

DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)

Program Name: Low Income Home Energy Assistance

Grantee Name: HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF

Report Name: DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)

Report Period: 10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024


Report Status: Submission Accepted by CO

Report Sections

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Mandatory Grant Application SF-424

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES		August 1987, revised 05/92,02/95,03/96,12/98,11/01 OMB Clearance No.: 0970-0075 Expiration Date: 12/31/2024	
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN SF - 424 - MANDATORY			
* 1.a. Type of Submission: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Plan	* 1.b. Frequency: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Annual	* 1.c. Consolidated Application/ Plan/Funding Request? Explanation:	* 1.d. Version: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Initial <input type="radio"/> Resubmission <input type="radio"/> Revision <input type="radio"/> Update
		2. Date Received:	State Use Only:
		3. Applicant Identifier:	
		4a. Federal Entity Identifier:	5. Date Received By State:
		4b. Federal Award Identifier:	6. State Application Identifier:
7. APPLICANT INFORMATION			
* a. Legal Name: State of Delaware			
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 1516000279B5		* c. Organizational DUNS: 134776967	
* d. Address:			
* Street 1:	DIVISION OF STATE SERVICE CENTERS	* Street 2:	1901 N. DUPONT HIGHWAY, CD BLDG.
* City:	NEW CASTLE	* County:	Delaware
* State:	DE	* Province:	
* Country:	United States	* Zip / Postal Code:	19720 -
e. Organizational Unit:			
Department Name: Department of Health and Social Services		Division Name: Division of State Service Centers	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:			
Prefix:	* First Name: Haly	Middle Name:	* Last Name: Laasme McQuilkin
Suffix:	Title: DE Energy Assistance Director	Organizational Affiliation: State of Delaware	
* Telephone Number: 3022559744	* Fax Number: 3022554463	* Email: Haly.Laasme-McQuilkin@delaware.gov	
* 8a. TYPE OF APPLICANT:			
A: State Government			
b. Additional Description:			
Department of Health and Social Services/ Division of State Service Centers/ Office of Community Services			
* 9. Name of Federal Agency:			
		Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	CFDA Title:
10. CFDA Numbers and Titles		93.568	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
11. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project			
Delaware Energy Assistance Program			
12. Areas Affected by Funding:			
State of Delaware			
13. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:			
* a. Applicant 00		b. Program/Project: Statewide	
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.			
14. FUNDING PERIOD:		15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:	

a. Start Date: 10/01/2023	b. End Date: 09/30/2028	* a. Federal (\$): \$0	b. Match (\$): \$0
* 16. IS SUBMISSION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?			
a. This submission was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372			
Process for Review on :			
b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by State for review.			
c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.			
* 17. Is The Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt?			
<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO			
Explanation:			
18. By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001) **I Agree <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.			
18a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Renee Beaman, Director		18c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)	
		18d. Email Address renee.beaman@delaware.gov	
18b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official 		18e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 08/30/2023	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.			

Section 1 - Program Components

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92,02/95,03/96,12/98,11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-0075
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN SF - 424 - MANDATORY

Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Community Services
Washington, DC 20201

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Approval No. 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 12/31/2023

THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) Use of this model plan is optional. However, the information requested is required in order to receive a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grant in years in which the grantee is not permitted to file an abbreviated plan. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Section 1 Program Components

Program Components, 2605(a), 2605(b)(1) - Assurance 1, 2605(c)(1)(C)

1.1 Check which components you will operate under the LIHEAP program. (Note: You must provide information for each component designated here as requested elsewhere in this plan.)	Dates of Operation	
	Start Date	End Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heating assistance	10/01/2023	04/30/2024
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooling assistance	05/01/2024	08/31/2024
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crisis assistance	10/01/2023	09/30/2024
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weatherization assistance	10/01/2023	09/30/2024

Provide further explanation for the dates of operation, if necessary

Heating assistance application process is 1 August - 31 March, Cooling (Air Conditioning) assistance application process is 1 April - 15 August. Crisis assistance application process is ongoing but dependent on the weather conditions. However, the weather criteria will be waived for the program year 2024.

Estimated Funding Allocation, 2604(C), 2605(k)(1), 2605(b)(9), 2605(b)(16) - Assurances 9 and 16

1.2 Estimate what amount of available LIHEAP funds will be used for each component that you will operate: The total of all percentages must add up to 100%.	Percentage (%)
Heating assistance	37.60%
Cooling assistance	20.00%
Crisis assistance	20.00%
Weatherization assistance	10.00%
Carryover to the following federal fiscal year	3.00%
Administrative and planning costs	7.00%
Services to reduce home energy needs including needs assessment (Assurance 16)	2.40%
Used to develop and implement leveraging activities	0.00%
TOTAL	100.00%

Alternate Use of Crisis Assistance Funds, 2605(c)(1)(C)					
1.3 The funds reserved for winter crisis assistance that have not been expended by March 15 will be reprogrammed to:					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heating assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cooling assistance		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Weatherization assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify): Crisis because it is planned to be a year-round program		
Categorical Eligibility, 2605(b)(2)(A) - Assurance 2, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(8A) - Assurance 8					
1.4 Do you consider households categorically eligible if one household member receives one of the following categories of benefits in the left column below? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No					
If you answered "Yes" to question 1.4, you must complete the table below and answer questions 1.5 and 1.6.					
		Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization
TANF		<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
SSI		<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
SNAP		<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Means-tested Veterans Programs		<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
	Program Name	Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization
Other(Specify) 1		<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
1.5 Do you automatically enroll households without a direct annual application? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No					
If Yes, explain:					
1.6 How do you ensure there is no difference in the treatment of categorically eligible households from those not receiving other public assistance when determining eligibility and benefit amounts?					
SNAP Nominal Payments					
1.7a Do you allocate LIHEAP funds toward a nominal payment for SNAP households? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No					
If you answered "Yes" to question 1.7a, you must provide a response to questions 1.7b, 1.7c, and 1.7d.					
1.7b Amount of Nominal Assistance: \$0.00					
1.7c Frequency of Assistance					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once Per Year				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once every five years				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:				
1.7d How do you confirm that the household receiving a nominal payment has an energy cost or need?					
Determination of Eligibility - Countable Income					
1.8. In determining a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP, do you use gross income or net income?					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gross Income				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Net Income				
1.9. Select all the applicable forms of countable income used to determine a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wages				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Self - Employment Income				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contract Income				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payments from mortgage or Sales Contracts				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment insurance				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strike Pay				

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Including MediCare deduction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excluding MediCare deduction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Retirement / pension benefits	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General Assistance benefits	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) benefits	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Loans that need to be repaid	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash gifts	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Savings account balance	
<input type="checkbox"/>	One-time lump-sum payments, such as rebates/credits, winnings from lotteries, refund deposits, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jury duty compensation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rental income	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income from employment through Workforce Investment Act (WIA)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income from work study programs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alimony	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Child support	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Interest, dividends, or royalties	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissions	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal settlements	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance payments made directly to the insured	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance payments made specifically for the repayment of a bill, debt, or estimate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Veterans Administration (VA) benefits	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Earned income of a child under the age of 18	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Balance of retirement, pension, or annuity accounts where funds cannot be withdrawn without a penalty.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income tax refunds	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stipends from senior companion programs, such as VISTA	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Funds received by household for the care of a foster child	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ameri-Corp Program payments for living allowances, earnings, and in-kind aid	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Reimbursements (for mileage, gas, lodging, meals, etc.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other</p> <p>Worker's compensation is counted as income. For social security and pensions, countable income is gross income minus health deductions.</p> <p>Delaware is using adjusted Gross Income by deducting federal, state, and city payroll taxes from the gross income before calculating eligibility to LIHEAP.</p>
<p>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</p>	

Section 2 - HEATING ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92,02/95,03/96,12/98,11/01
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Section 2 - Heating Assistance

Eligibility, 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

2.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the heating component:

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

2.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for HEATING ASSISTANCE? Yes No

2.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.

Do you require an Assets test? Yes No

Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:

Renters? Yes No

Renters Living in subsidized housing? Yes No

Renters with utilities included in the rent? Yes No

Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Elderly? Yes No

Disabled? Yes No

Young children? Yes No

Households with high energy burdens? Yes No

Other? Yes No

Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:

Renters living in subsidized housing:

The policy for renters living in subsidized housing when heat is not included in the rent is that State specifies the flat payment and the ceiling amount for the rent per month. If rent in subsidized housing is greater than the ceiling amount specified by the State, then the LIHEAP benefit is issued according to the LIHEAP DEAP Benefit Matrix.

Renters with utilities included in the rent:

If heat is in rent and the household pays the entire rent amount, the fuel type for the benefit is determined to be electric.

Elders, Disabled or Young Children:

Once the LIHEAP applicant has been certified it receives a score.

Household members are associated with a specific LIHEAP application for the fiscal year. This data is stored in household table. On each save of an application a procedure called UpdateLiheapApplication_S1 executes. Within this procedure all household members are evaluated.

Household members are stored in a table by application number and client identification. The household table references the LIHEAP client table to obtain date of birth and disability status of each member. Once the LIHEAP applicant has been certified it is assigned a score. According to the data received, the points are assigned in the following manner.

One point is added for each member of the household that is disabled. One point is added for each member of the household that is under 6 years at the date of the application. One point is added for each member of the household that is 60 years of age or older at the date of the application.

