistance beyond what is listed here.

2023 - 2024 Income Eligibility Table				
No. in Household	Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	110% FPL HHC	150% FPL SER, MEAP	200% FPL UPPCO EMPWR
1	\$14,580	\$16,038	\$21,870	\$29,160
2	\$19,720	\$21,692	\$29,580	\$39,440
3	\$24,860	\$27,346	\$37,290	\$49,720
4	\$30,000	\$33,000	\$45,000	\$60,000
For each add'l member add:	\$5,140	\$5,654	\$7,710	\$10,280

Additional programs, resources, and Community Partner Organizations are also available.

Visit <u>uppco.com/assistance</u> or dial 211 for more information.

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