

I'm not a robot



Published date14 December 2022 IssuerDepartment of Social Protection Data Classification RSocial Welfare ServicesNFS2 - O/70Application form for Fuel Allowance for people aged 70 years or overWhat is Fuel Allowance?Fuel Allowance is a means tested payment to help those in qualied households with their winter heating costs. The payment is available to those aged 70 or over who meet the qualifying conditions. Those aged 70 or over do not need to be in receipt of a social protection payment to qualify. Fuel Allowance is a seasonal payment which normally begins in late September and ends in April the following year.How do I qualify for Fuel Allowance?To get Fuel Allowance you must be:• legally and habitually resident in the State;• aged 70 years or over;• satisfy a means test;• unable to provide for the full cost of your heating needs from your household resources; and• living alone or only with other qualied persons.How do I complete this form?There are examples on the back of this page that can be used as a guide to ll in this form. Please:• write with a black ballpoint pen and use capital letters;• answer all questions and place an X in the relevant boxes; and• ll in Parts 1 to 7 as they apply to you and your household.Where do I send this form?Send this completed application form to:How can I get help and further information?If you need any help to complete this form, please contact the Fuel Allowance section by calling 0818 200 400 or 071 915 7100. You can also get help at your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Oce or any Citizens Information Centre. You can nd the name and address of your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Oce by visiting www.gov.ie/intreocentres.For more information, visit www.gov.ie/fuel.Fuel Allowance Section Department of Social ProtectionCollege Road Sligo F91 T384What do I need to complete this form?You will need to provide your Public Personal Service (PPS) Number, the PPS Number of others in your household and information about:• your and your partner's work and claim details;• any income you or your partner receive from all sources in Ireland and abroad; and• other persons living in your household. Get this document and AI-powered insights with a free trial of vLex and Vincent AI Unlock full access with a free 7-day trial Unlock full access with a free 7-day trial Unlock full access with a free 7-day trial

Unlock full access with a free 7-day trial Fuel Allowance is a payment to help with the cost of heating your home during the winter months.You can get Fuel Allowance if you are aged 66 years or over, or getting long-term social welfare payments. (Access the full list below).The current rate of payment is €33 every week from 23 September 2024 until 4 April 2025.Only one Fuel Allowance is paid to each household. If you are aged 66 years or overYou may qualify for Fuel Allowance if you are 66 years or over. You do not need to be getting a qualifying social welfare payment.To qualify you must be aged 66 or overbe legally resident in the Statepass a means testbe living alone or only with other qualified peopleQualifying paymentsYou may qualify for a Fuel Allowance if you are getting:Living situationYou may qualify for a Fuel Allowance if you live alone or only with a person aged 66 years or overa dependent adult or dependent childa person who is getting a qualifying payment but is not receiving Fuel Allowance (only one Fuel Allowance is paid to each household)a person who is getting Carer's Benefit and is caring for you or for your dependent adult or dependent childa person getting short term Jobseeker's Allowance or Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowancea person who gets half-rate Carer's Allowance as well as an increase for a dependent adultSince January 2023, half-rate Carer's Allowance and Disablement Benefit payments are not included in the Fuel Allowance means test.If you are living with a person who is aged 66 or over, it may be better for your household if they apply for Fuel Allowance. The weekly rate of payment is currently €33 during the Fuel Allowance season, which is usually from late September to April.People getting certain social welfare payments can choose to get their Fuel Allowance paid in two instalments. The first instalment sum is paid at the start of the Fuel Allowance season and the second is paid in January.How to get your payment in two instalmentsTo get your Fuel Allowance paid in two instalments, you can apply by completing the Change the Payment Frequency of Fuel Allowance Application Form (FA CPFI).You should submit the completed form at least one month before the Fuel Allowance season starts. If you submit it during the season, your payment will continue to be paid weekly until the next instalment is due.Please note the instalment option is not available on all schemes.This form is also available from:your local post officeyour local Intreo Centre Please apply before the start of the Fuel Allowance season (late September). If you apply after this, the department cannot backdate your allowance.You do not need to reapply for Fuel Allowance each year as long as