The date of birth is evaluated against the LIHEAP application date using a procedure named CalculateAge_F1 to determine age. This procedure returns the age of the member on the date that the application was created. If the age is "60 or over" or is "less than 6" one point is assigned to the application. If the household member has a disability, another point is added. There is no upper limit to the score.

Examples: A) If a household has 10 members and 2 members are 60 or older the application is scored with 2 points. If one of the members is also disabled, then additional point is added bringing the total to 3 points. B) If a household has a child under the age of 6 years, one point is assigned to this application.

If another member of the household is older than 5 and less than 60 but is disabled, an addition point is added bringing the total to 2 points. C) If a household has a child under the age of 6 years and is disabled, 2 points assigned to this application.

When these applications are processed for funding the applications with the highest score that are certified are processed first in the order that they were entered into the system, the rest in descending order. Other applications that had a score of zero and are certified are funded last as long as they met the constraints of household size and poverty level. This is a batch process that only funds applications to the extent of the available funding. If at any time during this process there are insufficient funds to fund the current application, it will look at the next application to see if it can fully fund that application. It will repeat this process until the available balance is zero or it runs out of applications.

Example: There are 10 households that scored three, 20 households that scored two, 5 households that scored one and 65 households that scored zero. The available funding is 50,000. The process will first process and fund the 10 households that scored three in the order that they were received. It would next do the same with the 20 households that scored two and so on until it runs out of funds.

Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

2.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of heating assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.

LIHEAP program is priority coded for Elderly, Disabled, and Families with Young Children. In addition, elderly and disabled have the opportunity for early application processing. For additional explanation please see also Section 2.3

2.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):

- Income
- Family (household) size
- Home energy cost or need:
 - Fuel type
 - Climate/region
 - Individual bill
 - Dwelling type
- Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)
- Energy need
- Other - Describe:

The calculation of the heating benefit amount is dependent on the Delaware home energy burden data published in the "The Home Energy Affordability Gap" by Fisher, Sheehan & Colton, Public Finance and General Economics, Belmont, Massachusetts. For the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2024 benefit matrix the 2022 report was used, which was published in April 2022. The benefits are also weighted according to the fuel type. The weights are dependent on the average expenditures for heating fuels that are calculated according to the estimated quantities from the "Short Term Energy Outlook" that is published by United States Energy Information Administration (EIA) and the estimated residential prices from the EIA published pricing reports. For the FFY 2024 benefit matrix, the 2022 EIA information was used, published up to March 2023. The subsidized housing flat benefit and rent ceiling are calculated by using "HUD 50th Percentile Rent Estimates" and "HUD Program Section 8 Income Limits" published by Office of Policy Development and Research, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. For the FFY 2024 benefit matrix the 2023 50th Percentile Rents and FFY 2023 Income Limits were used.

Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

2.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for the fiscal year for which this plan applies

Minimum Benefit	\$200	Maximum Benefit	\$4,973
------------------------	-------	------------------------	---------

2.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., blankets, space heaters) and/or other forms of benefits? Yes No

If yes, describe.

Yes, we are planning to provide blankets. Blankets are distributed to the clients during the heating or crisis intake process (after the non-profit agency has purchased them). We also provide blankets to clients who receive energy education under Assurance 16 to decrease households' energy bills.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 3 - COOLING ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Section 3 - Cooling Assistance

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605 (b)(2) - Assurance 2

3.1 Designate The income eligibility threshold used for the Cooling component:

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

3.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for COOLING ASSISTANCE? Yes No

3.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.

Do you require an Assets test? Yes No

Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:

- Renters? Yes No
- Renters Living in subsidized housing? Yes No
- Renters with utilities included in the rent? Yes No

Do you give priority in eligibility to:

- Elderly? Yes No
- Disabled? Yes No
- Young children? Yes No
- Households with high energy burdens? Yes No
- Other? Yes No

Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:

The Summer Cooling Assistance Program (SCAP) has two components: Electricity and Air Conditioning (A/C). SCAP provides cooling assistance to eligible low-income households to reduce their energy burden by subsidizing the cost of their summer home energy bills and/or paying for the purchase, delivery and installation of room-sized air conditioners (A/C). The purpose of SCAP is to assist low-income households that are especially vulnerable to high temperatures, heat, and humidity. Therefore, the SCAP is targeted to households with members sixty or older, disabled, children five and under, and members that suffer from chronic breathing conditions, such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases of chronic bronchitis or emphysema. However, there can be exceptions to the targeted households depending on the availability of funding.

In addition, since FFY 2016, the SCAP A/C requires that the household has not received an air conditioner under SCAP A/C during the last ten (10) years. If the household is requesting an A/C during this period, they must provide bona fide justification for requesting another air conditioner. (For example, to receive a replacement for a stolen A/C, the applicant has to submit the police report)

3.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of cooling assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.

The cooling assistance is only provided to the vulnerable population, unless there is sufficient funding to extend the eligibility for the assistance to other portions of the population. The SCAP Electric benefits are flat benefits and everyone who is eligible, receives the same amount. If SCAP Electric assistance is extended to entire eligible population, everyone who has applied for LIHEAP during the program year, will receive the same SCAP Electric benefit.

Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

3.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):

- Income
- Family (household) size
- Home energy cost or need:
- Fuel type

<input type="checkbox"/>	Climate/region
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual bill
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dwelling type
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy need
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

Cooling Benefit Matrix is not provided because the Cooling Electric Benefit amount depends on the funds available during the summer and it is distributed only to the LIHEAP eligible households. Generally the Cooling Electric Benefit is distributed to the households that include vulnerable population members who are sixty or older, disabled, and five or younger. Cooling Electric Benefit is calculated equally between all the eligible households. Hence, all the eligible households usually receive the same amount for the benefit. Air Conditioners are provided only to the LIHEAP eligible households that include vulnerable population members. The households are considered categorically eligible for SCAP AC if they have received LIHEAP assistance during the same program year than they are requesting SCAP AC benefit, as long as the additional requirements of SCAP AC eligibility have been fulfilled. Hence, the same matrix is relevant for heating and cooling.

Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

3.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for the fiscal year for which this plan applies

Minimum Benefit	\$1	Maximum Benefit	\$1,000
------------------------	-----	------------------------	---------

3.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., fans, air conditioners) and/or other forms of benefits? Yes No

If yes, describe.

Yes, we provide fans if they are purchased by the contractor or community-action agency.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 4 - CRISIS ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN SF - 424 - MANDATORY

Section 4: CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Eligibility - 2604(c), 2605(c)(1)(A)

4.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the crisis component

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

4.2 Provide your LIHEAP program's definition for determining a crisis.

TEMPORARY POLICY CHANGES.

LIHEAP Office will be executing a waiver for one of the ECIP criteria in 2024 program year (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024). LIHEAP will waive the requirement for temperature thresholds to file the crisis application. Hence, the households can file the crisis applications for all fuel types without the subsequent 72 hours of the heat index being forecasted to be 95 degrees in Fahrenheit or more OR the temperature being forecasted to be at or below 40 degrees in Fahrenheit. Households can file crisis applications for all fuel types under any temperature threshold during 2024 program year.

LIHEAP thresholds for crisis are as follows: a) delivered fuels \$2,500, b) non-delivered fuels \$2,500, c) equipment \$10,000.

See Section 4.9 for clarification of benefit caps.

REGULAR POLICY.

LIHEAP POLICY MANUAL, SECTION 300, BENEFITS AND SERVICES

302. Crisis Intervention Program (CIP)

Crisis Intervention Program has two components; Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) and Code Purple.

302.1 Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP)

Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) provides assistance to the eligible households in the form of:

1. **Regular Crisis** that assists households year round with bill or equipment assistance contingent on:

- 1.1 Distinct weather conditions and financial resources;
- 1.2 Disaster or State of Emergency.

2. **Flat Crisis** that assists households with portion of energy bill, as a supplemental benefit, if there are adequate funds available and state office declares crisis payment because:

- 2.1 Prolonged severe or extreme weather event;
- 2.2 Upsurge in the price of home energy fuel type;
- 2.3 Disaster of State of Emergency

Eligible households can receive more than one ECIP benefit per program year depending on the availability of funds and crisis situation.

A. ECIP Regular Crisis

ECIP Regular Crisis, is a year-round crisis program that assists eligible households with an energy crisis when the weather conditions of the subsequent 72 hours pose a serious threat to the health or safety of one or more members of the eligible household or when the state declares the state of emergency or disaster.

Regular Crisis is designed for the households that have been disconnected or are in the process of being disconnected from the energy source, or are under payment arrangement to avoid disconnection, or have received a rejection for future energy services. Additionally, the state could authorize a regular crisis benefit to the household for resolving the energy access issue that directly impedes the utilization of FAP benefit.

