

# Winter fuel grant Application form 2015

## Important information

- **Please read carefully** and complete all sections and enclose supporting documents. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- **Applicants are also required to complete the survey**
- **Large print versions** of this application form are available on request.
- **The Trustees reserve the right** to make appropriate enquiries to verify the information provided.
- **Only ONE application per household** will be considered and the maximum grant is £40. Cheques will be made payable to the applicant.
- **There is a limited amount in the winter fuel grants fund** and once exhausted no further awards can be made. Priority will be given to those who have not previously applied.
- **Your application must be received no later than 13 February 2015.** Applications will then be processed and decisions communicated over the following few weeks.

## Personal details

Name Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone no. \_\_\_\_\_

UNISON Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Membership No\* \_\_\_\_\_

Date joined UNISON\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*You can contact UNISON Direct on 0800 0857 857 if you do not have this information

\*\*You must have paid at least four weeks subscriptions before 8 December 2014 to be eligible for consideration.

## Members of household and their income

### Tick all appropriate

Do you have a partner? Yes  No

If yes, are they employed  in receipt of benefits

### Number of people in the household:

Working adults  Non-working adults

Children in education and under 19  and non-dependent children aged 19 or over

## Members of household and their income

Please include all sources of income (net salaries – after deduction of tax, national insurance, superannuation and trade union subscriptions only) received by all members of the household. Do not include Child Benefit, Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments which are ignored as income for this grants programme.

## Am I eligible for a winter fuel grant?

**Please confirm that the following apply to you (and your partner if applicable):**

**Tick all that are appropriate**

- I/We do not have savings in excess of £800 (this includes a rolling balance in your bank account).
- No one in my household has received a grant from UNISON There for you in the last six months
- Household net income (excluding Child Benefit, Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP)) is less than £18,000 pa.

**You will not be eligible for a grant if your household NET income is greater than £18,000**

**Now provide the following information**

a) Your monthly net income (including benefits, tax credits, charitable payments, etc but excluding Child Benefit, DLA or PIP)

Partner monthly net income (if applicable)

**Total per month**

b) Now multiply your total monthly income by 12

**Total annual income**

*If the total amount received is more than £18,000 you will not be eligible for this scheme.*

## Declaration

I confirm that the information I have given truly reflects my current financial position. I understand that failure to provide the required supporting documentation will mean my application cannot be considered.

### I have enclosed the following documents

(Please tick all that apply and submit copies of originals as we cannot return any paperwork)

- Last month's full bank statement(s), including all accounts that your partner holds, showing confirmation of all income received (please highlight) and outgoings
- Latest payslip for you (and partner if applicable)
- Separate confirmation of any income that is not shown on the bank statement

**IMPORTANT: YOUR APPLICATION CANNOT BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT ALL THESE DOCUMENTS AND YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU IF ANY PAPERWORK IS MISSING.**

Signed

Date

## Data Protection

All personal information will be held in confidence by There for You for the purposes of assessing this application, in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998. A full copy of the data protection policy of the organisation is available on request.

**Please return your application form to:**

**There for You, UNISON Centre, 130 Euston Road, London NW1 2AY which must be received by 13 February 2015 at the very latest.**

# Help us to campaign against fuel poverty

All applicants are required to complete the following short survey as data collected will be used to help UNISON with future campaigns.

**Please tick all that apply.**

## What has been the impact on you and your family as a result of increasing fuel prices?

### 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
  - None of the above
  - Other – include
- 

### 2. If none of the above, have you had to cut back on any of the following to ensure you can keep warm:

- Food
  - Socialising
  - Clothing
  - Other – anything else you've had to cut back on
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### 3. Is the health of any person in your household severely affected by your home being cold?

Yes  No

If yes, how?

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

- Disability Living Allowance (DLA) / Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
  - Carers allowance
  - OR a means tested benefit?
  - Housing benefit
  - Council tax support
  - Income support
  - Employment support allowance
  - Other – please indicate
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## Paying your bills

### 5. Fuel Poverty is described as anyone who pays 10% or more of their income on fuel costs. How much would you say as a % of your income you spend on fuel?

- Less than 5%
- Between 5-10%
- 10-15%
- More than 15%

### 6. Are you currently in arrears with any of the following?

- Gas  Electricity  Water rates  Oil

If yes, by how much:

- Less than £100  £200-£300  £300-£400
- £400-£500  £100-£200  £500-£600
- more than £600

### 7. Have you reached an agreement with your supplier to repay these arrears?

Yes  No

### 8. Have you had to borrow money to pay for fuel bills in the last 12 months?

Yes  No

### 9. If yes – who / where did you borrow the money from? Please tick all that apply

- Payday loan  Friends  Credit union
- Bank  Parents  Credit cards  Other

### 10. Have you had to borrow money to buy food?

Yes  No

### 11. Have you had to use a food bank?

Yes  No

## 12. Debts

- a) Have you any other debts? Yes  No
- b) Are you concerned about keeping up with payments? Yes  No
- c) Have you been chased for repayment by any of your creditors in the last 12 months? Yes  No
- d) Did you know that UNISON offers a confidential debt advice service for members and their family that is completely free? Yes  No

## 13. How do you pay your fuel bill?

- Direct debit
- As and when a bill is received
- Prepayment meter
- Smart card

## Energy efficiency and help with fuel costs

### 14. Have you ever switched gas or electricity supplier and how long ago was this?

- Never switched
- In the last year
- Over a year ago

### 15. If you have never tried switching or gave up why was this?

- Too much hassle
- Comparing prices on inaccurate information e.g. bills are based on estimated usage which has little bearing on actual usage
- Don't know how to switch
- Debt to utility company prevented switching

### 16. Have you made the savings you expected from switching supplier and/or tariff?

- Yes
- No prices stayed about the same
- No, prices increased.

### 17. If you have any other concerns now that we are in winter please give details below:

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### 18. And finally, please tell us if you are employed on any of the following forms of contract:

- Temporary  Part-Time  Agency
- Zero hours  Casual  Self-employed
- Other (please specify)

### 19. We work in Partnership with credit unions would you be interested in receiving information regarding the range of services offered by your credit union?

Yes  No

*Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions, your contribution is very much appreciated*