INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING 2019-2020 MINNESOTA ENERGY PROGRAMS APPLICATION

The application is used to apply for the Energy Assistance Program (EAP), the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP). The Minnesota Energy Programs Application is available in Spanish or in large print from your Service Provider or online at http://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/

To apply for the Energy Programs, you must send to your Service Provider:

- The completed application with all questions answered and the last page signed and dated.
- A copy of proof of all income received in the last 3 full calendar months for each household member
- A copy of your last electric bill and heating bill or receipt for delivered fuels.

Failure to provide required documents may result in delay or denial of your application.

Social Security Numbers (SSNs): SSNs are required for all applicants unless you are applying as an eligible non-citizen (for example, a permanent resident, asylee, refugee, etc.). If you do not provide verifiable social security numbers or valid immigration documentation, your application cannot be processed. If you are an eligible non-citizen, you may be able to apply without an SSN. Contact your Service Provider for information on the required documentation. If you or some member(s) of your household are ineligible non-citizens, your household may still receive assistance if any household member is a citizen or eligible non-citizen. Contact your Service Provider for details. AUTHORITY: Section 205(c)(2)(C)(i) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 405(c)(2)(C)(i). USE: The State will use SSNs in the administration of EAP to check identity, prevent duplicate participation, and determine eligibility for public benefits. Your SSN will also be used to obtain wage and unemployment compensation information from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), verify information supplied on the application, and to prevent, detect, and correct fraud, waste, and abuse.

Non-Citizen Applicants: To get help from Minnesota Energy Programs, you must be a citizen or in the United States (US) legally. Energy Assistance benefits are not counted in public charge determinations. You can apply and get help for other eligible household members, even if you or some household members are not eligible because of immigration status. Members of your household who are eligible non-citizens and applying for help must show proof of their immigration status. Give a copy of both sides of immigration cards or other documents that show immigration status for every household member who is an eligible non-citizen and applying for help. All household members, regardless of immigration or citizenship status, must provide their income information, but only those who are citizens or eligible non-citizens will be counted as household members. Contact your Service Provider for specific information about what is required for your situation. We will not share information about you with the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) without your permission.

PART 1. Personal Information: Fill in the Social Security Number (SSN), name, current home address, phone number, and contact information for the primary household member. Contact your Service Provider if anyone in your household is unable to provide an SSN. You may be able to use an alternative legal document number or documentation of your eligibility for public benefits.

PART 2. Household Information: Fill in all the information for everyone living in your home. ALL people living in the home are household members if they share the kitchen or other living areas in the home. Live-in care providers are not counted as household members if you have proof from a health care provider that daily medical care is required. Non-custodial parents may include their minor children as household members.

Sources of Income and Other Assistance:

- Mark (x) for all income and all money received by each household member in the last 3 full calendar months.
- Send proof of all gross income received by all people in your household in the last 3 full calendar months before the month you sign your application. Send copies, originals will not be returned.

Proof of Income by type:

- Wages: Check stubs or a signed, dated statement by your employer (including employer name, address and phone number) stating gross wages. EAP may use your SSN to verify wages reported to DEED by your employer. For follow up on unreported wages, please indicate the number of employers each household member had in the past 6 months.
- MFIP, DWP, GA: Statement from the county showing monthly amount or bank statements.
- **Spousal Support or Alimony:** Check copy(ies), bank deposits, or a note signed by the payer stating the amount and dates of received payments or other proof of amount received.
- Veteran's Benefits, Social Security, RSDI and SSI: Award letters, bank statements showing direct deposits, or check copy(ies).
- Workers' Compensation, Short Term and Long Term Disability: Benefit award notice, copies of workers' compensation or disability checks, workers' compensation records, or attorney's records.
- **Unemployment Compensation:** Unemployment weekly benefit printout from www.uimn.org. Click on "Log in to My Account" and log in, go to "View and Maintain My Account," then "Payment Information," and enter date range for the last 5 full calendar months. EAP may verify this income directly with DEED.
- **Self Employed, Farm, and Rental Income:** The first 2 pages of your most recent IRS-1040 tax return and Schedule 1. If you did not file taxes, call your Service Provider and ask for a *Self-Employment Form*. Enter the date your business started in the space provided on page 2 of the application.