ECIP Regular Crisis is administered by Contractor and it is activated when the forecast, on any day, at 8:30 a.m. states that within the subsequent 72 hours the heat index is forecasted to be 95 degrees in Fahrenheit or more **OR** if the temperature is forecasted to be at or below 40 degrees in Fahrenheit. Contractor's offices in Wilmington, Dover, and Georgetown will check for their respective forecasts through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ECIP is defined as: Assistance during the energy crisis situation. The eligible residents of the State of Delaware with gross household income less than or equal to 200% of poverty guideline, who are responsible for paying an energy bill, are considered to be experiencing an energy crisis whenever:

1. Weather conditions of the subsequent 72 hours pose a serious threat to the health or safety of one or more members of the eligible household **OR** the state has declared Disaster or State of Emergency; **AND**
2. Financial assessment demonstrates the household to be without sufficient resources for alleviating the crisis; **AND**
3. Household has no prospect for receiving resources within forty-eight (48) hours that could alleviate the crisis (Household is determined to be in a life-threatening situation if it can directly or indirectly lead to death of the member of the eligible household unless some form of assistance has been provided no later than eighteen (18) hours after the household has applied for ECIP benefit); **AND**
4. Household utility services for heating and cooling have been disconnected or energy source of delivered fuel vendor 100% depleted with rejection to future services; **OR**
5. Household is under the payment arrangement with utility services or delivered fuel vendor to avoid disconnection/rejection of future services; **OR**
6. Household has received a notice from the utility services for disconnection or has less than 1/4th of standard allocation from the delivered fuel vendor with rejection to future services; **OR**
7. Division has authorized crisis payment, which can include emergency repair of non- functional heating or cooling equipment. This section also covers ECIP Regular Crisis benefits authorized by State during Disaster or State of Emergency.

B. ECIP Flat Crisis

ECIP Assistance can also become available for the eligible households if the State declares the crisis payment to the households as a supplemental benefit because the prolonged severe or extreme weather, or the upsurge in the price of the home energy fuel type, or extreme weather event, or disaster or state of emergency.

C. Disaster or State of Emergency

In the case of disaster or state of emergency or extreme weather event, like a hurricane, tornado, flood or etc. Starting 2023 program year, there is no difference in income eligibility between Crisis and Disaster assistance, both will be following the 60% of the State Median Income.

The LIHEAP disaster policy could be activated by the following possible disasters: Storm, Flood, Tornado, Epidemics, Hurricane, Fire, Explosion, Earthquake, Landslide, Subsidence, CBRN, PH Emergency, Extreme Heat, Extreme Cold/Blizzard, Industrial Accident, Transport Accident, Volcanic Activity, Tsunami.

Under LIHEAP disaster policy the state could temporarily change the eligibility thresholds and criteria for crisis depending on the funds available and the effect of the disaster on the LIHEAP eligible population. For example, the state may waive temperature requirements for activation of crisis or increase ceilings of allowed crisis benefits.

See Reference Document – DELAWARE LIHEAP STATE PLAN

1. Epidemics Policy

1.1 LIHEAP ECIP Disaster Epidemics Policy is activated when the state declares state of emergency or disaster for managing the spread of communicable diseases.

1.2 The aim of this policy is to mitigate the households’ burden of energy cost accumulated during the quarantine or isolation.

1.3 Under this policy, LIHEAP, as the public health program, will distribute supplemental and/or regular crisis benefits to the affected households to decrease the risk of negative consequences of subsequent energy crisis to the public health system.

1.4. The amount of the benefit will be determined by the state depending on the available funding. The state will consider:

1.4.1 The duration of the quarantine or isolation; **AND**

1.4.2 Its impact to the wages of the LIHEAP eligible households; **AND**

1.4.3 The effect of the loss of income on the ability of the households to cover its energy expenses.

1.5 If the state declares a quarantine for a specific geographic area or location, LIHEAP will distribute the ECIP benefit to all the LIHEAP eligible households within that area who have applied for LIHEAP during that program year.

1.6 If the state don’t declare a quarantine for a specific geographic area or location, the households could be required to apply for supplemental crisis benefit by notifying the intake agency of their epidemics quarantine or isolation.

2. Public Health (PH) Emergency Policy

2.1 LIHEAP ECIP Disaster Public Health Emergency Policy is activated when the state declares state of emergency or disaster for managing public health emergencies. Policy can also be activated when the statewide or local extreme event has been assessed to lead directly or indirectly to the public health emergency.

2.2 The aim of this policy is to mitigate the affected households’ burden of energy cost during and after the public health emergency.

2.3 Under this policy, LIHEAP, as the public health program, will distribute supplemental and/or regular crisis benefits to the affected households to decrease the risk of negative consequences of subsequent energy crisis to the public health system.

2.4. The amount of the benefit will be determined by the state depending on the available funding.

302.2 Code Purple

CODE PURPLE has been deactivated until it has been further analyzed and structured to demonstrate that those benefiting are LIHEAP income eligible.

4.3 What constitutes a life-threatening crisis?

The life-threatening situation is considered to be a life-threatening medical condition, such as a member on a life-support or required oxygen/CPAP machine. Household is determined to be in a life-threatening situation, which can directly or indirectly lead to death of the member of the eligible household unless some form of assistance has been provided no later than eighteen (18) hours after the household has applied for

ECIP benefit.	
Crisis Requirement, 2604(c)	
4.4 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households? 48Hours	
4.5 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households in life-threatening situations? 18Hours	
Crisis Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A)	
4.6 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for CRISIS ASSISTANCE?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
4.7 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each	
Do you require an Assets test?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Do you give priority in eligibility to:	
Elderly?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Disabled?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Young Children?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Households with high energy burdens?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Other?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
In Order to receive crisis assistance:	
Must the household have received a shut-off notice or have a near empty tank?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Must the household have been shut off or have an empty tank?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Must the household have exhausted their regular heating benefit?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Must renters with heating costs included in their rent have received an eviction notice?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Must heating/cooling be medically necessary?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Must the household have non-working heating or cooling equipment?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Other?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:	
Renters?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Renters living in subsidized housing?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Renters with utilities included in the rent?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:	
<p>Starting 2024 program year, there is no difference in income eligibility between Crisis and Disaster assistance, both will be following the 60% of the State Median Income. For further explanation to 4.7 see the attached ECIP flow diagram. When the funding is limited, the ECIP flat benefit is distributed only to households with vulnerable population: elderly, disabled, children 5 and under. If the funding is not limited, the ECIP flat benefit is distributed to everyone.</p>	
Determination of Benefits	
4.8 How do you handle crisis situations?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Separate component
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fast Track
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:
4.9 If you have a separate component, how do you determine crisis assistance benefits?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount to resolve the crisis.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe: <p>Please see for reference the attached ECIP flow diagram. Max annual cap for household for Regular Crisis is as follows: non-delivered vendor is \$2,500, max for delivered vendor is \$2,500, max for emergency repair of equipment \$10,000. For Crisis Disaster component, the max cap is per disaster application as follows: non-delivered vendor is \$2,500, max for delivered vendor is \$2,500, max for emergency repair of equipment \$10,000. The supplemental payments distributed by the state don't count toward the cap amount.</p>

Crisis Requirements, 2604(c)			
4.10 Do you accept applications for energy crisis assistance at sites that are geographically accessible to all households in the area to be served?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Explain.			
We offer intake in several locations in Delaware to be geographically accessible to all households.			
4.11 Do you provide individuals who are physically disabled the means to:			
Submit applications for crisis benefits without leaving their homes?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If No, explain.			
Travel to the sites at which applications for crisis assistance are accepted?			
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No If No, explain.			
If you answered "No" to both options in question 4.11, please explain alternative means of intake to those who are homebound or physically disabled?			
Mail-in and phone-in options are available for elderly and disabled. If the person desires to complete the application submission in person at the intake location, he or she can request for paratransit services from the DART First State, which provides services for disabled persons unable to use public fixed bus routes. http://dartfirststate.com/information/paratransit/index.shtml			
Benefit Levels, 2605(c)(1)(B)			
4.12 Indicate the maximum benefit for each type of crisis assistance offered.			
Winter Crisis	\$0.00	maximum benefit	
Summer Crisis	\$0.00	maximum benefit	
Year-round Crisis	\$10,000.00	maximum benefit	
4.13 Do you provide in-kind (e.g. blankets, space heaters, fans) and/or other forms of benefits?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If yes, Describe			
Yes, we are planning to provide blankets and fans.			
4.14 Do you provide for equipment repair or replacement using crisis funds?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If you answered "Yes" to question 4.14, you must complete question 4.15.			
4.15 Check appropriate boxes below to indicate type(s) of assistance provided.			
	Winter Crisis	Summer Crisis	Year-round Crisis
Heating system repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Heating system replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wood stove purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pellet stove purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Solar panel(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utility poles / gas line hook-ups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify): ECIP will provide equipment repair or replacement under Crisis component to leverage RGGI funds, if any other State program, including LIHEAP weatherization program, cannot provide a solution to the equipment crisis. Until now, the LIHEAP office has been providing furnace replacement and repair in Delaware with RGGI funds. Since 2023 program year, LIHEAP is also providing furnace replacement and repair with LIHEAP funds, for example, LIHEAP infrastructure funds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.16 Do any of the utility vendors you work with enforce a moratorium on shut offs?

Yes No

If you responded "Yes" to question 4.16, you must respond to question 4.17.

4.17 Describe the terms of the moratorium and any special dispensation received by LIHEAP clients during or after the moratorium period.

State of Delaware has moratorium on terminating services, which is dependent on the prevailing temperature. It is codified in the Delaware Administrative Code, Title 26 Public Utilities, Section 3000 Energy Regulations. The Conditions of Termination:

Heating Season

Under no circumstances may a covered utility terminate service for non-payment to a dwelling unit on a day when the National Weather Service reports that the 8:00 A.M. temperature measured at a location in the State of Delaware that is within fifty (50) miles of the subject dwelling unit is thirty-two degrees Fahrenheit (32F) or below on the morning of the date when said service is scheduled for termination.

