



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

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WEATHERIZATION – DHS PERSPECTIVE

What does the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services do with Weatherization?

Pennsylvania's State Legislature includes language in every year's General Appropriations bill that requires DHS to allocate 15 percent of LIHEAP funds received to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

The bill specifies that the 15 percent applies to the regular LIHEAP funding and any additional funding that the Federal Legislature may provide.

WEATHERIZATION – DHS PERSPECTIVE

Keys to Successful Partnership

- Open communication
- Monthly calls
- WIPFLI monitoring
- LIHEAP Advisory Committee (LAC)
- Weatherization Assistance Program Policy Advisory Committee (WAP PAC)
- County Assistance Offices (CAOs) perform referrals to Weatherization agencies.
- DCED helps facilitate all necessary federal reporting.

WAP PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Pennsylvania's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) increases energy efficiency in homes by reducing energy costs and increasing comfort while safeguarding health and safety. The program is intended to reduce energy consumption and reduce the impact of higher fuel costs on low-income families.

Programs:

- DOE Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
- DOE Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) WAP
- DOE WAP Readiness Program
- LIHEAP Weatherization (LIHEAP Standard)



WAP SERVICES



**Mechanical
Measures**



**Building Shell
Measures**



**Electric and
Water Measures**



**Health and
Safety Measures**



**Client Education
Activities**

PA WAP NETWORK



33 SUBGRANTEES

provide services to all 67 counties

Includes Community Action Agencies, Local Governments and Redevelopment & Housing Authorities, and private non profits

One additional subgrantee who only provides LIHEAP Crisis Assistance and Pilot Program Services

LIHEAP PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Additional weatherization funding is received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the PA Department of Human Services (DHS) as part of their Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Programs:

- LIHEAP Weatherization Assistance Program
- LIHEAP Crisis Interface Program
- LIHEAP Deferral Program
- LIHEAP Pilot Clean and Tune Program
- LIHEAP Pilot Crisis Cooling Program



WAP & LIHEAP IMPACT



Approximately
2,000 households
weatherized annually
with typical funding

Approximately
10,000 households
receive LIHEAP services
annually (includes
emergency heating
system, clean and tune,
deferral, cooling)

Over
13,000 households
to be weatherized with
DOE BIL funds (over
the life of the grant)

WAP & LIHEAP ELIGIBILITY

DOE, LIHEAP Standard and Deferral Programs

- Low-income individuals (at or below 200% of the federal poverty level), with priority given to higher risk residents such as the elderly, disabled individuals, families with children and high energy users
- Categorical eligibility through TANF, SSI (Titles 4 and 16), LIHEAP, or other HUD means-tested programs

LIHEAP Crisis Interface Program

- Referrals from PA Department of Human Services (DHS)

Other LIHEAP Programs

- Based on LIHEAP eligibility within the past 12 months



LIHEAP WAP PROGRAM



The PA Department of Human Services (DHS) transfers 15% of their LIHEAP funds to the PA Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) to administer LIHEAP Weatherization Assistance Programs. These annual funds average over \$30 million.

Approximately **750 households** are weatherized annually through the LIHEAP WAP standard program.

LIHEAP CRISIS INTERFACE PROGRAM

- Crisis services include emergency services such as the repair or replacement of heating systems, fuel lines, and provision of auxiliary heat and pipe-thawing
- Referrals for no-heat situations are received through the PA Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Average of **8,000 households** have received crisis services annually



LIHEAP DEFERRAL PROGRAM



- Homes must be deferred for structural or health-related reasons
- Deferral work must allow WAP work to be completed
- Deferral work must be completed in first year
- WAP work must be completed in the second year
- Since the program's inception in 2017-2018, over **700 households** have been weatherized after receiving LIHEAP deferral work

LIHEAP DEFERRAL STATISTICS

	Deferral PY 19/20	Deferral PY 20/21	Deferral PY 21/22	Deferral PY 22/23	Deferral PY 23/24
# of Agencies Participated	13	8	12	8	8
Amount Allocated	\$1,100,942	\$261,723	\$1,082,538	\$863,814	\$688,205
Deferral Jobs Projected	208	53	202	159	93
Deferral Jobs Completed	186	46	202	138	87
Wx Jobs Completed	173	45	200	130	TBD

LIHEAP CLEAN AND TUNE PROGRAM

This program was created for LIHEAP Crisis to help clients maintain their new or repaired heating systems and decrease the number of return customers. Since the program's inception in 2020-2021, over **6,000 households** have received services.

- Clean burners, combustion chamber, and heat exchanger surface when accessible
- Clean duct work
- Clean and inspect burner orifices and ignition system
- Check for proper venting and for adequate combustion air (per code)
- Check and test safety controls
- Inspect filter, replace standard 1" and 2" filters and/or clean washable filters - can provide extra filters as an optional service
- Run equipment through complete sequence of operation and adjust, as necessary
- Clean and inspect chimneys
- Replace thermostats with programmable option



LIHEAP PILOT COOLING PROGRAM



This program was created to provide LIHEAP or WAP recipients with comfortable and efficient cooling in their homes. Since program's inception in 2021-2022, over **3,000 households** have received assistance.

- Provide up to two energy efficient fans
- Provide Energy Star rated window or through the wall air conditioner with cover(s) for household with no air conditioner or existing air conditioner that is inefficient or inoperable
- Repair or replace a central air-cooling system or heat pump
- Install or repair thermostat

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