

ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY FOR OUR ELDERLY PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions



For complete eligibility requirements and terms and conditions, please refer to the [Energy Sustainability for our Elderly Application](#).

What is the Energy Sustainability for our Elderly program?

Rochester Public Utilities (RPU) is committed to making energy efficiency improvements affordable for income-eligible customers. RPU and Minnesota Energy Resources are working together to weatherize and update the equipment efficiencies in the homes of our qualified low-income elderly residents to improve their health, safety, independent living, and reduce energy burden. By working together, we are able to offer more energy efficiencies to those in need.

How old do I need to be to participate?

If you are 60 years of age or older, you may qualify.

Are there income requirements I need to meet?

Yes, your annual income must fall below the Primary Qualifier of 80% Area Median Income or the Secondary Qualifier 60% State Median Income, Energy Assistance Program (EAP). See the chart in the Energy Sustainability for our Elderly Application.

Do I need to show proof of my income?

Yes, you will need to provide one of the following: previous year's tax return, previous three-month's pay stubs, or an unemployment statement. Income eligibility may also be verified through acceptance notifications from Energy Assistance Program (EAP) payments, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) acceptance notification.

What if I am a renter?

You are not eligible for this program. You must own a single family home, townhome, or twinhome and not currently have your name on a housing waiting list or moving in the next six months.

What if I have received State Weatherization Services, do I still qualify?

No, you do not qualify if you have received Weatherization Services in the last 15 years. Also, if you were deferred from the State Weatherization program due to health and safety reasons, you are not eligible for this program.

How do I know if I qualify to participate in the program?

Fill out the Energy Sustainability for our Elderly Application and mail or email it to the address on the last page. Franklin Energy, our program administrator, will determine whether you qualify based on your provided income documentation and other qualifiers. See the application for full details.

Do I need an energy audit to receive program services?

Yes, the free energy audit of your home is conducted to identify cost-effective energy improvements and weatherization opportunities to make your home more energy efficient.

Do I have to pay for the energy audit?

No, you do not pay for the energy audit. It is free to qualified income-eligible seniors.

Who pays for the installation costs of the energy efficiency opportunities?

RPU and Minnesota Energy Resources will cover the costs. However, if health and safety measures exceed \$500, a co-pay of \$150 will be applied to your Minnesota Energy Resources natural gas bill.

May I pick what energy efficiencies get installed?

No, only improvements identified as part of the completed energy audit will be included.

May I chose who performs the energy audit?

No, RPU and Minnesota Energy Resources have contracted for auditing services through Franklin Energy to ensure proper auditing techniques are in place along with measurement and verification.

May I apply for rebates from RPU or Minnesota Energy Resources?

No, installed measure(s) of this program are not eligible for rebates from RPU or Minnesota Energy Resources.

Are funds always available for the program?

No, applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis and while funds last. If funds are depleted for the current year, you may be put on a list for the following year.