

EmPower New YorkSM

WHO is Eligible

Electric distribution customers of a participating utility (see **New York Energy \$martSM** below) that live in buildings with 100 units or less, and either participate in a utility payment program or have a household income below 60% of state median income are eligible (i.e., HEAP eligible). Services are also provided to low-income National Fuel Gas customers referred by that utility.

WHAT this Program Offers

The focus of EmPower New YorkSM is on cost-effective electric reduction measures, particularly lighting and refrigerator replacements, as well as other cost-effective home performance strategies such as insulation, and health and safety measures. On-site energy use education provides customers with additional strategies for managing their energy costs.

WHAT is the Cost

There is no cost to the customer. In rental situations, certain measures that directly benefit the eligible tenant are permitted without a landlord contribution.

WHO Provides Services

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) contracted with Honeywell International to implement the EmPower New YorkSM program. The energy efficiency services are delivered by private contractors and participating Weatherization Agencies, all of whom are Building Performance Institute (BPI) Accredited.

HOW to Apply

Referrals will be accepted from participating utilities, local Offices for the Aging, Departments of Social Services, and Weatherization Assistance Program Agencies across the State, including the Department for the Aging and the Human Resources Administration in New York City.

Energy efficiency services are prioritized based on the potential for cost-effective energy usage reduction.

For additional information contact Honeywell International at 1-800-263-0960.

NEW YORK Energy \$martSM

All **New York Energy \$martSM** Programs are funded by a System Benefits Charge (SBC) paid by electric distribution customers of Central Hudson, Con Edison, NYSEG, National Grid, Orange and Rockland, and Rochester Gas and Electric. NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation established by law in 1975, administers SBC funds and programs under an agreement with the Public Service Commission.

New York Energy \$martSM Programs are designed to lower electricity costs by encouraging energy efficiency as the State's electric utilities move to competition. The programs are available to electric distribution customers (residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial) who pay into the SBC.

NYSERDA

New York State
Energy Research and
Development Authority

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle • Albany, New York • 12203-6399
toll free: 1-866-NYSERDA • local (518) 862-1090 • fax: (518) 862-1091
www.nyserdera.org

New York
Energy \$mart
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
NYSERDA



New York State Energy Research
and Development Authority

EmPower New YorkSM Refrigerator and Freezer Replacement

The goal of EmPower New YorkSM is to help low-income families manage energy costs by reducing energy use. One strategy is to replace older, inefficient refrigerators, or in some instances freezers, with new ENERGY STAR[®]-rated models. These new appliances cost less to operate, saving the family money while reducing our State's demand for electricity.

How much do they cost?

The refrigerators or freezers are provided for FREE to eligible low-income households.

Does everyone get one?

Refrigerators or freezers are provided only if the old unit uses a lot of energy, if the family is eligible for the program, and if the appliance replacement is an effective way to reduce the family's energy costs. In some situations, other energy measures may be selected instead.

Are the refrigerators and freezers provided through EmPower New YorkSM brand new?

Yes.

Can I keep my old one? Can I get the old one back if I don't like the new one?

No. The goal of EmPower New YorkSM is to retire the old inefficient refrigerators and freezers from use. Participating households must agree to give up their old appliance to receive a new replacement unit. The old appliances are then "decommissioned", meaning materials are recycled and scrapped. If you are not certain that you want the new appliance, do not sign the Appliance Agreement.

What features are included?

The refrigerators and freezers are all high quality units, with shelves, freezer compartments and easy-to-read controls. They do not include ice makers, water dispensers or other deluxe features.

What color are the appliances?

White only.

What size do I get?

Replacement size is based on the size of the refrigerator or freezer currently in use and the most cost-effective option for saving energy. In most cases the unit will be the same size, but may vary slightly depending on available space and models. The energy auditor who works with you will identify the size before you sign the Appliance Agreement.

What happens if the refrigerator or freezer needs repairs?

The appliances come with a full one-year warranty. As the new owner, you are responsible to contact the vendor should any problems arise. Contact and warranty information is provided directly with the appliance or through the mail shortly before or after its delivery.

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

Honeywell, the EmPower New YorkSM Program Implementer, at 1-800-263-0960.

David A. Paterson,
Governor

Michael J. Burgess,
Director



www.aging.state.ny.us

Senior Citizens' Help Line
1-800-342-9871

"Save and Heat"

***If qualified, any one of these programs will put extra cash in your pocket
which in turn, can be applied toward your monthly heating costs.***

Please check off any program(s) you may be interested in receiving more information about.