- Interest, Dividend: Bank statements or your IRS-1099 or IRS-1040.
- Retirement Income including IRA income: Benefit checks/stubs, bank statements or award letter.
- Pensions and Annuities: Benefit checks/stubs, bank statements or award letter.
- Tribal Bonus, Judgments or Per Capita Payments: Benefit checks/stubs, bank statements or award letter.
- **No Income:** If your household has no income and no one is self-employed, call your Service Provider for a *Verification of Income & Expenses* form.

Please send only copies of your proof of income. Originals will not be returned

PART 3. Housing Information: Check the type of housing you live in, how long you have lived there and your monthly payment. If you are a **renter**, tell us if you receive a housing subsidy, if you pay heat or electricity, and your landlord's name, phone number and address. You are a homeowner if you own, are buying your home, have a home mortgage or contract for deed.

Homeowners: If you have a furnace heating problem, we may be able to provide repair services.

Self-employed: If your residence is used for work or you rent out space in your home, complete this section.

PART 4. Heating Sources: Put "1" by the heating fuel you use the most and "2" by all other heating fuels.

- If your home is heated with more than 1 type of heating fuel, mark all boxes that apply.
- If you use electric heat as a heating source, it must provide most or all the heat to 1 or more rooms (excluding bathrooms) or provide heat to the entire home. Electric is not a heat source if only used to run the furnace fan or the thermostat.
- Enter the name of the heating and electric company providing energy to your home.
- Include the name on the account and the account number.
- Wood, corn, pellet or other biofuel users: Show how much of your heat it provides. Do you cut or grow your own wood, corn, pellets or other biofuel? Enter the number of bedrooms in your home.

PART 5. Permissions and Signature: Read the permissions carefully. An adult household member, 18 years of age and older or emancipated minor, or the minor head of a household with no adults or emancipated minors must sign the application. Any other person signing the application must be a court appointed guardian or conservator or must have a Power of Attorney (POA) to act on behalf of the household and must submit a copy along with the application. Return the application to your Service Provider. Your application must be postmarked or received on or before June 1, 2020. In addition, your application must be postmarked or received within 60 days of the date signed.

- ANY missing information may delay decisions regarding your eligibility and benefit amount.
- Your Service Provider may be able to help you pay your past due energy bills and/or arrange a monthly payment plan with your heating and/or electric company.
- Your application will be processed as quickly as possible. You will receive a letter when your application is completed.

Important Notice:

The Energy Assistance Program may provide eligible households with energy crisis assistance. Write down the name and phone number of your Service Provider and call them if:

- Your energy services are or will be shut-off,
- You are unable to get a delivery of fuel, or
- You own your home and your furnace is not working.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Income Eligibility Guidelines

You may be eligible for the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) even if your household's income is higher than the EAP limits. WAP provides free home energy upgrades to income-eligible homeowners and renters to help save energy and make your home a healthy and safe place to live. For income eligibility please refer the Minnesota Weatherization Assistance Program at https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/weatherization or call **1-800-657-3710**

Cold Weather Rule Protection: If you use natural gas or electricity to heat your home or you need electricity to operate your thermostat or furnace fan, you may be eligible for Cold Weather Rule protection between October 15 and April 15.

- The Cold Weather Rule helps protect your service from disconnection or can help you get your service reconnected.
- To get Cold Weather Rule protection, you MUST contact your energy companies and make and keep a payment plan. If you miss a payment, you lose your protection and you could lose your heat.
- If you receive Energy Assistance, you pre-qualify for Cold Weather Rule protection. The Energy Assistance Program is not a payment plan and will not replace what you need to pay.
- Service Provider staff can help you make a reasonable payment plan with your energy companies.

