



Autorità per l'energia
elettrica e il gas



Ministero dello
Sviluppo Economico



Electricity: the *bonus* arrives, offering relief for 5 million families

***The deadline for the reimbursement retroactive to 2008 has been extended until
April 30***

The procedures for benefiting from the Electricity Bonus, a support measure worth 400 million euro, introduced by the Ministry of Economic Development and defined by the Regulatory Authority for Electricity and Gas of Italy, have become operative. The bonus will enable low-income families, large families, and sick people who use electromedical equipment to obtain a discount on their electricity bills amounting to between 60 and 150 euro a year, and retroactively valid from January 2008.

More than 5,600 municipalities, have already activated the necessary electronic procedures to manage the requests. The applications for the *Electricity Bonus* must, in fact, be submitted to the proper offices of the town hall.

The deadline to obtaining the 2008 retroactive bonus has been extended to 30 April 2009. Any applications received after that date will not be eligible for the bonus, but will in any case be eligible for the benefits for the following 12 months. These informations came out during the press conference held today at the Ministry of Economic Development, which also introduced the communication initiatives connected with the bonus, and which will involve the State Railways and Italian Post Office.

“The Electricity Bonus is a concrete measure for millions of families,” stated the Minister of Economic Development Claudio Scajola. “400 million euro of income added to the Government’s other economic actions for families. By the end of the summer we will also launch the Gas Bonus, worth another 400 million euro. The Government cooperated with Municipalities and large service companies to implement the Electricity Bonus, which is an example of country’s ability to work toward a shared goal. With measures such as the Electricity Bonus, Gas Bonus, Tax Bonus, Purchase Card, incentives for the demand for eco-friendly goods, and considerable newfunding for welfare, we are building a defence against the crisis and we are encouraging consumption to remain stable.”

“We have developed a system of solidarity, among all electricity consumers, capable to help families in need without weighing on other families and on businesses,” the President of the Regulatory Authority Alessandro Ortis stated. “The Authority has defined the necessary operational arrangements, seeking to simplify the procedures as much as possible. The bonus is adaptable to the family situations of the beneficiaries, and the mechanism gives the opportunity for free choice among the market offers and the interest in a more rational use of energy.”

The Electrical Bonus in detail

Those eligible for the bonus are all domestic consumers with an electricity supply contract solely for their place of residence, with a committed power capacity of up to **3 kW** (for a number of 1 to 4 family members at the same residence) or up to **4.5 kW** (for a number of more than 4 family members at the same residence):

- belonging to a household with an **ISEE indicator** (*) **no higher than 7,500 euro**, for a single supply per household, in the place of residence, with a committed power capacity of up to 3 kW (for a number of up to 4 family members at the same residence) or up to 4.5 (for a number of more than 4 family members at the same residence);
- consumers of a household where there is a **seriously ill person who requires electromedical life support machines**, without residence or committed power capacity limitations;
- **large families with 4 or more dependent children and an ISEE no higher than 20,000 euro**, for a single supply per household, in the place of residence, with a committed power capacity of up to 4.5 kW.

(*) *The ISEE is the “equivalent economic situation” indicator, a means for measuring the economic condition of families, taking into account the income, personal and real estate assets, and number of dependent family members. It is already widely used for access to other services of a social nature, especially at the local level. Merely by way of example: a single-income household made up of a father, mother, and two children, renting their home and without any other assets or property, falls within the ISEE threshold of 7.500 with an annual gross income of up to around 23,400 euro; a family made up of a father, mother, and five dependent children, with an annual rent of 10,000 euro and personal assets worth 15,000, falls within the ISEE threshold of 20,000 with an annual gross income of up to 75,000 euro.*

(**) *All the facilities are recognized as elements to be deducted from the electricity bills, spread over the bills of one year. On each single bill, the deduction allowed is proportional to the consumption for the specific period.*

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