



COVID-19 RESIDENTIAL HOME HEAT & ENERGY REBATE

- Frequently Asked Questions -

Question: *Do I need all my Home Heat & Energy provider invoices/receipts from April 2021 to September 1, 2021, included for my application?*

Answer: *No, you only require the invoices/receipts that add up to an amount exceeding \$199 i.e.. If your monthly bill for June and July are added and come to an amount of \$103.57 then you must include another monthly invoice to show a total amount exceeding \$199. However, if your April 2021 monthly bill is \$200.01 then that one invoice is sufficient since it exceeds \$199.*

Question: *I don't have access to a computer or internet. How can I apply for these benefits?*

Answer: *We encourage you to ask someone in your family or a friend to help fill out the application online as this is the quickest and most reliable method of applying to ensure your application is received on time.*

If you are unable to do this, you can request a paper form be mailed to you by calling 709-634-4577 and leaving a message. We will respond to calls as quickly as possible.

Question: *What are the eligibility requirements for the Residential Home Heat & Energy Rebate?*

Answer: Applicants must be a member of Qalipu First Nation and have a valid band membership number (034XXXXXXX), be a resident of Canada for a least 12 months prior to the date of application and provide proof of service in the form of a receipt or invoice from a registered home heat or energy provider with service charges equaling \$200 or more between the dates of April 1st – September 1st, 2021.

Question: What receipts/invoices are considered eligible? What should be included?

Answer: We require that all receipts or invoices must show member's name and full address. We also require all receipts or invoices to be from a Registered Home Heat or Energy Provider (ex. NL Power, North Atlantic Home Heating Services, Superior Propane etc.). Each submitted receipt or invoice should clearly show a Business # or HST # to be considered eligible and must show a minimum of \$200 in charges. Multiple receipts will be accepted if combined total is \$200 or more.

Question: If I am one of the successful applicants how much will my rebate be?

Answer: Qalipu First Nation will provide a one-time payment of up to \$200 to each successful applicant

Question: I am a member of Qalipu First Nation, but the heating receipts or invoices are in my spouse's or partners name, and they are not a member of Qalipu First Nation. Can I still apply?

Answer: In the case where the heat or energy account is in the spouse's or partners name, secondary proof of address must be provided. The secondary proof of address can include but is not limited to: property tax invoices, poll tax invoices, online shopping receipt or shipping confirmations, pay stubs etc. The secondary sources of proof must state the **members/applicants** name and an address that matches the home heat or energy receipt/invoice submitted. They must be from a registered business.

All eligible home heat or energy receipts and invoices must be dated from the period of April 1st-September 1st, 2021, to be considered eligible.

Question: Do I have to pay taxes on these rebates and benefits?

Answer: *If an individual receives any benefits under our Covid19 Support Programming, it is the responsibility of the member/applicant to declare this as income during filing of their taxes. Any further taxation questions should be referred to the Canada Revenue Agency for clarification.*

Question: Can all members in my household apply?

Answer: *While all member applications will be accepted, only one successful applicant per household is permitted. If additional applications are subsequently drawn from the same household, they will be considered ineligible.*

Question: Can I apply more than once?

Answer: *Limit of one application per member. Duplicate applications will be removed from the draw. In the event duplicate applications are received, QFN will consider the first application received as the valid submission. All other applications will be removed or deleted from the draw.*

Question: How will I receive my reimbursement if I am a successful applicant? How long will it take?

Answer: *Our aim is to process payment within 8 weeks of the draw date. Direct deposit is the preferred method of reimbursement as it is the quickest. Please make every effort to upload or send your direct deposit or banking information with your application. Mailed cheques are an option but additional wait times can be expected.*

Question: I applied online but I am mailing a copy too!

Answer: *We ask that members do not do this as it can increase the number of duplicate applications received which will slow down processing time. We encourage members to submit online as this is the most reliable method of applying to ensure your application is received on time.*

Question: I applied with a Street address, but my mail goes to a PO Box or Box number. Does this matter?

Answer: We encourage all members to state both Street and Mailing addresses on their applications. This is especially important if these are different as incorrect mailing addresses can slow down the processing times as well as cause your reimbursement to be returned to Qalipu First Nations. Please add any PO Box, Box # etc.

Question: I do not have a band number (034XXXXXX), but I have an Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada file number. Can I use that to access the QFN Covid-19 Programs?

Answer: If we can not validate your Band Membership, we can not provide support under these programs. The Residential Home Heat & Energy Rebate is for members residing in Canada (for a minimum of at least 12 months prior to time of application). This is part of the funding requirement.

Question: The paper application says a signature is required, while the online application does not. Why?

Answer: By submitting online, you are declaring and authorizing QFN to process your application. This includes auditing. Your authorization allows us to collect information from you (including receipts and invoices) for services provided to you. The release of any records that are relevant to the processing and payment of this claim to Qalipu First Nation, its agents or contractors, or Regulatory Body. You're declaring this information that you submit online to be true and accurate and verifying that it does not contain a claim for any benefit or service previously paid for by Qalipu First Nation or by any other plan(s) programs(s) that is noted in the statement or explanations of benefits.