

CONFIDENTIAL

Winter fuel grant

Application form 2018 -19

Important information

- **Please complete all sections and enclose supporting paperwork. Incomplete applications will not be processed.**
- Please **also** complete the survey as what you say will help us understand more about any difficulties you are experiencing and whether we may be able to help in other ways.
- **Only ONE application per household** will be considered. The maximum grant award is up to £60 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 the housing element of Universal Credit.

Or

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

*By 'net income' we mean all salary including your partner's after tax, national insurance, superannuation and trade union subscriptions only. Your calculation **should include** any Tax Credits, Universal Credit or child maintenance received. **Do not include** Child Benefit, the childcare element of Working Tax Credit, 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 (excluding School Uniform Grant).
- v. You have **paid a minimum of 4 weeks membership subscriptions before 3 December 2018** to apply.
- vi. That you are responsible for meeting the household fuel bills and are struggling financially.

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 **15 February 2019**. Applications will then be processed and decisions communicated over the following weeks.

Membership details

Membership number*: _____

National Ins No: _____

CASE NO. _____ (office use only)

***Please remember to include your membership number. You can contact UNISON Direct 0800 0 857 857 for your membership number. We cannot process your application without it.**

Personal details

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

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email** _____ Contact telephone no. _____

**If we need to contact you about your application we will usually do so by email so you may want to check your email and junk mail folders

Who shares your home with you?

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

| | Relationship to you | Age | Please indicate if they are employed/ in education/benefits/or if 'other' give details | £ weekly income |
|----|---------------------|-----|--|--------------------|
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |
| 3. | | | | |

Eligibility (tick one box only)

Either: I am applying because I am in receipt of Housing Benefit or Housing element of Universal Credit.

You **must** include **all** the following paperwork* with your application:

- Proof you are receiving benefit help with your rent
- Most recent payslip
- Most recent bank statement(s) for all accounts (including partner's) showing all transactions for a complete month (please highlight union subscriptions if paid by direct debit)

Or: I am applying because my/our net household income is £18,000 or less.

You **must** include **all** the following paperwork* with your application:

- Most recent payslip
- Partner's payslip (if applicable)
- Most recent bank statement(s) for all accounts (including partner's) showing all transactions for a complete month (please highlight union subscriptions if paid by direct debit)
- Tax Credit or Universal Credit award letter confirming amount given towards childcare costs where this is paid

***Note:** As we cannot return paperwork, please send copies rather than originals

Declaration

I confirm that:

- ✓ The information given truly reflects my current financial position
- ✓ I/we do not have more than £800 in savings (including rolling bank balance)
- ✓ I have enclosed all relevant paperwork

I understand that

- ✓ If supporting paperwork is missing, my application will not be assessed and I will be contacted by email.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please do not forget to send your bank statements

Data protection

The information on this form will be used to assess my application only and securely destroyed when no longer required. For more information on how we handle your personal data please email thereforyou@unison.co.uk

Help us to campaign against fuel poverty

All applicants are requested 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
- Mortgage
- Catalogue
- Bank Loans
- Water
- Council Tax
- Loans from family friends
- Rent
- Credit cards

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, including the impact that this has had and whether you currently have any specific financial or other concerns as a result

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.