Cooling Season

Under no circumstances may a covered utility terminate service for non-payment to a dwelling unit on a day when the 8:00 A.M. National Weather Service forecast contains a special weather statement or other information predicting that the Heat Index measured at a location in the State of Delaware that is within fifty (50) miles of the subject dwelling unit may equal or exceed one-hundred-five degrees Fahrenheit (105F) on the date when said service is scheduled for termination.

Below are the winter guidelines from one of the Delaware Primary Energy Vendors:

- 1) In effect from November 1 to March 30;
- 2) The account must have a suspension notice sent by first class mail notifying the customer of intent to disconnect. In addition, an insert detailing the customer's rights and responsibilities and a list of energy assistance organizations will be included with this suspension notice;
- 3) A suspension notice will also be mailed to the service address if the mailing address is different;
- 4) After sending the suspension notice but prior to the field visit, two (2) telephone attempts to contact the customer must be made on different days, with one being after 6:00 P.M.;
- 5) The temperature at 8:00 A.M. on the day of the scheduled field visit must be greater than 32 degrees otherwise scheduled field visits for that day will be postponed.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 5 - WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92,02/95,03/96,12/98,11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 12/31/2024

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN SF - 424 - MANDATORY

Section 5: WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

5.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the Weatherization component

Add	Household Size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

5.2 Do you enter into an interagency agreement to have another government agency administer a WEATHERIZATION component? Yes No

5.3 If yes, name the agency. Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy

5.4 Is there a separate monitoring protocol for weatherization? Yes No

WEATHERIZATION - Types of Rules

5.5 Under what rules do you administer LIHEAP weatherization? (Check only one.)

Entirely under LIHEAP (not DOE) rules

Entirely under DOE WAP (not LIHEAP) rules

Mostly under LIHEAP rules with the following DOE WAP rule(s) where LIHEAP and WAP rules differ (Check all that apply):

Income Threshold

Weatherization of entire multi-family housing structure is permitted if at least 66% of units (50% in 2- & 4-unit buildings) are eligible units or will become eligible within 180 days

Weatherize shelters temporarily housing primarily low income persons (excluding nursing homes, prisons, and similar institutional care facilities).

Other - Describe:

Mostly under DOE WAP rules, with the following LIHEAP rule(s) where LIHEAP and WAP rules differ (Check all that apply.):

Income Threshold

Weatherization not subject to DOE WAP maximum statewide average cost per dwelling unit.

Weatherization measures are not subject to DOE Savings to Investment Ratio (SIR) standards.

Other - Describe:

LIHEAP clients are categorically eligible for LIHEAP WAP. LIHEAP eligibility is going to be 60% SMI.

Additional notes:

(1) Categorical eligibility for weatherization for HUD means-tested programs (2) Allow use of LIHEAP funds to place solar panels on eligible homes and (3) use of LIHEAP funds to replace combustion fuel heating systems with electric.

Eligibility, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5

5.6 Do you require an assets test? Yes No

5.7 Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for :

Renters	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Renters living in subsidized housing?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

5.8 Do you give priority in eligibility to:	
Elderly?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Disabled?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Young Children?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
House holds with high energy burdens?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Other? High Usage	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

If you selected "Yes" for any of the options in questions 5.6, 5.7, or 5.8, you must provide further explanation of these policies in the text field below.

Renters

There is a landlord letter and landlord authorization form given to the client, clients are given these items during their application process for WAP.

The WAP application data entry and household eligibility is determined during their intake appointment, but the application is not completed until the landlord form is signed and returned. Once returned, the applicant signs the WAP application and the application is officially completed and ready for the next step in WAP's process.

Priorities

Because of the high demand for weatherization services, the program frequently has a waiting list for services. The waiting list is comprised of families who have qualified for the program as noted above. In determining the order of weatherization, priority is given to applicants on the waiting list with certain characteristics.

WAP Rank Algorithm

Factor: Age

Range	Points
>= 0 and <= 1	5
>= 2 and <= 4	4
>= 5 and <= 9	3
>= 10 and <= 12	2
>= 13 and <= 17	1
>= 60 and <= 65	1
>= 66 and <= 71	2
>= 72 and <= 77	3
>= 78 and <= 83	4
>= 84	5

Factor: Disabled Members

1 point for each Disabled Member

Factor: Occupants

Range	Points
> 0 and < 3	1
> 2 and < 5	2
> 4 and < 7	3
> 6 and < 9	4
> 8	5

Factor: High Burden

If true, add 1 point, otherwise no points

Factor: High Usage

If true, add 1 point, otherwise no points

Factor: Poverty Level

Group	Points
Under 75%	5
75% - 100%	4
101% - 125%	3
126% - 150%	2
Above 150%	1

Once all points are tabulated the applicants are drawn from the list according to the highest point total. In the event families have the same number of points, the oldest actual application date will be used as the tie breaker.

Benefit Levels

5.9 Do you have a maximum LIHEAP weatherization benefit/expenditure per household? Yes No

5.10 If yes, what is the maximum? \$0

Types of Assistance, 2605(c)(1), (B) & (D)

5.11 What LIHEAP weatherization measures do you provide ? (Check all categories that apply.)

Weatherization needs assessments/audits

Energy related roof repair

Caulking and insulation

Major appliance repairs

<input type="checkbox"/> Storm windows	<input type="checkbox"/> Major appliance replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace/heating system modifications/repairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Windows/sliding glass doors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Doors
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling system modifications/repairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Heater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water conservation measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling system replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Compact florescent light bulbs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe: on 5.11. Also providing LED light bulbs, carbon monoxide and smoke detectors. On item 5.9, DNREC monitors the cost per home so that it doesnt exceed the Average Cost per Unit of \$10,000. In addition, DNREC ensures that no more than 15% of the total cost per home is spent on Health & Safety (average over the total number of units weatherized). In doing this, we do not restrict the cost for each unit, we manage the overall funds spent in averages to be in compliance with DOE rules.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 6 - Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Section 6: Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)

6.1 Select all outreach activities that you conduct that are designed to assure that eligible households are made aware of all LIHEAP assistance available:

- Place posters/flyers in local and county social service offices, offices of aging, Social Security offices, VA, etc.
- Publish articles in local newspapers or broadcast media announcements.
- Include inserts in energy vendor billings to inform individuals of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance.
- Mass mailing(s) to prior-year LIHEAP recipients.
- Inform low income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.
- Execute interagency agreements with other low-income program offices to perform outreach to target groups.
- Other (specify):
 - LIHEAP intake services by telephone for the physically infirmed (ie., elderly or disabled).
 - Delaware LIHEAP also conducts outreach by providing various informational booklets and calendars when they are available. In addition, Delaware works closely with energy vendors and other non-profits to increase the awareness of program.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 7 - Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4

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Section 7: Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4

7.1 Describe how you will ensure that the LIHEAP program is coordinated with other programs available to low-income households (TANF, SSI, WAP, etc.).

<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint application for multiple programs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intake referrals to/from other programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	One - stop intake centers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

DE State Service Centers do intake referrals to LIHEAP. Intake agencies refer clients to other low-income programs and vice versa.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 8 - Agency Designation,, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6

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Section 8: Agency Designation, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6 (Required for state grantees and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico)

8.1 How would you categorize the primary responsibility of your State agency?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Administration Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commerce Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Services Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy/Environment Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Welfare Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

Alternate Outreach and Intake, 2605(b)(15) - Assurance 15

If you selected "Welfare Agency" in question 8.1, you must complete questions 8.2, 8.3, and 8.4, as applicable.

8.2 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for HEATING ASSISTANCE?

LIHEAP is administered by Delaware Health and Social Services. Outreach, intake, and application processing are performed by contractors, which are non-profit agencies.

Weatherization is administered by another state department, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, which contracts with non-profits to perform LIHEAP weatherization. Division of State Service Centers participates in the application processing on a limited basis and final eligibility determinations for benefits are made by the non-profit agency.

LIHEAP intake and outreach is performed totally separately from that of TANF and SNAP, as two separate Divisions are responsible for the administration of these programs. However, LIHEAP cooperates with other government and non-governmental agencies through referrals, education, and outreach events.

8.3 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for COOLING ASSISTANCE?

LIHEAP is administered by Delaware Health and Social Services. Outreach, intake, and application processing are performed by contractors, which are non-profit agencies.

Weatherization is administered by another state department, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, which contracts with non-profits to perform LIHEAP weatherization. Division of State Service Centers participates in the application processing on a limited basis and final eligibility determinations for benefits are made by the non-profit agency.

LIHEAP intake and outreach is performed totally separately from that of TANF and SNAP, as two separate Divisions are responsible for the administration of these programs. However, LIHEAP cooperates with other government and non-governmental agencies through referrals, education, and outreach events.

8.4 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for CRISIS ASSISTANCE?

LIHEAP is administered by Delaware Health and Social Services. Outreach, intake, and application processing are performed by contractors, which are non-profit agencies.

LIHEAP intake and outreach is performed totally separately from that of TANF and SNAP, as two separate Divisions are responsible for the administration of the two programs and they do not share sub-grantees. However, LIHEAP cooperates with other government and non-governmental agencies through referrals, education, and outreach events.

Weatherization is administered by another department, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, which contracts with non-profits to perform LIHEAP weatherization. Division of State Service Centers participates in the application processing on a limited basis and final eligibility determinations for benefits are made by the non-profit agency.

