

**Ontario Energy
Board**

P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street
27th Floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4
Telephone: 416-481-1967
Facsimile: 416-440-7656
Toll free: 1-888-632-6273

**Commission de l'énergie
de l'Ontario**

C.P. 2319
2300, rue Yonge
27^e étage
Toronto ON M4P 1E4
Téléphone: 416-481-1967
Télécopieur: 416-440-7656
Numéro sans frais: 1-888-632-6273



BY EMAIL

April 25, 2017

To: All Unit Sub-Meter Providers

**Re: Ontario Electricity Support Program – Credit Amounts
Effective May 1, 2017 - OEB File No. EB-2016-0376**

The Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP), introduced in 2016, is a program that delivers on-bill rate assistance to low-income electricity customers.

Recently, amendments were made to [O. Reg. 314/15](#) (Ontario Electricity Support Program) under the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the Act), effective May 1, 2017. The revised regulation increases the OESP credits available to eligible households by 50%. In addition, the revised regulation expands the eligibility for the program by adding new classes of eligible households. On April 25, 2017, the OEB issued an order to distributors requiring them to apply the revised credit amounts established by the regulation.

Under section 5.2 of the Unit Sub-Metering Code, unit sub-meter providers (USMPs) are required to provide their eligible customers with the same OESP credits that apply to distributors. The OEB intends to revise section 5.2 shortly to reflect the new credit amounts and classes of eligible households. As an interim measure, the OEB is issuing this letter to ensure USMPs provide their eligible customers with the new OESP credits, beginning May 1, 2017.

Pursuant to subsection 79.2(11) of the Act, the OEB has determined that, effective May 1, 2017, as a condition of each USMP's unit sub-metering licence, each USMP is required to provide the same OESP credits to eligible residential customers in its

service area as it would have to apply if it were a rate-regulated distributor.¹ The OEB has made this determination without a hearing, in accordance with subsection 70(1.1) of the Act.

For greater clarity, the classes of eligible customers and the OESP credit amounts are the same as those set out in O. Reg. 314/15 (as amended by O. Reg. 108/17) and reflected in the OEB's order to distributors dated April 25, 2017, except that references in the amended regulation to an "account-holder" shall be read as "a consumer who has an account with a unit sub-meter provider for electricity service at a residential dwelling, and who lives at the dwelling for at least six months in a year."²

The revised OESP credits are shown in the tables below.

Table 1: Sliding Scale for Typical Customer

Household Income (\$)	Household Size (# of People)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
28,000 OR LESS	\$45	\$45	\$51	\$57	\$63	\$75	\$75
28,001 – 39,000		\$40	\$45	\$51	\$57	\$63	\$75
39,001 – 48,000			\$35	\$40	\$45	\$51	\$57
48,001 – 52,000					\$35	\$40	\$45

¹ Subsection 79.2(11) of the Act stipulates that every licence issued to a USMP is "deemed to contain conditions requiring the licensee to do anything necessary to implement and administer the provision of rate assistance [under the OESP] as may be required by the Board".

² The regulation defines "account-holder" as "a consumer who has an account with a distributor that falls within a residential-rate classification as specified in a rate order made by the Board under section 78 of the Act, and who lives at the service address to which the account relates for at least six months in a year."

Table 2: Sliding Scale for Energy Intensive Customers*

Household Income (\$)	Household Size (# of People)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
28,000 OR LESS	\$68	\$68	\$75	\$83	\$90	\$113	\$113
28,001 – 39,000		\$60	\$68	\$75	\$83	\$90	\$113
39,001 – 48,000			\$52	\$60	\$68	\$75	\$83
48,001 – 52,000					\$52	\$60	\$68

**Applicable to households that are reliant on electric heat or electricity-intensive medical devices, as well as Indigenous households.*

Thank you for your continued co-operation in delivering this important program for low-income consumers. Any questions relating to this letter should be directed to industryrelations@oeb.ca.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary