Eligibility requirements for the program:

- You must have filed a New Brunswick personal income tax return in 2014.
- In 2014 your total family income must have been $28,000 or less.
- You must be a New Brunswick resident.
- Maintain a principal place of residence that is a self-contained domestic establishment (see question #2).

In addition:

- Only one benefit per household (address) will be provided.
- If, in 2014, your total family income was greater than $28,000 but it will be $28,000 or less for 2015, you may be eligible.
- Information provided on the applications will be subject to audit.

1. Who is eligible to apply for this benefit?

If you lived in New Brunswick as of December 31, 2014, and had a total family income of $28,000 or less in 2014, you may be eligible.

2. What is a “self-contained domestic establishment”?

It can either be a house, an apartment, or a living unit with its own access that contains a kitchen, bathroom and sleeping facilities.

3. Do residents of manors, special care homes and community residences qualify for this benefit?

No, these types of residences are not typically self-contained establishments. See question #2.

4. How much will my benefit be if I am eligible?

The benefit amount is $100.

5. How can I apply?

As of January 4, 2016, application forms for the benefit will be available at all Service New Brunswick centres, online at www.snb.ca or www.gnb.ca/Finance, or by calling the department of Finance at: 1-800-669-7070.
6. Can I apply online?

You will find an application form online at [www.snb.ca](http://www.snb.ca) or [www.gnb.ca](http://www.gnb.ca) (keyword: Finance) which can be printed and mailed to:

Department of Finance  
Revenue Administration Division  
P.O. Box 3000,  
Fredericton, N.B.  
E3B 5H1

You can also drop off your completed application at the nearest Service New Brunswick centre.

7. What is the deadline to apply?

June 30, 2016.

8. How long will it take to get my benefit?

Please allow 2-4 weeks for processing from the date the application is received by the department of Finance provided the application form is signed and complete.

9. Must I have filed a 2014 New Brunswick income tax return?

Yes. You must have been a resident of New Brunswick on Dec. 31, 2014, and filed a 2014 New Brunswick personal income tax return.

10. What is total family income?

Total family income is your total yearly income plus your spouse or common-law partner’s total yearly income, if applicable.

Your total family income can be calculated by adding the amount found on line 150 (less elected split-pension amount from line 116) or your 2014 income tax return with the amount found on line 150 (less elected split-pension amount from line 116) of your spouse or common-law partner’s 2014 income tax return, if applicable. To be eligible, the total family income must be $28,000 or less.

11. My financial situation changed last year, and my income is a lot less in 2015 than it was in 2014. Will I be eligible?

In special circumstances, where your total family income in 2014 was over $28,000, but will be $28,000 or less for 2015, you may be eligible.

You will be required to declare your 2015 income, and provide reasons for the decline (loss of job, retirement, etc). You must meet all other eligibility requirements to qualify, and you may be asked to provide proof of income for 2015 after you have filed your 2015 income tax return.
12. My spouse and I have recently separated, but my income for 2015 is under $28,000. Am I eligible for the program?

If you and your spouse live in two separate residences, you may be eligible for the program.

13. Besides completing the application form, is there any other documentation required?

Yes. You must provide a copy of your most recent electricity bill dated after November 1, 2015; or, if your electricity costs are included in your rent, provide the name of your landlord.

14. My spouse or common-law partner is in a nursing home. Am I eligible?

If your spouse or common-law partner lives in a nursing home, and if you meet the other eligibility requirements, you may be eligible.

15. I live with roommates who are not related to me? Are we eligible?

If you share a residence with roommates, only one of you may receive the benefit.

16. I am a student. Do I qualify for this benefit?

There are no special requirements for students. If you meet the income criteria you should qualify as long as no other occupant of that residence has applied for and received the benefit.

17. Why am I signing a declaration on the application form?

The purpose of the applicant signing the declaration is to allow the department of Finance to verify with the appropriate organizations the information you have provided. The application will not be considered complete if the declaration is not signed.

18. Can someone else sign for me?

If, for some reason, you are not able to sign on your own, someone may be designated your representative and sign on your behalf. Both you and your representative will be responsible for the information provided. You should be aware that it is an offence to make a false statement.

19. Can I apply next year?

In 2010 the program was renewed for a period of five years. You may apply for the 2016 benefit between January 4 and June 30, 2016.

20. I heat my home with wood, electricity, natural gas or propane. Am I eligible for the benefit?

Yes.
21. I am a regular monthly social assistance recipient. Am I eligible for this program?

Yes. As long as you are a New Brunswick resident and your family income is $28,000 or less, you may be eligible.

22. I live in subsidized housing. Am I eligible for this program?

Yes. As long as you are a New Brunswick resident and your family income is $28,000 or less, you may be eligible.

23. If there is more than one application from a household, how will you determine eligibility?

The first application that qualifies will receive the benefit. Only one benefit per household will be issued. The administrative system will track which households have received a benefit and alert administrators if more than one application has the same address.

24. Will this program replace the Emergency Fuel Benefit Program administered by Social Development?

No. The Emergency Fuel Benefit Program administered by Social Development is intended to help families who are in an emergency situation and are unable to afford the cost of heating. Eligibility is assessed on a case-by-case basis.

25. Where can I call for information?

You may call 1-800-669-7070 for information or to request an application form for the benefit.