Community Action-Ramsey & Washington Counties 450 Syndicate Street North, Suite 122

St Paul, MN 55104

Phone: (651) 645-6470 Fax: (651) 603-5984

www.caprw.org

For office use only	
нн:	
Referral	
Rep#:	
Grant amount:	

Please use black ink to complete your application. Do not use highlighters on the documents you send



2019-2020 MINNESOTA ENERGY PROGRAMS APPLICATION COMMERCE

Before completing this application, carefully read the enclosed "Your Rights and Responsibilities" and Instructions.

Part 1. Personal Information - Verify all preprinted information is correct. Enter changes as needed.

Your Social Security Number (SSN)		•			embers and will be verified
			•	form of documentation w	•
				ble non-citizens, your hous mber is a citizen or eligible	•
				and unemployment comp	
Your Name:					MM - DD - YYYYY
First Name	M.I.	Last	Name		Date of Birth
Current Home Address:					
Street	<u></u>	Apt #	City	<u>MI</u>	N Zip Code
Mailing Address (if different from Hon	ne Address):				
Street or PO Box	·	Apt #	City	<u>M</u>	N Zip Code
County: Ho	ome Phone: ()		Other Phone: ())
Primary Language spoken in home:					
To contact me in writing, I prefer: O US	Mail (letter) O	Email Em	ail Address:		
Authorized Representative: If you com	olete this section	, the "Auth	orized Repres	sentative" has permission to	o act for you.
First Name					
If you would like the Authorized Represent	ative to get the m	nail on beha	alf of you, plea	ase fill in the address below	w:
Street or PO Box		Apt #	City	<u>M</u>	<u>N</u> Zip Code
VOLUMBLICT CICAL AND		DDI ICA:	FIONI AT T	LIE DOTTONA OF T	IE LACT DACE

YOU MUST SIGN AND DATE THIS APPLICATION AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAST PAGE

LIST ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS	STARTING WITH YOU	non-custodial i	narents may	, include their	minor children)
LIST ALL HOUSEHOLD WILLIAMS	, JIAKIIII VUITII IUU	iloli castoalai j	parcits illay	, illiciaac tiicii	minior cimarcity

LIST ALL HOUSEHOLD IVIEW	BERS, STARTING WITH	YOU (non-cus	toa	iai pa	arents	may	/ inci	uae their	minor	cniiaren):
			Race	Hispanic	Gender	Disability	Veteran	In the la	ast 6	months
		Date of Birth				~		Non-wage		
First Name, M.I, & Last Name	Social Security Number	MM-DD-YYYY		Yes/	M/F/	Yes/	Yes/	Income	Wages	Number of
(required)	(required)	(required)		No	Other	No	No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Employers
1. (self)										
2.										
3.										
4.										
5.										
6.			,							
7.			,							
8.										
Attach	a separate sheet if neces	sary for any ad	ditio	onal b	nousek	nold i	memi	bers.		

Attach a separate sheet if necessary for any additional household members.

Race:	A = Asian	B = Black or African American	I = American Indian o	or Alaska Native		
	P = Native	Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	W = White	M = Multi Race	O = Other	
Is anyon	s anyone in your household currently an employee or board member of this energy assistance agency? O Yes O No					
How ma	How many members of your household do NOT have health insurance?					