your circumstances have not changed and you continue to get the same social welfare payment.If your circumstances change you should contact the department as soon as possible to make sure you can still get Fuel Allowance.Apply online check, circle Important Note The online service is not available if you are getting long-term Jobseeker's Allowance (12 months), Jobseeker's Transitional Payments, Farm Assist or One-Parent Family Payment. You can only apply through your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office. The quickest and easiest way to apply is online at MyWelfare.ie. Apply by postIf you are 66 or overIf you are aged 66 or over and want to apply by post, complete the Fuel Allowance Scheme Application Form (NFS2 - O/66) and send to the address on page eight of the application form. Application Form: Fuel Allowance for people aged 66 years or over (NFS2 - O/66) This form is for Fuel Allowance applicants who are aged 66 years or over only. If you are under 66 years of age, please use the NFS1 form. Edition: Dec 2024 If you are under the age of 66 yearsIf you are under 66 years and want to apply by post, complete the Fuel Allowance Scheme Application Form (NFS1). You can also get a form from your local post office or by phoning 0818 200 400. You should ask for the relevant form for your age. For more information on applying, you should not apply. A social welfare payment worth €924 over, please use the NFS2 form. Edition: December 2024 Where to send your Fuel Allowance application formIf applying using the paper Fuel Allowance (NFS1 or NFS2) application form you should send the completed form to the section of the department which you are getting your payment from. The relevant section addresses are listed below.If you are getting:Carer's AllowanceDeath BenefitDisability AllowanceIncapacity SupplementInvalidity PensionPlease send your completed Fuel Allowance application form and supporting documents to: If you are getting:No payment from the department and you are aged 66 years of age or olderBlind PensionDeserted Wife's Benefit or AllowanceGuardian's Payment (Contributory)Guardian's Payment (Non-contributory)Social Security Payment from a country covered by EU Regulations or a country with which Ireland has a Bilateral Social Security AgreementState Pension (Contributory or Non-contributory)Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's (Contributory) PensionWidow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's (Non-contributory) PensionPlease send your completed Fuel Allowance application form and supporting documents to: If you are getting:Farm AssistLong-term Jobseeker's Allowance (12 months)One-Parent Family Payment or Jobseeker's Transitional PaymentSend your completed Fuel Allowance application form and supporting documents to your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office.If you are getting Long-term Supplementary Welfare Allowance (12 months)Send your completed Fuel Allowance application form and supporting documents to the department's representative at your local Intreo Centre. Operational guidelines describe the processes and procedures that staff in the department follow when carrying out their work.Operational Guidelines: Fuel Allowance Scheme The online application service is not available if you are getting Jobseeker's Allowance, Jobseeker's Transitional Payment, Farm Assist or One-Parent Family Payment. You can only apply through your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office. If a member of your household is aged 66 or over, they should apply as they may qualify more easily. Only one person per household can receive this payment. If someone in your household is already receiving this payment, you should not apply. A social welfare payment worth €924 that helps with the cost of heating bills is resuming next month. The Fuel Allowance is paid from September to April every year. It is paid in either 28 weekly instalments of €33 or two lump sum payments of €462. The scheme will resume on Monday, 23 September and run for 28 weeks until 4 April 2025. Here's everything you need to know applying and who is eligible for the Fuel Allowance: Read more: Ringsend BusConnects corridor to city centre given green light Sign up to the Dublin Live Newsletter to get all the latest Dublin news straight to your inbox. Who is eligible? To get Fuel Allowance you must: Live alone Be getting a qualifying payment (unless you are 70 or over) Satisfy a means test You must also live in Ireland. You cannot get Fuel Allowance if your heating costs are provided in full as part of your accommodation. In some cases, you may not live alone to avail of the payment. You can still be eligible if you live with: A spouse, civil partner or cohabitant who qualifies for an increase on your pension or social welfare payment or a person who is getting a qualifying payment and who would be eligible for a Fuel Allowance in their own right A person aged 70 or over How to apply The Fuel Allowance season starts on September 23. If you apply for Fuel Allowance after the start of the Fuel Allowance season, it will not be backdated. You do not need to reapply