



2023 Energy allowance and one-off student energy costs contribution for 2023

2023 Energy Allowance

The energy allowance is intended for people on a low income. The government provides this allowance to help people pay their energy bills. The energy allowance was introduced in 2022, when gas and electricity became very expensive. Energy costs remain very high in 2023. That is why this year there is an energy allowance for people who meet the conditions.

Who is the energy allowance for?

The energy allowance is intended for Dutch people on a low income or an income just above the social minimum. The allowance is provided for all people on social assistance benefit, benefit under the Old and Partially Disabled Unemployed Workers Income Scheme Act (IOAW) benefit under the Old and Partially Disabled Former Self-Employed Persons Income Scheme Act (IOAZ) or the Social Assistance (Self-Employed Persons) Decree or income support for people who have reached state pension age (AIO) from the Social Insurance Bank (SvB). Municipalities decide up to what income their residents are entitled to the energy allowance. You can look this up on your municipality's website.

How much is the energy allowance?

The amount of the energy allowance may vary from one municipality to another. In most municipalities, the 2023 energy allowance is €800. The municipality where you live will determine the exact amount of your 2023 energy allowance.

How do you obtain the one-off energy allowance for 2023?

Did you receive an energy allowance in 2022 and also have a low income in 2023? Or do you receive benefits from the municipality? If so, you will receive the energy allowance automatically and you do not have to take any action. Municipalities first distribute the energy allowance to all the people already known to them. After that, people who have not received the energy allowance and believe they are eligible for it can apply. For more information, see your municipality's website or contact your local authority.

The energy allowance and other allowances or benefits

The energy allowance does not affect other allowances or benefits unless you put this money in your savings account. This increases your assets and may place you just above the limit for an allowance. Housing benefit, healthcare allowance, child budget and childcare allowance are means tested. The amount of savings you are allowed to have varies depending on the allowance. More information on this can be found on the Tax Administration's website.



The social minimum

The social minimum is the minimum amount people need to make ends meet. The amount is not the same for everyone, but depends on your age and living situation. For example, for people living alone, the social minimum is different from those who are married or living together. The amounts are set twice a year by the government. You will find the current amount on the UWV website, for example.

Student energy cost contribution for 2023

The one-off energy cost allowance for students is a lump sum of €400. This amount of € 400 will be paid to students' accounts from January 2024. If you are entitled to this contribution, you will receive notification of this from DUO. You do not need to take any action. The contribution is a gift; you do not have to repay it.

For which students is this contribution intended?

Students who received a living away from home grant and a supplementary grant on 1 October 2023 will receive this contribution.

Students who were not entitled to a basic grant or supplementary grant on 1 October but were still receiving an interest-bearing loan also will receive this contribution. They must however have had a supplementary grant in the last month of their performance grant.



Energy-saving tips

Wondering how to save energy as well as money?

At www.zetookdeknopom.nl/thuis you'll find a list of practical tips.



Get a grip on your money with Moneyfit

The website geldfit.nl provides various tips and information about money. You can also look up which allowances and supplements you are entitled to here. A short test will give you an insight into your financial situation.

Would you like someone to listen to you or provide advice? If so, you can call Geldfit anonymously on 0800-8115. Someone from Geldfit will talk things over with you and can put you in touch with an organisation in your area.



Emergency fund

Households with an income of up to 200% of the social minimum and a high energy bill can apply for financial support to pay their energy bills.

This financial support comes from the Emergency Energy Fund.

If you meet the conditions, you should be able to apply from January 2024.

More information can be found at www.noodfondsennergie.nl

November 2023

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