Has household member(s) income decreased in the past 3 months? O Yes O No If yes, whose

INCOME, BENEFITS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE (Check all that apply for your household and **SEND PROOF OF INCOME**)

□ Wages	☐ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	Other income not listed:
☐ Self-Employment/Farm Income*	☐ Social Security Benefits (SSDI, RSDI, SSA)	
Date Business started:/	☐ Retirement Income including IRA, etc.	No proof of income required:
☐ Rental Income	☐ Pension/Annuity (including quarterly & annual)	☐ Child Support
☐ Unemployment Compensation	☐ Tribal Per Capita Payments	Monthly amount \$
☐ Workers' Compensation	☐ Tribal Judgments or Tribal Bonus	☐ Food Support
☐ Interest or Dividend Income	☐ Long/Short-term Disability	☐ Earned Income Tax Credit
☐ Contract for Deed Interest	☐ Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)	☐ No Income (Please call us at
☐ Diversionary Work (DWP)	☐ General Assistance (GA)	651-645-6470)
☐ Veterans' Benefits	☐ Alimony or Spousal Support	

SEND PROOF OF ALL GROSS INCOME, received by all people in your household in the last 3 full calendar months. Send copies, originals will not be returned. Wages for children in grades K-12 are not counted.

*If self-employed, send first 2 pages of your most recent IRS-1040 tax return and schedule 1. Contact your Service Provider if you have not filed a 1040 since self-employment started.

Your application will be delayed if you do not include proof of income.

You must sign and date the last page of the application. It must be postmarked or received by:

June 1, 2020

If application signed in:	Send proof of gross income received in:	these income guide	cannot be more than lines for 3 months: AP income information)
Aug 2019	May, June, July 2019	Household Size	Income
Sept 2019	June, July, Aug 2019	1	\$6,761
Oct 2019	July, Aug, Sept 2019	2	\$8,842
Nov 2019	Aug, Sept, Oct 2019	3	\$10,923
Dec 2019	Sept, Oct, Nov 2019	4	\$13,003
Jan 2020	Oct, Nov, Dec 2019	5	\$15,084
Feb 2020	Nov, Dec 2019, Jan 2020	6	\$17,164
Mar 2020	Dec 2019, Jan, Feb 2020	7	\$17,554
Apr 2020	Jan, Feb, March, 2020	8	\$17,944
May 2020	Feb, March, April 2020	9	\$18,335

Part 3.	Housing	Inform	nation
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Part 3. Housing Information	on					
Type of Housing: O House	Do you pay for rent or mortgag	e? O Yes O No If y	es , amount y	ou pay (\$):	(required)	
O Apartment/Condo	Renters: Do you get a rent sub	sidy or do you live ir	n subsidized h	ousing? O Yes (О No	
O Townhouse	, ,	Is heat included in your rent? O Yes O No Is electricity included in your rent? O Yes O No				
O Mobile Home	is near misraaca in your rener. O has a recentionly managed in your rener. O has O has					
O Duplex	andlord's Name: Phone (
O Triplex	Address					
O Fourplex	Address:					
O Other	Homeowners: Do you own o					
	If your furnace/heating system	•	-			
How long have you lived	Call us immediately at 651-645	-6470 if your furnac	e/heating sys	tem is not worki	ng	
in your current home?	Business Use of Home: If you	ı are self-employed	is the husines	s at your home?	O Yes O No	
Years Month:	If Yes , what kind of business an					
	in 125, what kind or business and	a what work is done	ini your nome	2 01 011 your prop		
	Do you rent out part of your ho	me to anyone? O Y	es O No			
What energy companies	s supply heat and electricity to yo	our home?				
	Heating No. 1	Heating I	No. 2	Elec	ctric	
Company Name:						
Name on Account:						
Account number:						
SEN	ID A COPY OF YOUR LAST HEAT AND ELE	CTRIC BILLS OR FUEL REC	CEIPT WITH THIS	APPLICATION		
Do you heat with wood,	pellets, corn or other biofuel?	Yes O No If Yes, a	nswer the ne	xt 3 questions		
1. What percent of your he	at does this supply? (use chart) (Circ					
•	grow fuel corn? O Yes O No	10% 20% 30%			0% 90% 100%	
	e in your home?		Half of the			
If you are having an energy company showing the amo	emergency right now, check type of	emergency below and	send a copy of	the notice from yo	our energy	
	ompany:	Disconnect Date	:	Amount Owed	:	
☐ Received disconnect notice. Company: Date Scheduled: Amount Owed:						
☐ Fuel tank empty (or less than 20% in tank). What % is in your tank today: Please contact your energy company to set up a payment plan. Amount Owed:						
Do you use electricity to he ☐ Furnace fan/blower only ☐ Space heaters used as n ☐ Space heaters are the on ☐ Other electric heat used	eat your home? O Yes O No. If yes	ns. List the room(s): Heat □In Floor Syste	em 🗖 Electric F		ump	
	vote or update your registration if yo				,	
=	our energy assistance benefit pa) No		