for Fuel Allowance each year as long as your circumstances remain the same and you continue to get the same social welfare payment. You can apply for the Fuel Allowance online. You must have a MyGovID account to apply online. If you can't apply online, you can use a paper application form If you are aged under 70, fill in the NFS1 form to apply for fuel allowance (pdf). If you are aged 70 or over, fill in the NFS2 form to apply for fuel allowance (pdf). You can also get a form from your local post office or by phoning 0818 200 400. You should ask for the relevant form for your age. For more information on applying, you should not apply. For all the latest news from Dublin and surrounding areas visit our homepage. Join our Dublin Live breaking news service on WhatsApp. Click this link to receive your daily dose of Dublin Live content. We also treat our community members to special offers, promotions, and adverts from us and our partners. If you don't like our community, you can check out any time you like. If you're curious, you can read our Privacy Notice. What is Fuel Allowance? Fuel Allowance is a payment to help with the cost of heating your home during the winter months. It is paid to only one person in a household.The Fuel Allowance season normally begins in late September of each year and ends in April. The 2024/2025 Fuel Allowance season started on Monday, 23 September 2024. It will be paid for 28 weeks (until 4 April 2025).The current rate of Fuel Allowance is €33 per week. You can choose to get the Fuel Allowance paid every week or paid in 2 instalments (lump sums).In the 2024/2025 Fuel Allowance season, the first lump sum instalment was paid in September 2024. The second in January 2025. How to qualify for Fuel Allowance To get Fuel Allowance you must:Live alone (or only with certain people listed below)Be getting a qualifying payment (unless you are 66 or over)Satisfy a means testThese 3 conditions are explained in detail below.You must also live in Ireland. You cannot get Fuel Allowance if your heating costs are provided in full as part of your accommodation. Who can I live with? To get Fuel Allowance, you must live alone, or with:A spouse, civil partner or cohabitant who qualifies for an increase on your pension or social welfare payment, or is getting a qualifying payment in their own rightDependent childrenA person who gets Carer's Benefit, and who is caring for you or for your spouse, partner or cohabitant, or for a qualified child dependant on a full-time basisA person getting short-term Jobseeker's Allowance (less than 312 days) or basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance (less than 364 days)A person getting a qualifying payment (for example, long-term Jobseeker's Allowance) and who would be eligible for a Fuel Allowance in their own rightA person aged 66 or overA person renting a room from you, where this doesn't affect your entitlement to Fuel AllowanceA person you provide accommodation to in your own home, and for whom you get the Accommodation Recognition PaymentSee 'Renting a room in your home' below for more information.If more than one person in a household qualifiesOnly one Fuel Allowance payment is paid to a household.If more than one person in the household is getting a social assistance payment, you can decide who applies for Fuel Allowance.If someone in the household is getting a qualifying social insurance payment, such as State Pension (Contributory) or Invalidity Pension, they should apply first (so a means test can be carried out on their income). Another qualifying person in the household can also apply for Fuel Allowance, but they must include information about the person getting a social insurance payment.If someone in the household is 66 or over, they should apply. Qualifying social welfare payments and pensions If you are 66 or over, you don't need to be getting a qualifying social welfare payment to get Fuel Allowance. However, you must satisfy a means test.Social welfare payments are either based on your PRSI contributions (social insurance payments) or means-tested social assistance payments.Qualifying social insurance paymentsSocial assistance paymentsSupplementary Welfare AllowanceYou can qualify if you have been getting Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance for more than a year (this is 364 days over 12 months - it is paid on a 7-day week basis so 12 months' payment is reached after day 364).Jobseeker's AllowanceYou qualify if you have been getting Jobseeker's Allowance for more than 312 days (over 12 months - it is paid on a 6-day week basis so 12 months' payment is reached after day 312). Days on Jobseeker's Benefit (JB) and Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) can count towards the 312 days, if your JB or PUP was immediately before your JA claim.You can keep your Fuel Allowance if you move to Jobseeker's Allowance from One Parent Family Payment, Carer's Allowance or Jobseeker's Transitional payment.Spouse, civil partner or cohabitant on a CE schemeIf you are getting Jobseeker's Allowance, and your spouse, civil partner or cohabitant is on a Community Employment (CE) scheme, they can be