



## Emergency Energy Assistance Guidelines

### Contact:

Application Support Centers: [applications@gpct.org](mailto:applications@gpct.org) or (860) 243-2345 ext. 3

Vendors: [fuelvendors@pgct.org](mailto:fuelvendors@pgct.org) or (860) 243-2345 ext. 3

Website: [www.gpct.org/gethelp](http://www.gpct.org/gethelp)

*Generation Power CT, formerly Operation Fuel, is on a mission to lead the way so current and future generations can thrive with secure access to heat, power, and water.*

Generation Power CT will administer an emergency energy assistance program for Connecticut residents in need of financial assistance to meet their home energy needs (electricity, gas, deliverable fuels), without an assets test. Generation Power CT will facilitate the emergency energy assistance program in (4) cycles each year:

- Cycle #1: September 2-10
- Cycle #2: November 2-10
- Cycle #3: January 2-10
- Cycle #4: March 2-10

During the above cycles, Generation Power CT will enable online applications for assistance to be submitted by an individual or through a partner Application Support Center.

Generation Power CT offers emergency energy assistance to households who:

- 1) Fall outside the government assistance eligibility guidelines or
- 2) Have exhausted their government assistance and
- 3) Demonstrate household income at or below 75% State Median Income (SMI)

GPCT's Emergency Energy Assistance Program will serve over 5,000 households each year, or until all funding has been exhausted. Generation Power CT will make all final approvals.





To access GPCT's online application portal, and to view all program-related updates, please visit [www.gpct.org/gethelp](http://www.gpct.org/gethelp).

Application Support Centers are provided login credentials for each staff member who will submit applications on behalf of clients.

### **Income Eligibility**

Households earning up to 75% SMI are eligible for Generation Power CT emergency energy assistance grants. Applicants must provide income documentation for all household members over 21 years of age, for the (4) weeks preceding the application date.

Generation Power CT follows SMI guidelines outlined and updated annually by 2-1-1 and posted at <https://uwc.211ct.org/connecticut-state-median-income-2023/>. These guidelines are updated between September and October each year, and are updated in GPCT's online application portal annually.

Current income guidelines are posted below. Clients earning up to 75% SMI will be eligible for GPCT emergency energy assistance.

Family size	100% State Median	30% State Median	50% State Median	60% State Median	75% State Median
1	75,843	22,752	37,921	45,505	56,882
2	99,180	29,753	49,589	59,507	74,384
3	122,516	36,754	61,257	73,509	91,886
4	145,853	43,755	72,926	87,511	109,389
5	169,189	50,755	84,594	101,512	126,891
6	192,525	57,756	96,262	115,514	144,393
7	196,901	59,069	98,450	118,139	147,675
8	201,277	60,381	100,637	120,765	150,956

*SOURCE: Connecticut Department of Social Services*

*PREPARED BY: 211/tb*

*CONTENT LAST REVIEWED: September 2024*





## Assistance Eligibility Guidelines

**Fuel Assistance (deliverable fuel):** Generation Power CT administers \$500 assistance grants to households applying for fuel assistance. The award can only be used for a future fuel delivery, not a past due balance. This is a one-time delivery and cannot result in a balance for the customer to receive a second delivery or a credit to their account.

- The delivery must be made within 30 days of the approval date.
- The vendor must submit an invoice within 30 days of the delivery date.

**Utility Assistance (gas or electric):** Generation Power CT administer up to \$500 toward a past due utility bill for customers who:

1. Have a current past due bill in the name of a current household member.
2. Provide a payment history for their utility account that shows the customer has made (4) payments in the 12-months preceding their application date.

Utility assistance awards may not result in a bill credit for the application. The total award amount will be dictated by the current past due balance. For example, if a customer owes \$385, they will receive an assistance award of \$385. However, if a customer owes \$756, they will receive the maximum award of \$500.

## Application Process

Households can apply for one emergency energy assistance award in a 12-month period. To apply, clients can visit [www.gpct.org/gethelp](http://www.gpct.org/gethelp) and click on "apply now". This will bring them to GPCT's online application portals.

Households needing support in submitting an online application can receive assistance from a partner Application Support Center. To find a participating Application Support Center, clients can visit <https://gpct.org/apply-for-help/fuel-bank-finder/> and search by their town.

All applicants must:

1. Provide an email address, and accurate demographic and income information for all household members.





# GENERATION POWER CT

2. Provide proof of income for all adults in the household, demonstrating the household earns up to 75% SMI.
  - Households can demonstrate categorical eligibility by providing a CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) letter, dated within the current CEAP cycle or
  - Provide a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) letter dated within the current calendar year

## Review Process

To ensure households with most emergent energy needs are reviews first, households who demonstrate they are in a current shut off situation or are out of fuel will receive priority review. Households attest to this by self-reporting their current service status at the time of application.

## Required Documentation

All Applicants:

- Proof of income: Households received categorical eligibility by providing CEAP or SSI letter. If household does not receive categorical eligibility, they will need to provide proof of income for all household members over 21.
- Acceptable documentation:
  - o (4) weeks of paystubs showing total gross income. If paid weekly, will require (4) paystubs; if paid bi-weekly, will require (2) paystubs; if paid monthly, will require (1) paystub.
  - o If not currently working or receiving income paystubs, individuals over 21 may attest to that by completing a GPCT-specific form for [Zero Income](#), [Friends & Family Support](#), or [Self-Employment](#). These forms are located on our website and linked directly in the application.
  - o Social Security benefit letter: If an individual receives a monthly benefit from social security, they can provide a copy of their benefit letter showing monthly payment with cost-of-living adjustments for the calendar year in which they are applying.





- If they cannot locate their letter, they can provide a copy of a bank statement with their name on it, showing a monthly deposit from US Dept of Treasury SSA.
- GPCT does not accept 1099 forms, tax statements, or DSS worksheets.

#### Utility Applicants:

- Current utility bill: Households must provide their current utility bill or shut off notice with a past due balance of 30 days or more. The bill must be in the name of a household member.
- Payment history: Households must provide a payment history for their utility account for the 12 months preceding their application date. Payment history must show applicants made (4) payments in the 12-month period.
  - If you cannot access a payment history, please reach out to the utility company directly to request this information.

#### **Application Communication**

Generation Power CT provides notice regarding all application decisions to clients and Application Support center via email only. Application Support Centers and applicants can access the online application portal at any time to view their current application status. GPCT kindly requests you do not reach out by phone or email to request a status update.

Note: Applications that are marked as incomplete and not updated within 30 days may be denied.

#### **Other Information**

A GPCT emergency energy assistance grant is not an entitlement to all Connecticut residents who fall within the income guidelines. Grants to households are approved at the discretion of GPCT staff.

Applicants are asked to first utilize the CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) before seeking assistance from GPCT.

