



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Energy Assistance Still Available

Wabash Area Development Inc. (WADI) is still taking applications for the Energy Assistance Program for the Southeastern Illinois counties of Edwards, Gallatin, Hamilton, Saline, Wabash, Wayne, and White.

Any household that has not applied for assistance yet could apply as soon as possible. Households that have applied as of October 1, 2019 or after, have not received Reconnection Assistance and, have a high outstanding balance, may apply again and may receive further assistance at this time.

Reconnection Assistance is also available. You must be disconnected or have a disconnect notice to qualify for this component. Customers using propane with tanks at 25% or less are considered emergencies.

Energy Assistance applications are taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications will be taken through June 30, 2020 due to COVID-19.

A single-person household can qualify with a monthly income for up to \$1,561, a two-person household up to \$2,114, a three-person household up to \$2,666, and a family of four up to \$3,219. Benefits are paid directly to utilities or energy vendors on behalf of eligible households. The exception is households whose heating costs are included in their rent.

Due to social distancing guidelines, the application process has changed. Applicants are encouraged to call a county office to complete an application over the telephone.

You will need to submit the following documents after your phone application to your local WADI office:

- ✓ **Proof of gross income for everyone in the household for the 30 day period beginning with the application date**
- ✓ **A copy of your current heat and electric bills that are in your name issues within the last 30 days (if energy is paid for)**
- ✓ **Proof of Social Security numbers for all household members**
- ✓ **If receiving assistance from Illinois Department of Human Services, bring proof your household received cash assistance or other benefits (Medicaid, SNAP, etc.)**

How to submit documentation after your phone application:

- ✓ **You may e-mail documents to your local County Manager**
- ✓ **You may drop off documents to your local WADI office in the drop box**
- ✓ **You may mail your documents by regular mail to your local WADI office**

Due to COVID-19, our offices are still CLOSED to public. We are still providing services.

Please contact your local WADI Office for additional information:

Edwards County – 618-445-2379
Hamilton County – 618-643-2161
Saline/Gallatin County – 618-252-2680
Wabash County – 618-262-4151
Wayne County – 618-842-2962
White County – 618-384-5541