☐ I (we) rece	ive County A	ssistance such as M	FIP, DWP & GA? If yes, v	what is your case # _	
I (we) would lik	ce to receive i	nformation about:			
☐ Food Suppor	rt (SNAP/Food	l Stamps)	☐ Early Head Start ,	/ Head Start Programs	S
☐ Transporta	tion Assistanc	e Program (TAP) – Dis	scount on Metro Transit ca	rd	
•	•	•	stions: (make sure contact itting this application.)	information on page	1 is correct and
☐ US Mail	☐ Phone	☐ Email		☐ Text/SMS	
					Cell Phone #
		*Visit www.c	caprw.org for energy tips a	and more. *	
Veatherization A L. I authorize the he Minnesota De	e Social Securite Social Securite Social Securite Partment of Securite Society and Inceived, and Inc	gram (WAP) and the C ty Administration, the Employment and Ecor ncome within the last y	·	: Program (CIP). f Human Services and are data concerning m	lits affiliated agencies, and ny Social Security Number,
3. I authorize Mii	nnesota EAP,	WAP, and CIP to:			
		verify my income.	residency and/or heating	cource	
	•	•	rs to contact me for outrea		
•			is correct. I also acknowle		
 I currently 	reside in the	address listed on this	application.		
_	-	f all household membe	ers.		
•	e to prove my				
		-	federal or state law for kn e received a copy of the "Pi		or fraudulent statements.
		ree to its terms and co		rivacy Notice and You	ir Rigilits allu
•	_		rovider decisions about my	benefits.	

• I understand that filling out this application does not guarantee that my household will receive assistance.

• I am an adult, emancipated minor, or a minor head of a household with no adults or emancipated minors.

Print Name:	
Signature:	Today's Date:

All applications must be postmarked or received by EAP on or before June 1, 2020. In addition, your application must be postmarked or received within 60 days of the date you sign it. Funds may not last, apply early.

Privacy Notice and Your Rights and Responsibilities

Privacy Notice

<u>Privacy Act Provisions</u>: Federal and state laws require us to tell you about your rights and responsibilities before we collect and use information about you that is classified as private or confidential. This form provides you with important information that complies with the federal Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3) and the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. § 13.04, subd. 2 (also referred to as a Tennessen Warning).

Please read this *Privacy Notice* carefully before completing and signing the *Minnesota Energy Programs Application*, and keep this *Privacy Notice* in your records for future use. This *Privacy Notice* applies to the Energy Assistance Program (EAP), Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and Conservation Improvement Program (CIP), also known as Energy Programs.

Why do we collect the information on the application?

We will use your information to research, evaluate and administer the Energy Programs. We need the information:

- To know you from other individuals.
- To see if you qualify for assistance.
- To allow us to get federal or state funds for the assistance you receive.
- To meet federal or state reporting requirements.

Do you have to give us the information?

You have the right to not give us the information we ask for.

What happens if you give or do not give us information?

If you give us the information requested on the application, your application will be processed. If you do not give us that information:

- Your application will not be processed.
- You might not receive services.
- You might not receive help with energy bills.
- Your services might be delayed.

We will keep whatever information you give us, whether or not your application is approved.

Who may see this information?

