

2015 Michigan Energy Assistance Program Grants

On July 1, 2014 the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) invited proposals from public or private entities or local units of government for Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) grants that will intervene in energy crisis situations and provide energy assistance program services that will help eligible low-income households meet home energy costs for their primary residence through payment or partial payment of bills for one or more of the following: 1) electricity; 2) natural gas; 3) propane; 4) heating oil; or 5) any other deliverable fuel used to provide heat. The Request for Proposals required that proposed energy assistance programs include services that will enable participants to become or move toward becoming self-sufficient, including assisting participants in paying their energy bills on time, assisting participants in budgeting for and contributing to their ability to provide for energy expenses, and assisting participants in utilizing energy services to optimize on energy efficiency. The grants are funded by the state Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund and the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Sixteen proposals were submitted by the June 29, 2014 deadline.

On August 22, 2014 the MPSC approved MEAP grants totaling \$89,500,000 as follows:

- Barry County United Way – \$165,100 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in Barry County.
- Consumers Energy Company – \$13,177,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in its utility service territory throughout the State of Michigan.
- DHS – Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity – \$7,000,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households statewide.
- DTE Energy – \$17,000,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in its utility service territory throughout the State of Michigan.
- Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. – \$57,900 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in the Lowell School District.
- Lighthouse Emergency Services – \$350,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in Oakland County.
- Michigan Community Action Agency Association – \$9,000,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households statewide.
- SEMCO ENERGY Gas Company – \$2,250,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in its utility service territory throughout the State of Michigan.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul of the Archdiocese of Detroit – \$3,000,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in 39 counties throughout the State of Michigan.
- Superior Watershed Partnership – \$1,250,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households throughout the 15 counties in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.
- The Heat and Warmth Fund – \$10,000,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in 68 counties throughout the State of Michigan.
- The Salvation Army – \$13,125,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households statewide.
- TrueNorth Community Services – \$13,125,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in 63 counties throughout the State of Michigan.