STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) : DOCKET 25-38-GE

ENHANCEMENT CHARGE - 2026 :

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS DIRECTED TO THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Issued October 9, 2025

LIHEAP Enhancement:

- DIV 1-1. Please provide the LIHEAP Enhancement Grant amount that will be provided to qualified customers in FFY 2026. If the grant amount has not been set, please provide the estimated date of when it will be set. Please also identify the anticipated amounts to be issued in the upcoming program year for the following: The Enhancement Grant amount for the FFY 2026 heating season is \$350. This grant is issued to households being issued a LIHEAP Primary Grant. When the household receives a Crisis or Cooling Grant, they do not receive an additional Enhancement Grant. The Primary Grant is the first grant that a household receives.
 - a. Primary grants. \$7.4 million
 - b. Crisis Assistance grants. \$0
- DIV 1-2. What is the total projected amount of all LIHEAP Enhancement Grants for the period September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026? \$7.4 million.

LIHEAP:

- DIV 1-3. Please provide the number of LIHEAP Households served in FFY 2025 for the following:
 - a. Heating. 27,924
 - b. Cooling. 0
 - c. Crisis Assistance, 3263
 - d. Weatherization. 784
- DIV 1-4. Does the program intend to offer Cooling Assistance in FFY 2026? We don't anticipate having the funds to issue a Cooling Grant in FFY 2026. If so, please provide the estimated number of grants and the dollar amount of the grant.
- DIV 1-5. Please provide the minimum and maximum LIHEAP FFY 2025 and projected FFY 2026 benefits by fuel source for Heating, Cooling, and Crisis Assistance.

	FFY 2025		FFY 2026	
Type of Grant	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
Primary	\$1,148	\$64	\$861	\$50
Crisis	\$1,085	\$11	0	0
Cooling	0	0	0	0

NOTES:

Deliverable Crisis Grants are issued for 100 gallons so the amount of the benefit depends on the deliverable fuel cost that day. The average Deliverable Crisis Grant in FFY 2025 for oil (the most common deliverable fuel among LIHEAP households in RI) was \$393. We anticipate deliverable fuel prices being similar in FFY 2026. Utility Crisis Grants are issued as the percentage of the total owed that is required to have the utilities turned back on. Typically, the percentage required is 25%. In FFY 2025, these benefit amounts ranged from \$917 to \$71 for electric and \$1085 to \$11 for gas. Often a household will receive both a gas and electric utility crisis grant. The maximum amount a household can receive if they receive both types of Utility Crisis Grants is \$1500. We anticipate these numbers being similar in FFY 2026.

DIV 1-6. Are Crisis Assistance grants offered to electric and gas customers year-round? If not, please provide the timeframe the grants are offered? Utility Crisis Grants are offered to customers from October 1 through April 15.