The following persons may receive information contained in your Energy Programs application if: (i) they need access to the application information to do their jobs in connection with the Energy Programs (EAP, WAP, and CIP), or (ii) they are otherwise authorized by federal or state law to receive it, or (iii) they use the information for reports, to measure outcomes, and for referrals and eligibility purposes:

- Local Energy Programs Service Providers under contract with the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Commerce).
- Community Services Block Grant and Minnesota Community Action Grant Service Providers under contract with Commerce.
- Program auditors as required or permitted by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance.
- Minnesota Departments of Administration, Commerce, Employment and Economic Development, Human Services, Revenue and MN.IT Services.
- United States Departments of Health and Human Services and Energy.
- Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.
- Minnesota Legislative Auditor.
- Persons so authorized pursuant to court order or subpoena.
- Your energy companies for affordability and Energy Programs.
- Minnesota Community Action Partnership.
- United States Social Security Administration.
- Other agencies or entities as allowed by federal or state law.

Why do we collect Social Security Numbers?

We use Social Security Numbers in the administration of the Energy Programs (EAP, WAP, and CIP) to assure eligible applicants and their household members receive only allowable benefits. Federal law allows us to require you to disclose your Social Security Number in order to process your application and to prevent, detect and correct fraud and abuse. AUTHORITY: Section 205(c)(2)(C)(i) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 405(c)(2)(C)(i). All applicants (except eligible non-citizens) are required to provide a verifiable Social Security Number in order to process your application.

Why do we ask for information about your race?

This is voluntary information. It is compiled and recorded for statistical purposes only. The program cannot discriminate for reason of race or ethnic background, religion, gender, sexual orientation or political affiliation.

2020 Census

You may receive information about the 2020 Census.

Your Rights and Responsibilities

You have certain rights to get help:

You have the right:

- To apply again if you get denied.
- To apply for more help if you need it.
- To know what the rules are and how we decide what help you get.
- To receive a response within a reasonable time of submitting all information.
 - To appeal within 30 days after you are sent the results of your application if:
 - You receive a denial letter and think we used the wrong information to make the decision.
 - You do not receive the help you were promised.

You have these responsibilities:

You must tell us if you or any member of your household:

- Received help with your energy bills earlier this winter.
- Move to a new address (tell us within 30 days of the move).
- Change your fuel dealer or gas or electric companies.

This program may pay only part of your heating and electric bills. You are responsible to pay the rest.

What if you think the information in your file is wrong?

Talk to your local EAP Service Provider about what you think is wrong in your file.

What happens if you give false information?

The local EAP Service Providers or the Minnesota Department of Commerce may check and verify any of the information contained on your application or otherwise provided. You may be denied Energy Program benefits if you provide incomplete or false information. You may be held civilly or criminally liable under federal or state law for knowingly making false or fraudulent statements on your application.

How to submit a complaint:

If you think your energy payment was not what it should be or you did not get the services you thought you would, you may contact the local EAP Service Provider listed on the application. If you are not satisfied with their answer, you may write an appeal letter to the local EAP Service Provider. Keep a record of their address and telephone number.

If you are not satisfied with their response to your appeal, write to:

Appeals Officer Energy Assistance Program Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 East 7th Place, Suite 280 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

If you feel you have been treated differently because of your color, race, national origin, religion, sex, gender, age, marital status, political beliefs, or physical, mental or emotional disability, write to one of the following:

-OR-

Minnesota Department of Human Rights Grigg's Midway Building 540 Fairview Ave. N, Suite 201 St. Paul, MN 55104 https://mn.gov/mdhr/ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights, Region V 233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1300 Chicago, IL 60601 www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/complaints

Ask for Assistance:

If you do not understand the information in this document, call your local EAP Service Provider and ask for assistance. Their telephone number is listed on the first page of the Minnesota Energy Programs Application.

Call the local EAP Service Provider listed on the application to request the application in Spanish. Llame al Proveedor de Servicio EAP local anotado en la solicitud para pedir una solicitud en español.