8.5 LIHEAP Component Administration.	Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization
8.5a Who determines client eligibility?	Non-profits	Non-profits	Non-profits	Non-profits
8.5b Who processes benefit payments to gas and electric vendors?	Non-profits	Non-profits	Non-profits	
8.5c who processes benefit payments to bulk fuel vendors?	Non-profits	Non-profits	Non-profits	
8.5d Who performs installation of weatherization measures?				Non-profits

If any of your LIHEAP components are not centrally-administered by a state agency, you must complete questions 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, and, if applicable, 8.9.

8.6 What is your process for selecting local administering agencies?

Requests for Proposals are conducted for selecting awardees every 5-10 years. For weatherization component there exists MOA between two Departments, DHSS and DNREC.

The DNREC holds contracts with their WAP subgrantee, with an option to extend for additional periods. Subgrantees are procured through RFP process every 3-5 years.

8.7 How many local administering agencies do you use? 5

8.8 Have you changed any local administering agencies in the last year?

- Yes
 No

8.9 If so, why?

- Agency was in noncompliance with grantee requirements for LIHEAP -
- Agency is under criminal investigation
- Added agency
- Agency closed
- Other - describe

We are planning to bring on some additional agencies to help us with application process. We are also adding additional LIHEAP funds to the program that executes replacement and repairing of heating equipment with RGGI funds. Hence, these 3 agencies are also falling under LIHEAP.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 9 - Energy Suppliers,, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7

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Section 9: Energy Suppliers, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7

9.1 Do you make payments directly to home energy suppliers?

Heating Yes No

Cooling Yes No

Crisis Yes No

Are there exceptions? Yes No

If yes, Describe.

Clients are issued two party checks when the non-delivered (a/k/a regulated) energy vendor they use does not contract with the State's prime contractor to participate as a fuel vendor under LIHEAP. Clients must select delivered fuel vendors from a comprehensive list of vendors, who contract with the State's prime contractor.

The State's prime contractor issues 1-party checks to HH, who 1) pay for their heat through their lot rent to a mobile home park; or 2) pay for their heat to a 3rd party billing company.

9.2 How do you notify the client of the amount of assistance paid?

Once this benefit amount is assigned a letter is printed and mailed to the applicant informing them of their benefit amount.

The expectation is that the clients are informed of their eligibility/benefit within 7 business days.

9.3 How do you assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment?

All the necessary language is included in the Vendor Agreements.

Delivered fuel vendors don't get reimbursed without proof of fuel delivery. Non-delivered fuel vendors are required to show usage that equals or exceeds the benefit payment, during the DEAP time period of October 1 – April 30. If they cannot, then the remainder of the benefit is returned to the contractor, who returns it to the state.

9.4 How do you assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of their receipt of LIHEAP assistance?

Fuel Vendor Contracts. Delivered fuel vendors may not charge a LHEAP household differently than they charge their other customers. Vendors of delivered fuels get reimbursed after the services to the households have been provided. The crisis payments are dependent on allevating crisis.

9.5. Do you make payments contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households?

Yes No

If so, describe the measures unregulated vendors may take.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 10 - Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10) - Assurance 10

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Section 10: Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10)

10.1. How do you ensure good fiscal accounting and tracking of LIHEAP funds?

LIHEAP funds are tracked by the Delaware Accounting System called First State Financial Accounting System (FSF) and additionally by utilizing Microsoft Excel Spreadsheets.

DHSS/DSSC/OCS conducts financial and program monitoring on an annual basis with LIHEAP primary contractor. Contracts used by DHSS/DSSC/OCS require that the contractor agency shall maintain complete and accurate financial/accounting records, using (GAAP) along with following LIHEAP policies and procedures. Programmatic activities are monitored regularly through reports, computer printouts and site visits to ensure contract compliance. Findings requiring corrective action are noted in a written report.

LIHEAP system tracks the refund amount from each client. The non-profit sends the State the check for all the refunds it has received from the energy vendors. The check includes the back-up that is a report from the LIHEAP system that shows the allocated benefit, cost of fuel delivered and any refunds on the application. This report can only run for one vendor at a time. The funds are credited based on the coding provided by the program. Program uses the supporting documentation from the non-profit to determine the fiscal year and services to apply the credit. If we receive a credit we do not add the funds back to the purchase order, the funds are returned to the available balance of the grant.

Audit Process

10.2. Is your LIHEAP program audited annually under the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A - 133?

Yes No

10.3. Describe any audit findings rising to the level of material weakness or reportable condition cited in the A-133 audits, Grantee monitoring assessments, inspector general reviews, or other government agency reviews of the LIHEAP agency from the most recently audited fiscal year.

No Findings

Finding	Type	Brief Summary	Resolved?	Action Taken
1	reporting	Single audit of 2023 program year required us to change FFATA reporting policy	In Progress	procedure/policy changes

10.4. Audits of Local Administering Agencies

What types of annual audit requirements do you have in place for local administering agencies/district offices?
Select all that apply.

- Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit in compliance with Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133
- Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit (other than A-133)
- Local agencies/district offices' A-133 or other independent audits are reviewed by Grantee as part of compliance process.
- Grantee conducts fiscal and program monitoring of local agencies/district offices

Compliance Monitoring

10.5. Describe the Grantee's strategies for monitoring compliance with the Grantee's and Federal LIHEAP policies and procedures: Select all that apply

Grantee employees:

- Internal program review
- Departmental oversight
- Secondary review of invoices and payments
- Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:

Local Administering Agencies/District Offices:

On - site evaluation

Annual program review

Monitoring through central database

Desk reviews

Client File Testing/Sampling

Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:

WAP is required to obtain the Single Audit for each of its Subgrantees annually. Each Subgrantee undergoes a complete programmatic monitoring (administrative and technical) annually that is conducted by the Grantee (DNREC) as required by the Department of Energy.

10.6 Explain, or attach a copy of your local agency monitoring schedule and protocol.

At least every two years the primary sub-grantee is monitored by an internal auditor from DSSC. Throughout the year file monitoring is conducted by DSSC. If DNREC and other state agencies receive LIHEAP funds, they are monitored by the DSSC internal auditor.

For the purpose of monitoring, eligibility files will be randomly selected by using Microsoft Office Excel functions that generate random numbers between the range specified. =RANDBETWEEN(range bottom, range top), which returns a random integer number between the range specified. The range of the set will be inquired from the contractor whose files are going to be audited. The set will be created from the application numbers.

The sample size will be determined according to the following criteria: a) confidence level between 90% and 95% (90 and 95 included); b) margin of error 5% and 15%.

10.7. Describe how you select local agencies for monitoring reviews.

Site Visits:

Local agencies are selected for monitoring based on discussions with the Fiscal Management Unit Administrator and the Fiscal Management Unit Internal Auditor. The Fiscal Internal Auditor utilizes annual risk assessments of local agencies as well as the review of program eligibility monitoring reports completed by the Office of Community Services. We also undertake monitoring based on referrals from other local agencies.

Site Visits and Desk Reviews are based on: Prior year findings, referrals, and program monitoring reports.

Desk Reviews:

All agencies are monitored continuously as the state receives the requests for reimbursements.

Site Visits and Desk Reviews are based on: Prior year findings, risk assessment, referrals, and program monitoring reports.

10.8. How often is each local agency monitored?

- Portions of LIHEAP are monitored annually.

The WAP is overseen by DNREC and they conduct regular monitorings of their Subgrantees throughout the year along with the annual monitoring of the administrative and technical functions.

The WAP State Program Monitor also conducts informal visits in the field to review subcontractor work quality, compliance with home energy audits, and health & safety practices.

10.9. What is the combined error rate for eligibility determinations? OPTIONAL

10.10. What is the combined error rate for benefit determinations? OPTIONAL

10.11. How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans for eligibility and/or benefit determination issues? 0

10.12. How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans for financial accounting or administrative issues? 0

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 11 - Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, , 2605(b)(12) - Assurance 12, 2605(c)(2)

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Section 11: Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, 2605(b)(12), 2605(C)(2)

11.1 How did you obtain input from the public in the development of your LIHEAP plan?
 Select all that apply.

- Tribal Council meeting(s)
- Public Hearing(s)
- Draft Plan posted to website and available for comment
- Hard copy of plan is available for public view and comment
- Comments from applicants are recorded
- Request for comments on draft Plan is advertised
- Stakeholder consultation meeting(s)
- Comments are solicited during outreach activities
- Other - Describe:

11.2 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of this participation?
 This section will be amended after public hearing and public comment period if the LIHEAP receives any comments.

Public Hearings, 2605(a)(2) - For States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Only

11.3 List the date and location(s) that you held public hearing(s) on the proposed use and distribution of your LIHEAP funds?

	Date	Event Description
1	08/07/2023	LIHEAP Federal Grants Application FFY 2024 - Virtual/Physical Public Hearing over Zoom TBA

11.4. How many parties commented on your plan at the hearing(s)? 1

11.5 Summarize the comments you received at the hearing(s).
 This section will be amended after public hearing and public comment period if the LIHEAP receives any comments. We received a comment from WAP team to consider allocating more than 10% to weatherization. This will require change in the interdepartmental agreement

11.6 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of the comments received at the public hearing(s)?
 This section will be amended after public hearing and public comment period if the LIHEAP receives any comments. We did make one significant change to our 2024 benefits but this change was already included in the 2024 State Plan that went to public comment. We doubled our heating benefits for the 2024 program year as a result of internal discussions.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 12 - Fair Hearings,2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13

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Section 12: Fair Hearings, 2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13

12.1 How many fair hearings did the grantee have in the prior Federal fiscal year? None

12.2 How many of those fair hearings resulted in the initial decision being reversed? None

12.3 Describe any policy and/or procedural changes made in the last Federal fiscal year as a result of fair hearings?

None

12.4 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are denied.

