

CHAPTER 680.

VIRGINIA ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

PART II Fuel Assistance.....22 VAC 40-680-20
PART IV Cooling Assistance.....22 VAC 40-680-63 and 67
PART ~~IV~~ V Administrative Costs.....22 VAC 40-680-90

PART II

FUEL ASSISTANCE

22 VAC 40-680-20. Eligibility criteria.

- A. The purpose of the fuel assistance component is to provide heating assistance to eligible households to offset the costs of home heating energy that are excessive in relation to household income.
- B. Eligibility criteria ~~is~~ are set out in this subsection.
1. Income limits. Maximum income limits shall ~~be at or below 130% of the poverty guidelines~~ not exceed the maximum allowed by federal law. In order to be eligible for fuel assistance, a household's income must be at or below the maximum income limits.
 2. Alien status. Any alien who has obtained the status of an alien lawfully admitted for temporary residence is ineligible for a period of five years from the date such status was obtained. This shall not apply to a Cuban or Haitian entrant or to an alien who is an aged, blind or disabled individual.
 3. Ineligible households. The households that are ineligible to receive fuel assistance are:
 - a. Subsidized households whose total heating costs are included in their rent.
 - b. Persons living in institutions.
 - c. Persons living in temporary shelters or group homes who have no heating expense or who pay a nominal fee to live there.
 - d. Persons who reside in only one room within a larger dwelling.

- e. Subsidized households who are responsible for payment of individual excess fuel usage charges even though heating expenses are included in their rent.

PART IV.

COOLING ASSISTANCE .

22 VAC 40-680-63. Eligibility criteria; benefits

A. The purpose of the cooling assistance component is to assist low-income households with their cooling needs when other resources cannot meet those needs. Assistance provided through the program must continue or provide cooling services.

B. In order to be eligible for cooling assistance, a household shall meet the following criteria:

1. All of the fuel assistance criteria as set forth in 22 VAC 40-680-20;
2. Have at least one vulnerable household member as set forth in 22 VAC 40-680-10;
3. Applicant or community resources cannot meet the emergency;
4. Did not receive cooling assistance maximum benefit during the current year.

C. The benefit amount for each type of assistance offered is the average cost as determined by a statewide survey and the availability of federal block grant funding. The following forms of assistance shall be provided:

1. Purchase/installation of air conditioner;
2. Self pick-up and self-installation of air conditioner;
3. Repair of a central air conditioning unit or heat pump;
4. Purchase of a portable or installed fan;
5. Repair of an installed fan;
6. A once-per-lifetime payment of a utility security deposit; and
7. Payment of the electric bill to operate the cooling equipment.

22 VAC 40-680-67. Application period.

When grant funding is available, the application period for Cooling Assistance shall begin on June 15 and end no later than August 15 unless funds are depleted earlier. Applications shall be accepted by agencies opting to participate in the program.

PART ~~IV~~-V.

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

22 VAC 40-680-70. Administrative costs.

Local administrative expenditures for the implementation of the Energy Assistance Program shall not be reimbursed in excess of 7.0% of program grant allocation.