



News Release

Human Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW CRITERIA FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Wake County residents who need help with household energy bills should know that effective **Friday, February 1, 2013**, the state of North Carolina will broaden the eligibility criteria for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP), a federally-funded program that provides for a one-time vendor payment to help eligible households pay their heating bills.

Any Wake County resident responsible for his or her household heating bill may apply for the program. Assistance will be available through March 31, 2013, or until funds are exhausted. Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Low income requirement defined as less than 130% of federal poverty level
- Reserves at or below \$2,200
- Responsibility for the household heating bills

The following items are required at the time of application: applicant's photo ID, current heating bill, social security numbers for all household members, income verification for anyone living in the home and most recent bank statements.

Wake County also provides crisis assistance to households who are without heat or in jeopardy of losing their heat for non-payment. For additional information on how to apply for assistance, visit www.wakegov.com/humanservices/social/energy or call Wake County Human Services at 919-212-7000.

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www.wakegov.com