- ☐ **Medicare Savings Programs** – Medicare Savings Programs help people with limited income to pay their monthly Medicare Part B premium (in 2008 this is \$96.40 per month). If enrolled in a Medicare Savings Program, a Medicare beneficiary is also deemed eligible for "extra help" in paying Medicare Part D prescription drug costs.
- ☐ **"Extra Help" Paying for Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage** – If you are currently on Medicare you may qualify for "extra help" (the low-income subsidy) from Medicare to pay prescription drug costs. This can help you pay your drug plan's monthly premium, deductible, co-payments and the coverage gap.
- ☐ **EPIC** – The New York State Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program helps people 65 years of age and older to pay for their prescription drugs. EPIC supplements other drug coverage including Medicare Part D.
- ☐ **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** – Pays monthly checks to people who are 65 or older, blind or have a disability and who have limited resources and income.
- ☐ **Telephone Lifeline** – Income-eligible households can receive a reduced rate for telephone service and installation charges.
- ☐ **Food Stamps** – The Food Stamp program issues monthly benefits that can be used to purchase food at authorized retail food stores. Food stamp benefits help low-income working people, senior citizens, the disabled and others feed their families.
- ☐ **Earned Income Tax Credit** – The New York State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program provides refundable tax benefits for working people with low or moderate incomes. Workers who qualify and file Federal and State tax returns may get back some or all of the income tax that was withheld during the year. If the taxpayers EITC is higher than the taxes owed, the taxpayer may also get extra cash back from the IRS and from New York State.
- ☐ **STAR** – The New York State's School Tax Relief Program (STAR) provides for a school property tax rebate program and a partial property tax exemption from school taxes for all New Yorkers who own and live in their homes. There is also an Enhanced STAR exemption which is available for eligible seniors 65 and older.
- ☐ **Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens** – Seniors generally must be 65 years of age or older and meet certain income limitations and other requirements. The application for Senior Citizens' Exemption also will serve as an application for the Enhanced STAR; no separate STAR application is needed. Localities and school districts have the option whether or not to offer this exemption.
- ☐ **Real Property Tax Credit** – Available to New York State residents who have household gross income of \$18,000 or less, and pay either real property taxes or rent for their residence(s). If all members of the household are under age 65, the credit can be as much as \$75. If at least one member of the household is 65 or older, the credit can be as much as \$375.

- ☐ **Veteran's property tax exemption** – Qualified Veterans can receive a property tax exemption. The program provides a partial property tax exemption to those homeowners meeting qualifying veteran's criteria.
- ☐ **Real Property Tax Exemption for Person with Disabilities and Limited Resources:** Localities have the option of giving exemptions of less than 50% to persons with disabilities whose incomes are more than \$26,000. Under the "sliding scale" options, a qualifying owner can have a yearly income as high as \$34,399.99 and get a 5% exemption in localities where there is a maximum limit.
- ☐ **IT-214** – New York State income tax program that will refund part of the local property tax paid by moderate and low income homeowners and (indirectly) by renters. A homeowner may qualify even if they pay no income tax.
- ☐ **Access to Home** – Access to Home Program will provide financial assistance to property owners to make dwelling units accessible for low- and moderate income persons with disabilities, providing assistance with the cost of adapting homes to meet the needs of those with disabilities.
- ☐ **RESTORE** – Funds may be used to pay for the cost of emergency repairs to eliminate hazardous conditions in homes owned by the elderly when the homeowners cannot afford to make the repairs in a timely fashion. To be eligible for assistance, homeowners must be 60 years of age or older and have a household income that does not exceed 80 percent of the area median income.

Energy programs that may help you reduce your heating bills

- ☐ **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** – Helps eligible low-income people meet the high costs of home heating.
- ☐ **WRAP – (Weatherization Referral and Packaging)** – The WRAP program provides energy conservation, emergency weatherization services and referrals to weatherization programs for HEAP eligible households. Emergency weatherization could include adding insulation, repair or replacement of windows, doors and repairs to furnaces and roofs.
- ☐ **EmPower** – EmPower New York SM provides cost-effective electric reduction measures, such as lighting and refrigerator replacements. In some situations, insulation and other home energy efficiency and financial cost performance measures are provided. There is no cost to the household.
- ☐ **Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR** – Reduces energy costs of low and moderate – income households (up to 80% of the State Median Income) by providing affordable energy efficient improvements to households that are not eligible for the federally-funded Weatherization Program.
- ☐ **WAP** – Weatherization Assistant Program services reduce the amount of energy required to heat homes and provide hot water. The majority of homes in New York State were built when energy was relatively inexpensive. These homes are significantly more costly to heat than a newer energy-efficient home.

For more information on any of the items you checked please call or mail this form to your local office for the aging:

Name _____

Phone Number _____

(Please Print Your Name)