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**ECONOMIC  
SECURITY  
CORPORATION**



28 September 2020

**Economic Security Corporation of Southwest Area's Summer Energy Crisis Intervention Program  
Unprecedented Extension to October 31, 2020**

The Missouri Department of Social Services in an effort to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) services to provide payment assistance for low-income Missourians with their summer cooling bills if they are in crisis.

There are some changes to the Summer Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Summer Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Changes for This Year Include:

- Increased income level for Missourians to qualify up to 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- Maximum benefit is up to \$600 per household
- Deadline for assistance will now be until October 31, 2020
- There is an on-line application that can be used to make application from smart phones, tablets, laptops or desktop computers.

To Be Eligible for the Summer Cooling Program:

- Meet or be below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level, and
- Must have a shut-off notice or services been terminated, and
- Be responsible for paying home cooling bill, and
- Have less than \$3,000 in bank accounts, retirement accounts or investments, and
- Be a U.S. citizen or legally admitted for permanent residents.

We will continue to engage using mobile phones, social media (Facebook), website ([www.escswa.org](http://www.escswa.org)) or Energy Assistance's direct email: <mailto:liheap@escswa.org>. If you need to reach any of the staff at these offices please use, the following direct phone lines/email:

ESC Central Office in Joplin:

- Utility Assistance: 417-781-0352, select option 4 or [liheap@escswa.org](mailto:liheap@escswa.org)

Other ESC Office Locations in Southwest Missouri:

- ESC's Neosho Office: 417-451-2206
- ESC's Anderson Office: 417-845-6011
- ESC's Lamar Office: 417-682-5591

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