Applicants or clients who want a formal Fair Hearing should contact the county agency that served them and that office will make the necessary arrangements for such a hearing.

The first step in this process should be an agency conference where agency personnel and the applicant/client try to resolve any difficulties. Please note that this is an informal hearing only, and in no way does it interfere with the applicant's or client's right to request a formal hearing. Those staff members concerned with applicant's/client's specific application, as well as a supervisor, should attempt at this time to explain fully how any decisions were arrived at, and they should take any additional information that the applicant/client wishes to present. If the problem is resolved at this level, the applicant/client should be notified of the decision about any change in determination if applicable, by the appropriate contractor agency. If the applicant/client is still not satisfied with the determination and requests a formal hearing, the appropriate contractor agency will then make arrangements for a fair and impartial hearing.

The opportunity for a hearing will include the right to appeal from the following:

1. A denial of benefits, in whole or in part;
2. A change in the amount of benefit;
3. The manner or form of payments;
4. Undue delay in making payment adjustment or acting upon a request or application;
5. A denial of a request for a correction or a deletion in the case file.

Procedures to follow upon request for Fair Hearing by DEAP applicant/client:

1. Clearly explain the basis for questioned decisions or actions to DEAP applicant/client;
2. Explain his/her rights and the Fair Hearing proceedings to the applicant/client;
3. Provide the necessary forms and explain to the applicant/client how to file his appeal, and, if necessary, how to fill out the forms; and
4. Advise the applicant/client that he may be represented by an attorney, relative, friend or other spokesperson and explain that he may contact his local bar association to locate the legal services available in the county.

12.5 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

Applicants are informed of their right to a fair hearing by the intake worker at the time of the appointment The application signed by the applicant, includes a statement notifying applicants of their right to a fair hearing. The notification about the right to a fair hearing is also included in the paper application and in the eligibility letter.

12.6 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are not acted on in a timely manner.

The procedures for fair hearing are exactly the same as for the applications that have been denied. Please see the Section 12.4 for the procedures.

12.7 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

Please see the Section 12.5 for the answer.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 13 - Reduction of home energy needs,2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16

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Section 13: Reduction of home energy needs, 2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16

13.1 Describe how you use LIHEAP funds to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and thereby the need for energy assistance?

DHSS uses LIHEAP funds to provide several Assurance 16 services to eligible clients, including materials with energy education. Assurance 16 is also utilized for in-kind purchases, like blankets and fans. Assurance 16 activities are provided by more than one agency.

LIHEAP CALENDAR

If the calendar is published, it will include energy education and information about various services for the low-income households, during the program years that it has labor capacity to execute such an activity. The calendar would include comprehensive information about programming available to low-income families in Delaware. Innovative energy savings tips and educational resources to encourage easy to adapt energy consumption behaviors will be included. Information about other home health and safety indicator, such as the Healthy Homes indicators, will be included in order to promote a comprehensive approach to encouraging families to adopt a safe, healthy, and cost-saving lifestyle. Information will also be included in the calendar about the environmental impacts of energy usage.

A. IN-KIND PRODUCTS: Blankets and Fans

HEATING and CRISIS Program

SCAP AC Program

Assurance 16 funds are used to purchase fans in the Summer Cooling Assistance Program. These fans are a low-cost measure aimed at lowering household energy consumption. By increasing the comfort feel of the home (i.e. cooler with a fan in the summer), program participants are more likely to set thermostats at a more appropriate temperature and thereby reduce their energy consumption.

B. ENERGY EFFICIENCY: Education and Case Management

Assurance 16 activities are provided by more than one agency. LIHEAP allocates LIHEAP funds for Assurance 16 to several local agencies, which administer the Replacing/Repairing Heaters & Conserving Energy (RRHACE) Program and Summer Cooling Assistance Program (SCAP). Both, RRHACE & SCAP AC, programs target low-income households throughout Delaware, and the Assurance 16 Energy Education services are provided as a critical component of each program.

SCAP AC Program

The Assurance 16 Energy Educator provides one-on-one Energy Education to participants of the Summer Cooling Assistance Program. This educational component of the Summer Cooling Assistance Program focuses on participating households understanding how much energy they use and for what purpose so they can make informed decisions about their energy use and reduce household energy burden. The A16 Energy Educator tracks household energy usage data and compiles overall usage data for the Summer Cooling Assistance Program.

The Assurance 16 Energy Education also facilitates monthly workshops for SCAP program participants and other interested individuals with an average of 5-10 participants per workshop. During each workshop, the Assurance 16 Energy Educator provides participants with energy saving tips, strategies for reducing household energy consumption, and connections or referrals to additional services we provide within the agency that can help minimize household energy burden like Emergency Services programming that provides utility assistance. Workshops include interactive activities, demonstrations, and other strategies for delivering energy education concepts. The Assurance 16 Energy Educator also partners with utility companies and providers of energy programming like Weatherization or Home Repair Programs to inform low-income families about resources available to minimize energy burden. Households that participate in Assurance 16 workshops are provided with EcoKit materials and education on using those materials to conserve energy and reduce household energy burden.

RRHACE Program

First State response is under SCAP AC.

MHDC has partnered with Energize Delaware and Franklin Energy to perform Home Energy Counseling and Checkup-Program (HEC2) audits on RRHACE qualified households.

C. CONTRACTORS USING ASSURANCE 16 FUNDS

1. Firsts State Community Action Agency.

First State Community Action Agency, Inc. administers the Summer Cooling Assistance Program which provides a room-sized air conditioner to eligible families throughout the state who meet specific qualification criteria. The contractor also administers RRHACE program.

2. Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities administers Crisis program and provides blankets for households as needed.

3. MHDC has partnered with Energize Delaware and Franklin Energy to perform Home Energy Counseling and Checkup-Program

(HEC2) audits on RRHACE qualified households.

4. ECA will be updated when response received

13.2 How do you ensure that you don't use more than 5% of your LIHEAP funds for these activities?

The LIHEAP program manager tracks and maintains spending limits related to any Assurance 16 activities to ensure that no more than 5% of the LIHEAP funds are used for these activities.

13.3 Describe the impact of such activities on the number of households served in the previous Federal fiscal year.

This section is always one program year behind in reporting their outcomes. In 2024 State Plan this section will report 2023 outcomes.

1. SCAP AC Program

First State Community Action Agency has not yet submitted its requested information.

As a result of Assurance 16 Energy Education and SCAP program activities, households participating in the Summer Cooling Assistance Program saw an average reduction in household energy usage of 59 kwh (supporting data attached).

FSCAA provided EcoKits to households participating in the Summer Cooling Assistance Program that resulted in the following estimated household energy savings in FY 23:

274 EcoKits distributed

Estimated energy saved: 231,530.00 kWhs

Estimated water saved: 1387,700 gallons

Estimated household financial savings: \$73,158.00

EcoKits include measures that are low-cost and easy to install that result in conservation of energy such as LED light bulbs, LED nightlights, a toilet tank bank, a low flow showerhead, and sink aerators. Estimated are based on US Department of Energy savings estimates for included energy measures.

2. RRHACE contractors

RRHACE program has completed the awarding process after the recent RFP but the contracts for 2023 have not been executed yet. If the contractors receive Assurance 16 funds from the LIHEAP, they will have to submit full Assurance 16 plans to the state and will report their results in the 2024 plan.

First State response is above.

MHDC and ECA. Through this funding we have been able to serve a greater energy efficiency need for our RRHACE clients and educate them in home energy savings programs.

13.4 Describe the level of direct benefits provided to those households in the previous Federal fiscal year.

This section is always one program year behind in reporting their outcomes. In 2024 State Plan this section will report 2023 outcomes.

1. First State Community Action Agency

See the attachment. The names of the households have been removed from the file.

2. RRHACE contractors

First State response is above.

MHDC and ECA have been able to provide energy efficient repair/replacements of HVAC/heating systems to ensure a greater energy efficiency for our clients

13.5 How many households applied for these services? 1. First State Community Action Agency - 726 households. 2. MHDC and ECA recommend this service to all eligible RRHACE applicants.

13.6 How many households received these services? 1. First State Community Action Agency - 279 households. 2. MHDC and ECA - as of May 31, 2023, we have provided energy audits/education to 11 households

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 14 - Leveraging Incentive Program ,2607A

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Section 14:Leveraging Incentive Program, 2607(A)

14.1 Do you plan to submit an application for the leveraging incentive program?

Yes No

14.2 Describe instructions to any third parties and/or local agencies for submitting LIHEAP leveraging resource information and retaining records.