considered as a qualified adult on your payment if you apply for Fuel Allowance.Employment or education support schemesYou can keep your Fuel Allowance if you were getting it before you started any of the following schemes:CE, RSS and TúsYou can apply for Fuel Allowance at any point when you are on CE, RSS or Tús if you meet all the relevant qualifying conditions for Fuel Allowance. If you were getting a long-term qualifying payment before starting CE, RSS or Tús, you satisfy the qualifying payment requirement.For the 2024/2025 Fuel Allowance season, time spent on CE, Tús and RSS can be used to meet the minimum number of days on a qualifying payment for Fuel Allowance.Half-rate paymentsYou do not qualify for Fuel Allowance if you are getting a half-rate payment in addition to a qualifying payment. This does not apply to half-rate Carer's Allowance. How your income is assessed for Fuel Allowance Fuel Allowance can be paid directly into your account in a financial institution or you can collect it from your local post office.Lump sum paymentsIn 2024/2025, the total Fuel Allowance payment over 28 weeks is €924.It can be paid to you in 2 instalments (lump sums) - September 2024 and January 2025.To change how your Fuel Allowance is paid, fill in the Change the Payment Frequency form at least one month before the first instalment is due.This instalment option is not available to people getting payments under the Rural Social Scheme, Tús, Gateway, Community Employment or Supplementary Welfare Allowance.Telephone Support AllowanceIf you are getting Fuel Allowance as well as the Living Alone Increase, you will also get a Telephone Support Allowance of €2.50 per week. This is paid automatically with your main social welfare payment, so you do not have to apply for it. How to apply for Fuel Allowance If you apply for Fuel Allowance after the start of the Fuel Allowance season, it will not be backdated.You do not need to reapply for Fuel Allowance each year as long as, your circumstances remain the same and you continue to get the same social welfare payment.Online applicationYou can apply for the Fuel Allowance online. You must have a MyGovID account to apply online.If you can't apply online, you can use a paper application formIf you are aged under 66, fill in the NFS1 form to apply for fuel allowance.If you are aged 66 or over, fill in the NFS2 form to apply for fuel allowance.You can also get a form from your local post office or by phoning 0818 200 400. You should ask for the relevant form for your age.You can get help to fill in your application form at your Intreo Centre, Social Welfare Branch Office or Citizens Information Centre. Where to send your form If you can't apply online, you can use a paper form. Where you send your form depends on the type of social welfare payment you get.If you get:Send your application to: If you get:Send your form to: If you get:Send your completed form to your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office. If you get long-term Supplementary Welfare Allowance (12 months), send your form to your local Community Welfare Officer at your local office. If you:Do not get a social welfare payment and you are 66 or older, orGet a pension or benefit from another EU country or from a country that Ireland has a bilateral social security agreement withSend your form to: Page edited: 8 January 2025 With energy prices surging, interest in the Government's fuel allowance scheme is rising. Photograph: istock With energy prices surging, it was no surprise that the Government's fuel allowance was of interest to a lot of readers as they digested Budget 2022. The allowance jumped €5 in the budget to €33 a week. And unlike the other welfare increases announced, it will kick in immediately, not in January 2022. But how does it work and who qualifies?What is the fuel allowance?The fuel allowance is a weekly payment made to help defray winter heating bills for older people or those on limited financial means. It is paid for 28 weeks, or just over half the year. This autumn, the payment kicked in on September 27th and will run to April 10th, 2022. At the new €33 rate, that's €924 in financial support to ease the pressure from heating bills. The allowance is paid either weekly, or in two lump sums - one in September and the other in January.Why is it so topical this year?Energy prices have jumped close to 50 per cent this year and, with large heating bills looming over the next few months, many people are understandably concerned as to how they will meet the cost, or whether they will be forced to sit in the cold or, worse still, be disconnected for non-payment.What changes were made in Budget 2022?Three changes were brought in, two of which were designed to widen the scope of the scheme so that it covers more vulnerable people.First up, the payment was increased by €5 in line with increases in other welfare payments. However, given the size of the payment, that is an inflation busting increase of almost 18 per cent - far higher than for any other welfare payment.And, recognising that those higher energy prices are already feeding through to most people's bills, the increase comes