

Eligibility criteria

Judy Simon
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Low-Income Cut-Off (LICO)

- Most commonly accepted measurement of poverty lines in Canada
- Developed by Statistics Canada from its annual survey of incomes
- Defines a set of income cutoffs below which people may be said to live in straitened circumstances

Low-Income Cut-Off (LICO)

Size of family unit	Community size				
	Rural areas	Urban areas			
		Less than 30 000	30 000 to 99 999	100 000 to 499 999	500 000 and over
Current dollars					
1 person	15 262	17 364	18 976	19 094	22 171
2 persons	19 000	21 615	23 623	23 769	27 601
3 persons	23 358	26 573	29 041	29 222	33 933
4 persons	28 361	32 264	35 261	35 480	41 198
5 persons	32 165	36 594	39 992	40 239	46 727
6 persons	36 278	41 272	45 105	45 385	52 699
7+ persons	40 390	45 950	50 218	50 529	58 673

Market Basket Measures (MBM)

- MBM measures the amount of income needed by a given household to meet its basic needs which are: food, clothing and footwear, shelter, transportation, other necessary foods and services
- Thresholds differ by community e.g. MBM in Vancouver is \$27,791, while in Halifax it is \$24,607

Winter Warmth

- Coordinated by a network of community agencies through the United Way and sponsored by Enbridge, Union, Burlington Hydro, Enersource, Horizon, Hydro Ottawa, PowerStream, Toronto Hydro, Hydro One and Veridian

Winter Warmth eligibility criteria

- Available to individuals from low-income households that satisfy at least one or more of the following conditions:
 - Have energy bills that are currently in arrears
 - Have recently received a disconnection notice
 - Having difficulty paying current energy bill

Low Income Single Family Homes

- Three criteria used to determine low income eligibility:
 - Recipient of social benefits
 - Ontario Works
 - Ontario Disability Support Program
 - Ontario Child Care Supplement for Working Families
 - National Child Benefit Supplement
 - Guaranteed Income Supplement for Seniors
 - Allowance for Survivor OR
 - Meeting the criteria established by Statistic Canada's 2005 Low Income Cut-offs OR
 - Meeting the criteria established by Green Communities Canada (see table)

Household size	Maximum gross annual income
One	\$32,000
Two	\$34,500
Three	\$37,000
Four	\$39,500
Four+	\$39,500 + \$2,500 for each additional occupant

Low-income DSM eligibility

- Union Gas Helping Homes Conserve – 125% of LICO
- Enbridge Home Weatherization Program – 146% of LICO or receiving:
 - Ontario Works (OW) benefits
 - Ontario Disability Support (ODSP) benefits and meets income criteria
 - Guaranteed Income Supplement
 - Allowance for Seniors
 - Allowance for Survivors
 - National Child Benefit Supplement
 - Or reside in low-rise social housing paying natural gas bill

FAWG subgroups



Subgroup objectives

- Develop a framework for the delivery of financial assistance to low-income energy consumers
- Develop a framework for the long-term coordination and administration of LEAP
- Reach consensus on all of the elements of the financial assistance framework to the extent possible

Today's subgroup session

- As a subgroup complete the template provided and report on:
 - List of eligibility criteria for the emergency financial assistance component of the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) and a rationale for each criterion selected

Templates



Assigned subgroups

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Coalition of Large Distributors (CLD)	Hydro One	Peterborough Distribution Inc.
Cornerstone Hydro Electric Concepts (CHEC)	Union Gas	Enbridge Gas Distribution
Housing Help Association of Ontario	Neighbourhood Information Post	Salvation Army
United Way	Low-income Energy Network (LIEN)	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)/Energy Probe
Consumers Council of Canada	Direct Energy	Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MEI)