Currently N/A

14.3 For each type of resource and/or benefit to be leveraged in the upcoming year that will meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 96.87(d)(2)(iii), describe the following:

Resource	What is the type of resource or benefit ?	What is the source(s) of the resource ?	How will the resource be integrated and coordinated with LIHEAP?
1	Catholic Charities Basic Needs Program	Supplied by Catholic Charities	Programs are all administered by Catholic Charities Inc, which is the sub-grantee agency for the LIHEAP in Delaware. This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
2	The Needy Family Fund	Solicits donations from citizens	Programs are all administered by DSSC or Catholic Charities Inc, which is the grantee agency for the LIHEAP in Delaware. This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
3	Sussex County Fuel Fund	Donations	Programs are all administered by DSSC or Catholic Charities Inc, which is the grantee agency for the LIHEAP in Delaware. This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
4	Kent/Sussex Sharing Fund	Donations with Utility Matching Funds	Programs are all administered by DSSC or Catholic Charities Inc, which is the grantee agency for the LIHEAP in Delaware. This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
5	Utility Fund	State funded	Programs are all administered by DSSC or Catholic Charities Inc, which is the grantee agency for the LIHEAP in Delaware. This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
6	State Funds	State funded	Programs are all administered by DSSC or Catholic Charities Inc, which is the grantee agency for the LIHEAP in Delaware. This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
7	Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative	Proceeds from Taxes on Carbon Emissions.	Programs are all administered by DSSC, DNREC, Catholic Charities Inc. and First State Community Action Agency Inc., which are the sub-grantee agencies for the LIHEAP in Delaware. This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
8	ESCHEAT	Delaware Electric Cooperative	Programs are all administered by DSSC or Catholic Charities Inc, Salvation Army, First State Community Action Agency Inc., This enables the DEAP to effectively leverage LIHEAP funds with other resources available in the State of Delaware.
9	Good Neighbor Energy Fund	Delamarva solicits donations from their customers and matches this amount with a corporate donation from shareholder.	Some coordination with the DSSC, but not administered by DSSC.
10	Fuel Vendor Discounts	Offered by participating Fuel Vendors.	Some coordination with the DSSC, but not administered by DSSC.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 15 - Training

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Section 15: Training

15.1 Describe the training you provide for each of the following groups:

a. Grantee Staff:

Formal training on grantee policies and procedures

How often?

Annually

Bi-annually

As needed

Other - Describe:

Employees are provided with policy manual

Other-Describe:

Conferences, workshops, and other-in house sessions addressing various training. There are quarterly meetings with the weatherization team that is located under different state agency and there are several national weatherization trainings that both teams attend together.

b. Local Agencies:

Formal training conference

How often?

Annually

Bi-annually

As needed

Other - Describe:

On-site training

How often?

Annually

Bi-annually

As needed

Other - Describe:

Employees are provided with policy manual

Other - Describe

Local agencies receive quarterly and monthly meetings depending on the amount funds that they administer. During the meetings various subjects are discussed, including any issues with policies or procedures. Local agencies are also offered opportunities to attend national conferences that reflect the program components they administer. Prime contractor provides policy manuals to its staff at the annual training, which includes a thorough review it.

c. Vendors

Formal training conference

How often?

Annually

Bi-annually

As needed

Other - Describe:

Policies communicated through vendor agreements

Policies are outlined in a vendor manual

Other - Describe:

The vendor agreements explains the policies and expectations to the vendors. Administering agency conducts an annual vendor agreement meeting with the fuel vendors that provides an opportunity for the vendors to discuss policies, if needed. Energy vendors have official orientation every year before the start of the program year where they receive their vendor agreements for signing.

15.2 Does your training program address fraud reporting and prevention?

Yes

No

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 16 - Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b)

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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN SF - 424 - MANDATORY

Section 16: Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b) - Required for States Only

16.1 Describe your progress toward meeting the data collection and reporting requirements of the four required LIHEAP (Benefit Targeting Index, Burden Reduction Targeting Index, Restoration of Home Energy Service, and Prevention of Loss of Home Energy Service). Include timeframes and plans for meeting these requirements and what you believe will be accomplished in the coming federal fiscal year.

DE LIHEAP is working with the sub-grantees and vendors to accomplish the collection of data for the performance measures.

After the additional fundings that were received during the pandemic have been depleted, Delaware will have again the following software challenges because DE does not receive sufficient amount of administrative funds for developing and maintaining a more sophisticated system:

- 1) Data exchange with the energy vendors because it has to be executed manually with the help of the Excel spreadsheets. Creating a portal or some other electronic solution is too cost prohibitive for the small grant that Delaware receives because it also constrains our capability to maintain the software;
- 2) Storing and accessing the data will be a challenge beyond the limited capabilities that have been designed into the new software;
- 3) Fixing defects and data errors will be dependent on the availability of the administrative funds that are limited by statute to 10% of the grant.
- 4) Cost of Operations and Maintenance of the software that provides data collection for reports is beyond financial ability of the program because Delaware's 10% of the grant for the administrative purposes is significantly less from the 45 other states that administer LIHEAP.

However, the base capital cost for designing and managing the software that can collect LIHEAP data is the same for all the states because they all have to provide the same outcome variables in their federal reports. Hence, the states that receive smaller grants and have to administer the entire program with the federal funds are worse off managing complex data systems necessary for data collection than the states that receive bigger grants.

Meanwhile, LIHEAP office is executing all the available solutions for assuring data integrity of the reports by manually reviewing the reports before they are entered into the federal OLDC system. The discrepancies that are noticed by LIHEAP office are reported back to the Information Resource Management Unit for further clarification and explanation. If the clarification process produces a different value, the report is adjusted accordingly.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 17 - Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)

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Section 17: Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)

17.1 Fraud Reporting Mechanisms

a. Describe all mechanisms available to the public for reporting cases of suspected waste, fraud, and abuse. Select all that apply.

- Online Fraud Reporting
- Dedicated Fraud Reporting Hotline
- Report directly to local agency/district office or Grantee office
- Report to State Inspector General or Attorney General
- Forms and procedures in place for local agencies/district offices and vendors to report fraud, waste, and abuse
- Other - Describe:

b. Describe strategies in place for advertising the above-referenced resources. Select all that apply

- Printed outreach materials
- Addressed on LIHEAP application
- Website
- Other - Describe:

Following website allows fraud reporting to the DHSS:
<http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/arms/reportfraud.html>

This website is also published at the prime-contractor's website. The new printed outreach materials of the prime-contractor will also include phone numbers for reporting fraud and waste.

DE application states the following:"I understand that it is against the law to make false statements and that I am subject to prosecution if I do."

17.2. Identification Documentation Requirements

a. Indicate which of the following forms of identification are required or requested to be collected from LIHEAP applicants or their household members.

Type of Identification Collected	Collected from Whom?		
	Applicant Only	All Adults in Household	All Household Members
Social Security Card is photocopied and retained	<input type="checkbox"/> Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Required
	<input type="checkbox"/> Requested	<input type="checkbox"/> Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requested
Social Security Number (Without actual Card)	<input type="checkbox"/> Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Required
	<input type="checkbox"/> Requested	<input type="checkbox"/> Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requested
Government-issued identification	<input type="checkbox"/> Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Required

card (i.e.: driver's license, state ID, Tribal ID, passport, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested
Other	Applicant Only Required	Applicant Only Requested	All Adults in Household Required	All Adults in Household Requested	All Household Members Required	All Household Members Requested
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. Describe any exceptions to the above policies.
No exceptions

17.3 Identification Verification
Describe what methods are used to verify the authenticity of identification documents provided by clients or household members. Select all that apply

Verify SSNs with Social Security Administration

Match SSNs with death records from Social Security Administration or state agency

Match SSNs with state eligibility/case management system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)

Match with state Department of Labor system

Match with state and/or federal corrections system

Match with state child support system

Verification using private software (e.g., The Work Number)

In-person certification by staff (for tribal grantees only)

Match SSN/Tribal ID number with tribal database or enrollment records (for tribal grantees only)

Other - Describe:
SSNs are verified against state eligibility/case management system that uses Federal Hub. The households who cannot be verified by the system, are validated by intake staff by requesting original SS card or official document from the social security office that includes their SS number. In addition, the state's internal case management system also assigns unique identifiers to the clients called master client index that is used to receive all the State of Delaware DHSS benefits.

17.4. Citizenship/Legal Residency Verification
What are your procedures for ensuring that household members are U.S. citizens or aliens who are qualified to receive LIHEAP benefits? Select all that apply.

Clients sign an attestation of citizenship or legal residency

Client's submission of Social Security cards is accepted as proof of legal residency

Noncitizens must provide documentation of immigration status

Citizens must provide a copy of their birth certificate, naturalization papers, or passport

Noncitizens are verified through the SAVE system

Tribal members are verified through Tribal enrollment records/Tribal ID card

Other - Describe:
Citizenship and legal residency are verified against state eligibility/case management system that uses Federal Hub. Households that cannot be verified by the system would have to provide acceptable documents.

