

BENEFIT DETERMINATION

- The number of points assigned to an Eligible Household will be determined pursuant to the following:

Calculated or Reported Energy Cost	Points
\$0.01-\$400	5
\$401-\$800	10
\$801-\$1200	15
\$1201-\$1600	20
\$1601-\$2000	25
\$2001-\$2500	30
\$2501 and over	35
Calculated or Reported Energy Cost falling between brackets will be rounded to the next higher or lower dollar amount, as appropriate. For example: \$400.01-\$400.49 will be rounded to \$400; \$400.50-\$400.99 will be rounded to \$401.	

Poverty Level as Calculated under the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines	Percentage of Points
0%-25%	130%
26%-50%	120%
51%-75%	110%
76%-100%	100%
101%-125%	90%
126%-150%	80%
>than 150% FPIG but not exceeding the maximum of the greater of 150% FPIG or 60% State Median Income	70%
Calculated poverty level amounts falling between brackets will be rounded to the next higher or lower amount. For example: income at 75.1% will be rounded to 75%; income at 100.6% will be rounded to 101%.	

All final point results that are fractional will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.

Final point results will be multiplied by a dollar-per-point value, which is set by MaineHousing upon confirmation of LIHEAP grant/award amount.

Section 2.6 of the Model Plan:

FFY 2023 minimum and maximum benefits were calculated using the tables above and point values for the Consumption based and Design Heat Load Calculation (DHLC) method, which are \$55 and \$44 per point respectively.

FFY 2023	Minimum Benefit = \$176	Maximum Benefit = \$2,530
Consumption	Lowest consumption (\$0-\$400) = 5 points	Highest consumption (\$2,501+) = 35 points
Income	Highest income (greater of 150% FPL or 60% AMI) = 70% of points	Lowest income (0%-25% FPL) = 130% of points
Final points	5 x 0.70 = 4 points	35 x 1.30 = 46 points
Benefit	\$44 x 4 points = \$176	\$55 x 46 = \$2,530

1. Calculating Energy Costs. Energy Costs are calculated by the DHLC method.

A. Design Heat Load Calculation. DHLC shall be used to estimate the Energy Costs for Eligible Households. Under the DHLC, the number of rooms occupied by the Eligible Household shall be multiplied by the number of BTUs needed to heat an average sized room in a Dwelling Unit. That product will then be multiplied by the number of square feet of an average sized room in a Dwelling Unit. Next, that second product will be multiplied by the number of heating degree days of the Service Area in which the Eligible Household's Dwelling Unit is located. That third product is then divided by one million BTUs. The quotient is then multiplied by the cost of the Eligible Household's selected Home Energy type per one million BTUs. That fourth product is then divided by the efficiency rate of the selected Home Energy type to arrive at the Eligible Household's amount of energy consumption. The cost per one million BTUs and efficiency rate of the Applicant's Home Energy type will be periodically established by MaineHousing. The DHLC is based on the following factors:

1. The total number of rooms in the Dwelling Unit as listed on the Application. Hallways, bathrooms, and closets are not counted in the total number of rooms;
2. An assumed standard room size for the Dwelling Unit type. Standard room sizes and BTUs required to heat a Dwelling Unit vary by Dwelling Unit type because average room size and surface area exposure to the elements vary by Dwelling Unit type. The standard room sizes and BTUs used for each Dwelling Unit type are as follows:

Dwelling Unit Type	Standard Room Size	BTUs
Stick-built/Modular	144 square feet	14.3
Manufactured Home/mobile home	100 square feet	13
Apartment	120 square feet	8.3

3. The heating degree days for the Service Area. Heating degree days are updated annually using data reported by National Weather Stations in Maine.
4. The estimated BTUs required to heat the Dwelling Unit;

5. Average cost per one million BTU. MaineHousing determines the average costs per one million BTU annually. Oil, kerosene, propane, electricity, natural gas, firewood, and wood pellet costs are obtained by averaging the costs reported by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). Average costs for all other fuel types are based on a representative survey of Vendors' pricing.
6. The efficiency rate for the requested Home Energy type listed on the Application. The Energy Cost per one million BTU and efficiency rate are based on the requested Home Energy type specified on the Eligible Household's Application.

Home Energy Type	Efficiency Rate
Oil	65%
Kerosene	65%
Propane	65%
Natural Gas	65%
Biodiesel	65%
Electric	100%
Firewood	50%
Corn	60%
Wood Pellets	80%
Bio-bricks	80%