

# Fuel Allowance for Over-66s

Fuel Allowance is a payment to help with the cost of heating your home during the colder months.

It is worth **€924 a year per household** which you can get in two lump sum payments of €462 or €33 a week for 28 weeks between September and April.

There have been big changes to how you qualify for over-66s. As a result, 85,000 more older people now qualify for Fuel Allowance.

## IT COULD BE YOU! (or someone you know)

### NEW Qualifying Rules

People aged 66 or over no longer need to be getting a weekly social welfare payment to qualify for Fuel Allowance. **This opens it up to Class D PRSI civil and public servants.**

### NEW Maximum Weekly Income Limits

Single people over 66 are now able to have an income of up to €524 a week (before tax) to qualify.

Couples are able to have a combined gross income up to €1,048 a week.

This includes the State pension.

### NEW Savings Limits

The amount of savings and investments that are not counted in the means test has more than doubled for people aged 66 and over.

The first €50,000 is now not counted. Your local Citizens Information Centre can help explain the savings/capital means test assessment rules.

### Household Rules (no change)

To qualify for Fuel Allowance you must be living alone **or** only living with a:

- spouse, civil partner or cohabitant and/or dependent child.
- person getting Carer's Allowance or Carer's Benefit and is caring for you or your spouse or partner on a full-time basis.
- person getting Jobseeker's Allowance.
- other people who would be entitled for a Fuel Allowance in their own right.



### Lower Energy Bills

People who get Fuel Allowance are eligible for free energy efficiency improvements up to €30,000 on their family home if it was built before 2006.

This government-funded scheme from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) will get you a warmer home and lower energy bills.

An SEAI surveyor will visit your home and recommend the upgrades needed based on its age, size and your heating system. The SEAI will hire a contractor to carry out the work.

Over-66s receiving Fuel Allowance are the main beneficiaries of this scheme.

### More Information

You can find out more about the Fuel Allowance payment at

[www.gov.ie/fuel](http://www.gov.ie/fuel)

and the fully-funded SEAI energy upgrades to homeowners at

[www.seai.ie/grants/home-energy-grants/fully-funded-upgrades-for-eligible-homes](http://www.seai.ie/grants/home-energy-grants/fully-funded-upgrades-for-eligible-homes)



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