



Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association

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APICDA Board Puts Fisheries Earnings to Work Helping Residents Heat Their Homes

Eligible CDQ households will receive credits for 200 gallons of heating fuel this winter.

Juneau, Alaska — The Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA) will launch an Energy Relief Grant Pilot Program in December 2026 to help households in its six Community Development Quota (CDQ) member communities of Akutan, Atka, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, and St. George pay for heating fuel.

The cost of keeping a home warm can be one of the largest household expenses in rural Alaska, particularly in remote communities where fuel must be transported long distances and energy costs can be substantially higher than in urban areas. With winter approaching and heating fuel prices reaching more than \$10 per gallon in some communities in the region, the APICDA Board is directing a portion of the organization's fisheries earnings toward immediate energy relief for families.

APICDA will launch its Energy Relief Grant Pilot Program in December 2026, providing eligible households in its six CDQ member communities with a credit for 200 gallons of heating fuel. The program is intended to help offset a significant winter household expense while reflecting APICDA's broader strategy of putting fisheries earnings to work for the people and communities the organization serves.

The program is part of a broader approach to managing APICDA's fisheries earnings, responding to pressing community needs when they arise while continuing to invest in education, employment, infrastructure, economic development, and the long-term sustainability of its communities.

"Like other Alaskans, families in our communities are feeling the strain of rising costs. But in our remote communities, the cost of heating a home can be particularly difficult to manage because of the high cost of delivering fuel and the limited options families have for reducing that expense," said Mark Snigaroff, APICDA Board Chair. "The board approved this program to help families this winter. As a board, we are responsible for managing APICDA's fisheries earnings carefully. That may mean addressing immediate needs like heating fuel, providing funds for long-term economic development projects, and keeping resources available for expenses we can't always anticipate. Healthy, sustainably managed federal fisheries makes this work possible."

The Energy Relief Grant is designed as a pilot program, allowing APICDA to provide immediate assistance this winter while learning from the experience and evaluating how this type of support can best fit within the organization's broader community investment strategy.

Fisheries earnings and investments support the Energy Relief Grant and 30 other APICDA programs, including scholarships, job training, and community infrastructure projects. These earnings come from APICDA's participation in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands fisheries through the CDQ program. Through these investments, APICDA works to turn access to fisheries resources into lasting economic and community benefits for residents of its member communities.

APICDA will pay local fuel providers directly, with credits placed on eligible household accounts beginning in December 2026. There is no application process.

Residents with questions can contact their local Community Liaison Officer or APICDA at programs@apicda.com or (907) 929-5273.

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APICDA is a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening local fisheries-based economies, supporting infrastructure, and offering programs that address community-identified priorities in its six member communities in Alaska's Aleutian-Pribilof region. APICDA is one of six western Alaska CDQ organizations whose purpose is to provide eligible communities with opportunities to participate in Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands fisheries, alleviate poverty, and provide economic and social benefits for residents.