



OPC Communications Bulletin

Great news for those living in low-income households! The Ontario Minister of Energy has announced the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP). Beginning **January 2016**, the OESP is offering a reduction to household electricity bills for those who qualify. The OESP will reduce the cost of electricity by applying monthly credit to your bill/statement.

The credit amount depends on two criteria:

- How many people live in your home and
- Your combined household income.

Amounts

Level of Household Income (\$)	OESP Credit						
	Number of people living in home						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28,000 or less	\$30	\$30	\$34	\$38	\$42	\$50	\$50
28,001-39,000			\$30	\$34	\$38	\$42	\$50
39,001-48,000					\$30	\$34	\$38
48,001-52,000							\$30

If your home is electrically heated, or you rely on medical devices requiring a lot of electricity, OESP offers a higher level of assistance. First Nations and Métis will also qualify for a higher level of assistance.

There are three things you need to do to apply! (Applications must be completed by January 1, 2016)

1. Gather up the following:
 - Your electricity bill
 - Birthdates and names of all residents in your home as registered with the Canada Revenue Agency.
 - Social Insurance Numbers, Individual Tax Numbers, or temporary taxation numbers for residents over the age of 16.
2. Visit OntarioElectricitySupport.ca
3. Fill out, print, sign and sent an application to the provided web. Those eligible will be notified and their bills will show the credit within six to eight weeks and you will not need to reapply for two years.

For more info contact: 1-855-831-8151 toll free within Ontario; 1-800-855-1155 (TTY to TTY) or contact your local electricity utility.

There are many other programs designed to help.....

The easiest way to find out what is available is by calling 211 to ask the questions.

Christian Family Life Standing Committee