



Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

Your Residential Utility Consumer Advocate

CONSUMERS' FACT SHEET

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2011 GUIDELINES: SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM



Summer assistance available for low-income households

Help is available for eligible Ohioans trying to cope with the summer heat. Under the 2011 Summer Crisis Program, one-time payments of up to \$175 can be used toward household electric bills. Also, depending on the area of the state in which an applicant lives, assistance with cooling equipment, such as an air conditioner or fan, might be available.

It is estimated that one in 10 Ohio residential utility consumers experienced a disconnection of either their electric or gas service for non-payment in the past year.

To be eligible for assistance, households must have an annual income that is at or below 200 percent of the 2011 federal poverty guidelines. In addition to the income guidelines, applicants must also:

- ▶ Have a member in the household who is 60 years of age or older; or
- ▶ Have a member who has a medical necessity verified by physician documentation.

Additional Information

To apply for the Summer Crisis Program, consumers need to contact their local community action agency. The community action agency determines the level of benefits that can be provided. The program is available from July 1 until Aug. 31, 2011.

For additional information on the 2011 Summer Crisis Program or to locate the nearest community action agency, consumers should contact the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) consumer hotline at 1-800-282-0880 or TDD 1-800-686-1557 or via the Internet at www.energyhelp.ohio.gov. Consumers also can identify their local community action agency by visiting the ODOD website at www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/ocs/locate.htm.

For additional information on all available assistance programs, customers can visit the OCC website at www.pickocc.org.

2011 Summer Crisis Program Guidelines

Size of household*	Total Annual Income	Total household income for past three months
1	\$21,780.00	\$5,445.00
2	\$29,420.00	\$7,355.00
3	\$37,060.00	\$9,265.00
4	\$44,700.00	\$11,175.00
5	\$52,340.00	\$13,085.00
6	\$59,980.00	\$14,995.00

*For households with more than six members, add \$7,640 per person for annual income; add \$1,910 for three months.