



supporting UNISON members
when life gets tough

CONFIDENTIAL

Winter fuel grant Application form 2017-18

Important information

- **Please complete all sections and enclose supporting paperwork. Incomplete applications will not be processed.** (In the event of any queries, you will be contacted, wherever possible via email.)
- You **must also** complete the survey.
- **Only ONE application per household** will be considered. The maximum grant award is up to £50 and will be paid by cheque to the member.
- **There is a limited amount in the fund** and, once exhausted, no further awards can be made.
- **Priority** will be given to anyone who has not previously received a winter fuel grant.

Am I eligible for a Winter Fuel Grant?

To be considered for a grant, you must be able to show that you meet the following criteria:

Either

- i. You are in receipt of housing benefit

Or

- ii. Your household **net income** is less than £18,000.

By 'net income*' we mean all salary after tax, national insurance, superannuation etc, and including your partner's salary if applicable and benefits. However, do not include in your calculation Child Benefit, the childcare element only of Working Tax Credit if paid, Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment.

Also that

- iii. Neither you/your partner have savings in excess of £800 (including rolling bank balance)
- iv. You have not received a grant from UNISON There for you in the last 6 months.
- v. You must have **paid a minimum of 4 weeks subscriptions before 4 December 2017** to apply.

Where do I send my form to?

Return your completed application form along with all supporting paperwork to:

There for You (WFG),
UNISON Centre,
130 Euston Road,
London NW1 2AY

Is there an application deadline?

Your application must be received no later than **16 February 2018**. Applications will then be processed and decisions communicated over the following weeks.

Membership details

Membership number*: _____

National Ins No: _____

***Please contact UNISON Direct 0800 0 857 857 for your membership number as we cannot process your application without it.**

Personal details

Name Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss First name Surname
 Address _____

 Postcode _____
 Email _____
 Contact telephone no. _____

Who shares your home with you?

Apart from yourself, please give details of all adults who live in your home

Name	Age	Relationship to you	Please indicate if they are employed/ in education/benefits/or if 'other' give details	£ weekly income

Now give details of all children under-18 in full-time primary or secondary education

Name	Relationship to you	Age	Name	Relationship to you	Age

Supporting paperwork*

Select one of the following two statements applicable to you and ensure all relevant supporting paperwork is enclosed with your application form:

☐ **I currently receive housing benefit.** I enclose **all** of the following documents:

- ☐ Most recent payslip(s)**
- ☐ Proof that this benefit is paid
- ☐ Last month's full bank statement(s) detailing all income and outgoings

☐ **Our net household income is £18,000 or less.**

I enclose **all** of the following documents:

- ☐ Most recent payslip(s)**
- ☐ Last month's full bank statement(s)** detailing all income and outgoings
- ☐ Tax credit award letter where element given towards childcare costs

Note 1: *Please ONLY send copies as we cannot return any paperwork

Note 2: **If you live with a partner, don't forget to include their payslip/bank statement if applicable

Note 3: If you experience difficulty obtaining any documents requested please explain why in a covering letter

Data protection

The information on this form will be held electronically and in signing this form you have consented to the collection, processing and dissemination of this information by UNISON There for You as necessary to consider the eligibility of your grant application.

Declaration

- ☐ I confirm that the information I have given truly reflects my current financial position
- ☐ **I understand that my application cannot be considered without supporting paperwork**

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Remember your application cannot be processed without all supporting paperwork

Help us to campaign against fuel poverty

All applicants are required to complete the following survey as data collected will be used to help UNISON with future campaigns. This survey should take no longer than 5-10 minutes to complete.

Please answer the following questions and tell us about the impact that rising fuel prices is having on you and your family.

Please tick all that apply

1. Do you take any of the following measures to save on heating costs?

- ☐ Avoid putting on the heating
- ☐ Heat only the room(s) that you are using
- ☐ Go to bed earlier
- ☐ Wear extra clothes in bed
- ☐ Other – please give details below

2. Have you had to cut back on any of the following to ensure you can keep warm:

- ☐ Food
- ☐ Socialising
- ☐ Clothing
- ☐ Children's activities
- ☐ Other – please give details below

3. Is the health of any person in your household affected by your home being cold?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, how?

- ☐ More time off work – through sickness
- ☐ Struggle to sleep
- ☐ Aching joints
- ☐ Difficulty concentrating at work/school
- ☐ Other – give details below.

4. Are you or is anyone in your household in receipt of:

- ☐ Disability Living Allowance (DLA)/Personal Independence Payment (PIP)/Carers allowance
- ☐ Housing benefit
- ☐ Council tax support
- ☐ Income support/Universal Credit
- ☐ Employment support allowance
- ☐ Other – please indicate

5. Are you behind with any of the following?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ Fuel | ☐ Water | ☐ Rent |
| ☐ Mortgage | ☐ Council Tax | ☐ Credit cards |
| ☐ Catalogue | ☐ Loans from family friends | |
| ☐ Bank Loans | | |

If yes, by how much in total:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Less than £100 | ☐ £100-£200 |
| ☐ £200-£300 | ☐ £300-£400 |
| ☐ £400-£500 | ☐ more than £500 |

6. If you are behind with your bills, have you:

Told your energy supplier, that you are struggling? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Been chased for repayment by any creditor in last 12 months ☐ Yes ☐ No

Become more concerned about keeping up with your payments ☐ Yes ☐ No

Taken advice on managing your debts? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Checked your entitlement to benefits in the last 12 months ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. As a result of rising living costs do you find you are having to:

- ☐ Turn to your parents
- ☐ Turn to other family or friends
- ☐ Borrowing on credit cards
- ☐ Use payday lender
- ☐ Other – give details below.

8. Have you:

a) had to use a food bank? Yes ☐ No ☐

b) worried about putting food on the table?

Yes ☐ No ☐

9. How long have you been struggling financially?

- ☐ Only in the last year
☐ More than one year
☐ More than two years
☐ More than 3 years
☐ More than 4 years
☐ Other – please give details below:

10. How do you pay your fuel bill?

- ☐ Direct debit
☐ When a bill is received
☐ Prepayment meter
☐ Smart card
☐ Other – please give details below:

11. Have there been any significant changes in the last 12 months to:

a) your conditions of employment

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

if yes, please give details

b) your household income

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

if yes, please give details

Help us to help others

We like to take every opportunity to make others aware of the help that is available and in so doing raise our profile and reach out to more members.

Can we contact you about your experience?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions, your contributions are much appreciated.
Please send this completed survey with your application form and supporting paperwork.