



FUEL ASSISTANCE

ABCD Fuel Program

Various intake sites around Boston

(617) 357-6012

ABCD provides assistance in paying heating bills during the heating season of November through April. Discounted rates for gas, electricity and telephone are applied automatically for all eligible recipients. **Apply early! Applications are accepted from November 1 - April 30.**

ELIGIBILITY

- A Social Security number for everyone 18 years or older in the household.
- Income limit (please see the Family Help Desk for details about income eligibility).
- Those with heat included in their rent, in non-subsidized housing, are also eligible for help.
- Homeowners are also eligible.

IF YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, IT IS STILL HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU VISIT AN INTAKE SITE. SOMEONE CAN HELP YOU DETERMINE WHAT OTHER PROGRAMS CAN HELP YOU.

HOW TO APPLY

- Go to an intake site (please see the Family Help Desk to get a list of intake sites).
- Bring required documents: proof of income, social security numbers, identification, copy of lease, current primary heating bill (please see the Family Help Desk for more specific information).

Your Rights to Utility Assistance

1. Your electricity, gas, and water cannot be shut off if cases of serious illness (contact your doctor or your local board of health to alert the companies in cases of serious illness).
2. Your electricity, gas, and water cannot be shut off if there is an infant under the age of 1 in the household.
3. Your electricity or gas cannot be shut off during the winter months (November 15-March 15).
4. Protect yourself by calling the company's number found on your bill and requesting a FINANCIAL HARDSHIP FORM. On this form, state whether the gas or electricity is the heating source and state your current financial situation.
5. If you are finding it hard to pay your old utility bills, contact the gas or electric company and ask for a payment plan or discount rates.