into effect immediately where you will have to wait until January for other welfare payment increases.I get paid via lump sum. Will I lose out on part of this increase?No, you won't. The Department of Social Protection assures me that it will be paying arrears to those who are being paid by lump sum. Quite when is not yet clear. The arrears will cover the period from the Wednesday after Budget Day to the date in January when the second lump sum becomes payable.You mentioned broadening the base of those eligible for the allowance?The other two budget measures do that. First up, the means-tested amount you can earn over and above welfare payments has been increased by 20 per cent to €120 a week. However, this measure will only kick in in January so, if you are looking for the allowance this autumn, the income threshold is still €100. We'll come back to this in a minute.Separately, people in receipt of jobseeker's allowance or supplementary welfare may qualify for fuel allowance after 12 months, instead of 15 at present. But this will only really benefit people next winter as it does not come into force until next September. So who's eligible for it then?There are three criteria. First, you must be living alone in Ireland, or living with someone (see below). Second you must be in receipt of certain specific welfare payments. And third, you must meet an income test.So let's take those in order. You can live with someone else in specific circumstances?Yes, but that other person needs to be either your dependent spouse or partner and/or dependent children. A person in receipt of the carer's allowance who is looking after you or a dependent spouse/partner on a full-time basis is also okay, as is someone in receipt of the pandemic unemployment payment (PUP), short-term jobseeker's allowance or a basic supplementary welfare allowance. Finally, if you are living with someone who would qualify for the fuel allowance in their own right, that's also fine. But, bear in mind, a household can only receive one fuel allowance.And what welfare payments qualify you?Qualifying social insurance payments are the contributory State pension, the widow(er)'s or surviving civil partner's pension or an equivalent pension from another EU state, the invalidity pension, the blind pension, the contributory guardian's payment, or death benefit under the occupational injuries scheme or incapacity supplement under the occupational injuries benefit scheme.You can also qualify if you are on any of the following means-tested social assistance payments: a non-contributory State pension or widow(er)/surviving civil partner's pension, disability allowance, deserted wife's benefit or allowance; the one-parent family payment; the non-contributory guardian's payment, the farm assist programme, the basic supplementary welfare or jobseeker's allowance (both after a certain period), the jobseeker's transitional payment and, in certain circumstance, the back to work allowance, back to work enterprise allowance, the rural social scheme, Tús or community employment.Which brings us to the means test?If you're already on a means-tested payment, you are likely to be nodded through. Otherwise, to qualify, your income is limited to the maximum State pension payment (currently €248.30, but rising to €253.30 in January) including any increases that you might get for your age, living alone and dependants, plus €100 (rising to €120 in January).And what is assessed in the means test?First, there's the household income, though certain things are excluded, including PUP payment, child benefit, compensation payments from the Stardust, Magdalene or Hepatitis C commissions, State payments for guardians or foster parents and a number of means-tested welfare payments.They also look at any savings, investment or property you own, apart from your home. The first €20,000 of these assets are ignored, the next €10,000 is assessed as delivering €1 of income per week per €1,000. This rises to €2 per €1,000 on assets between €30,000 and €40,000, and to €4 a week for every €1,000 of assets above €40,000.Generally, all the assets in a joint account will be used in the assessment of your means even if you effective own only some of that money.How do I apply?You'll find a fuel allowance application form (form NFS1) at gov.ie. That page will also tell you where to send the form - helpfully that differs depending on the welfare payment you're in receipt of.And do I have to reapply each year?No. Unless your circumstances change, if you are approved for the payment, you will continue to receive it in successive years.Join The Irish Times on WhatsApp and stay up to dateFind managing your money a struggle? The Better with Money podcast will guide you on how to control your financesGet the On the Money newsletter for insights on saving money and smart spending decisions This form is used to apply for the Fuel Allowance under the National Fuel Scheme. Application Form: Fuel Allowance under the National Fuel Scheme (NFS1) This form is for Fuel Allowance applicants who are under 66 years of age only. If you are aged 66 or over, please use the NFS2 form. Edition: December 2024