



2016 - 2017

Clairton Municipal Authority Hardship Program

The **Clairton Municipal Authority Hardship Program**, which is administered by Dollar Energy Fund, assists eligible **Clairton Municipal Authority** customers who are in threat of termination or who have had their water service disconnected as a result of non-payment of their sewage bills. Customers may be eligible to receive a grant that's applied directly to their utility bill. Our program is a fund of last resort because it goes above and beyond what is available through federal, state and other programs.

Grant guidelines are subject to change.

Program Dates:

Customers may apply **for service that is off or in threat of termination.**

The program opens on **May 15, 2017** and will remain open until funds are depleted.

Grants are dispersed on a first-come first-serve basis to eligible applicants and are based on funding availability.

Balance Requirement:

Applicant must have an outstanding balance on their utility bill of at least **\$100.**

Sincere Effort of Payment:

Applicants must have paid at least **\$100** on their account in the past three months.

Exceptions may be made in cases of extreme hardships.

Income Guidelines:

Total gross household income must be at or below **150%** of the **2017 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines*** as shown in the chart below.

Household Size	150% Weekly	150% Monthly	150% Yearly
1	\$348	\$1,508	\$18,090
2	\$468	\$2,030	\$24,360
3	\$589	\$2,553	\$30,630
4	\$710	\$3,075	\$36,900
5	\$830	\$3,598	\$43,170
6	\$951	\$4,120	\$49,440
7	\$1,071	\$4,643	\$55,710
8	\$1,192	\$5,165	\$61,980
Each add'l add	\$121	\$523	\$6,270

Maximum Grant:

The maximum grant amount an applicant may receive is **\$200.**

Applicants can only receive **one grant every 12 months.**

Eligibility Requirements:

Grant awards are based on need and each family's circumstances are different. Grant amounts are determined on a case to case basis.

- Must have a **documented hardship** such as:
 - Medical Bills
 - Cost associated with a divorce
 - Initial child support payment
 - Funeral expenses
 - Home repairs such as a furnace/hot water tank
 - Car accident
 - Recent job loss
 - Called to active military duty
 - Expenses as a result of a fire, flood or other disaster not covered by insurance
 - Short or long term disability that results in a reduction of income
- Account must be residential, single home or apartment. No "Cooking Only," commercial, industrial, or apartments with shared utility service. **The household is not eligible if it has a shared meter.**
- Name on account must be that of an adult who is currently living in the household.

**The 2017 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines took effect on February 1, 2017, and will remain in effect for the remainder of the program year. Income limits are based on gross income (before taxes).*

How to Apply:

If you meet the eligibility criteria outlined above, the best way to begin the process of receiving assistance is to contact one of our participating community based agencies to make an appointment to complete an application.

These dedicated agencies provide application intake services for clients. There are four organizations in the City of Clairton that will be assisting residents wishing to apply for grants. Please call one of the agencies listed below to **schedule an appointment to apply.**

Grants are available on a first come first served basis.

Community Economic Development Corp of Clairton

282 St. Clair Avenue | Clairton, PA 15025 | 412-226-1587

Clairton Cares, Inc. (Morning Star)

307 Shaw Avenue | Clairton, PA 15025 |

412-233-7289, ext. 8

Pine Run United Methodist Church

901 N 6th Street | Clairton, PA 15025 | (412) 233-4006

State Representative Marc Gergley's Clairton Office

Clairton Municipal Building | 551 Ravensburg Blvd. |

Clairton, PA 15025 | 412-233-2505

Documents Required to Apply:

- Verification of income, so please bring income documentation for all household members to your appointment (paystub, social security statement of benefits, unemployment notice, W2 statement, etc.)
- Copy of the most recent utility bill with proof of minimum payment
- Notice showing sewage has been terminated OR a termination notice
- Proof of documented hardship (see *eligibility requirements*)

About Dollar Energy Fund

Dollar Energy Fund is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life for households experiencing hardships by providing utility assistance and other services that lead to self-sufficiency. The organization works with more than 30 utilities in 12 states to provide assistance to families and individuals in need. Dollar Energy Fund has provided over 500,000 utility assistance grants since its inception in 1983.

Visit www.dollarenergyfund.org to learn more.