17.5. Income Verification
What methods does your agency utilize to verify household income? Select all that apply.

Require documentation of income for all adult household members

Pay stubs

Social Security award letters

Bank statements

Tax statements

Zero-income statements

Unemployment Insurance letters

Other - Describe:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer data matches:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income information matched against state computer system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proof of unemployment benefits verified with state Department of Labor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Security income verified with SSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilize state directory of new hires
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:
17.6. Protection of Privacy and Confidentiality	
Describe the financial and operating controls in place to protect client information against improper use or disclosure. Select all that apply.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy in place prohibiting release of information without written consent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grantee LIHEAP database includes privacy/confidentiality safeguards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Employee training on confidentiality for:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grantee employees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local agencies/district offices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Employees must sign confidentiality agreement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grantee employees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local agencies/district offices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Physical files are stored in a secure location
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:
17.7. Verifying the Authenticity	
What policies are in place for verifying vendor authenticity? Select all that apply.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All vendors must register with the State/Tribe.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All vendors must supply a valid SSN or TIN/W-9 form
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vendors are verified through energy bills provided by the household
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grantee and/or local agencies/district offices perform physical monitoring of vendors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe and note any exceptions to policies above:
	All vendors must provide Current Delaware Business License, and Liability Insurance.
	The LIHEAP administrator goes to the System for Award Management website to verify if the sub-grantee has been placed on the suspended or debarred list for contracts with federal dollars. This helps to maintain the integrity of the sub-grantees participating in LIHEAP. However, energy vendors are not verified through SAM. However, sub-grantee writes checks to the energy vendors and delivered fuels have to submit bills to the sub-grantee to get reimbursed and non-delivered fuels have client account verification process with Catholic Charities.
17.8. Benefits Policy - Gas and Electric Utilities	
What policies are in place to protect against fraud when making benefit payments to gas and electric utilities on behalf of clients? Select all that apply.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Applicants required to submit proof of physical residency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Applicants must submit current utility bill
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data exchange with utilities that verifies:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Account ownership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consumption
<input type="checkbox"/>	Balances
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payment history
<input type="checkbox"/>	Account is properly credited with benefit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:
	DE sends an Excel Spreadsheet to the Gas and Electric Utilities for account verification before the account receives the LIHEAP benefit. However, it is a manual process and not a real time data exchange.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Centralized computer system/database tracks payments to all utilities

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Centralized computer system automatically generates benefit level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Separation of duties between intake and payment approval
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payments coordinated among other energy assistance programs to avoid duplication of payments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Payments to utilities and invoices from utilities are reviewed for accuracy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer databases are periodically reviewed to verify accuracy and timeliness of payments made to utilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Procedures are in place to require prompt refunds from utilities in cases of account closure
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe: Reconciliation spreadsheet is sent from energy vendor to local sub grantee every May.
17.9. Benefits Policy - Bulk Fuel Vendors	
What procedures are in place for averting fraud and improper payments when dealing with bulk fuel suppliers of heating oil, propane, wood, and other bulk fuel vendors? Select all that apply.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vendors are checked against an approved vendors list
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Centralized computer system/database is used to track payments to all vendors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clients are relied on for reports of non-delivery or partial delivery
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Two-party checks are issued naming client and vendor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vendors are only paid once they provide a delivery receipt signed by the client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct monitoring of bulk fuel vendors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bulk fuel vendors are required to submit reports to the Grantee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:
17.10. Investigations and Prosecutions	
Describe the Grantee's procedures for investigating and prosecuting reports of fraud, and any sanctions placed on clients/staff/vendors found to have committed fraud. Select all that apply.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Refer to state Inspector General
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Refer to local prosecutor or state Attorney General
<input type="checkbox"/>	Refer to US DHHS Inspector General (including referral to OIG hotline)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local agencies/district offices or Grantee conduct investigation of fraud complaints from public
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grantee attempts collection of improper payments. If so, describe the recoupment process
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clients found to have committed fraud are banned from LIHEAP assistance. For how long is a household banned? 3 years if paid benefits to vendor are not returned to Sub-Grantee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contracts with local agencies require that employees found to have committed fraud are reprimanded and/or terminated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vendors found to have committed fraud may no longer participate in LIHEAP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe: State of Delaware Auditor's Office maintains an anonymous Delaware referral site to facilitate the reporting of allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse of state government resources. 1-800-553-7283
If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.	

Section 18: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.

3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

4. The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

5. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

6. The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

7. The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or

voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

(2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later

determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, [[Page 33043]] should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility an Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.

Section 19: Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988: 45 CFR Part 76, Subpart, F. Sections 76.630(c) and (d)(2) and 76.645(a)(1) and (b) provide that a Federal agency may designate a central receipt point for STATE-WIDE AND STATE AGENCY-WIDE certifications, and for notification of criminal drug convictions. For the Department of Health and Human Services, the central point is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Instructions for Certification)

1. By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification set out below.
2. The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the agency, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
3. For grantees other than individuals, Alternate I applies.
4. For grantees who are individuals, Alternate II applies.
5. Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.
6. Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio studios).
7. If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph five).
8. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

Controlled substance means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

Criminal drug statute means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

Employee means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including: (i) All direct charge employees; (ii) All indirect charge employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and, (iii) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Alternate I. (Grantees Other Than Individuals)

The grantee certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about --

(1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

(3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will --

(1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and

(2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;

(e) Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification

- number(s) of each affected grant;
- (f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted -(1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
- (2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
- (g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).
- (B) The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)

Delaware Department of Health and Human Services/ Division of State Service Centers * Address Line 1		
1901 N. DuPont Highway Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
New Castle * City	DE * State	19720 * Zip Code

Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

Alternate II. (Grantees Who Are Individuals)

- (a) The grantee certifies that, as a condition of the grant, he or she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant;
- (b) If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, he or she will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to every grant officer or other designee, unless the Federal agency designates a central point for the receipt of such notices. When notice is made to such a central point, it shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

[55 FR 21690, 21702, May 25, 1990]

By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.

Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying

Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying

The submitter of this application certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.

Assurances

Assurances

(1) use the funds available under this title to--

(A) conduct outreach activities and provide assistance to low income households in meeting their home energy costs, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, consistent with paragraph (5);

(B) intervene in energy crisis situations;

(C) provide low-cost residential weatherization and other cost-effective energy-related home repair;and

(D)plan, develop, and administer the State's program under this title including leveraging programs, and the State agrees not to use such funds for any purposes other than those specified in this title;

(2) make payments under this title only with respect to--

(A) households in which one or more individuals are receiving--

(i)assistance under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act;

(ii) supplemental security income payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act;

(iii) food stamps under the Food Stamp Act of 1977; or

(iv) payments under section 415, 521, 541, or 542 of title 38, United States Code, or under section 306 of the Veterans' and Survivors' Pension Improvement Act of 1978; or

(B) households with incomes which do not exceed the greater of -

(i) an amount equal to 150 percent of the poverty level for such State; or

(ii) an amount equal to 60 percent of the State median income;

(except that a State may not exclude a household from eligibility in a fiscal year solely on the basis of household income if such income is less than 110 percent of the poverty level for such State, but the State may give priority to those households with the highest home energy costs or needs in relation to household income.

(3) conduct outreach activities designed to assure that eligible households, especially households with elderly individuals or disabled individuals, or both, and households with high home energy burdens, are made aware of the assistance available under this title, and any similar energy-related assistance available under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program) or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(4) coordinate its activities under this title with similar and related programs administered by the Federal Government and such State, particularly low-income

energy-related programs under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program), under the supplemental security income program, under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, under title XX of the Social Security Act, under the low-income weatherization assistance program under title IV of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(5) provide, in a timely manner, that the highest level of assistance will be furnished to those households which have the lowest incomes and the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income, taking into account family size, except that the State may not differentiate in implementing this section between the households described in clauses 2(A) and 2(B) of this subsection;

(6) to the extent it is necessary to designate local administrative agencies in order to carry out the purposes of this title, to give special consideration, in the designation of such agencies, to any local public or private nonprofit agency which was receiving Federal funds under any low-income energy assistance program or weatherization program under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 or any other provision of law on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, except that -

(A) the State shall, before giving such special consideration, determine that the agency involved meets program and fiscal requirements established by the State; and

(B) if there is no such agency because of any change in the assistance furnished to programs for economically disadvantaged persons, then the State shall give special consideration in the designation of local administrative agencies to any successor agency which is operated in substantially the same manner as the predecessor agency which did receive funds for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made;

(7) if the State chooses to pay home energy suppliers directly, establish procedures to --

(A) notify each participating household of the amount of assistance paid on its behalf;

(B) assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment made by the State under this title;

(C) assure that the home energy supplier will provide assurances that any agreement entered into with a home energy supplier under this paragraph will contain provisions to assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of such assistance under applicable provisions of State law or public regulatory requirements; and

(D) ensure that the provision of vendor payments remains at the option of the State in consultation with local grantees and may be contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households, including providing for agreements between suppliers and individuals eligible for benefits under this Act that seek to reduce home energy costs, minimize the risks of home energy crisis, and encourage regular payments by individuals receiving financial assistance for home energy costs;

(8) provide assurances that,

(A) the State will not exclude households described in clause (2)(B) of this subsection from receiving home energy assistance benefits under clause (2), and

(B) the State will treat owners and renters equitably under the program assisted under this title;

(9) provide that--

(A) the State may use for planning and administering the use of funds under this title an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the funds payable to such State under this title for a fiscal year; and

(B) the State will pay from non-Federal sources the remaining costs of planning and administering the program assisted under this title and will not use Federal funds for such remaining cost (except for the costs of the activities described in paragraph (16));

(10) provide that such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures will be established as may be necessary to assure the proper disbursement of and accounting for Federal funds paid to the State under this title, including procedures for monitoring the assistance provided under this title, and provide that the State will comply with the provisions of chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the "Single Audit Act");

(11) permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 2608;

(12) provide for timely and meaningful public participation in the development of the plan described in subsection (c);

(13) provide an opportunity for a fair administrative hearing to individuals whose claims for assistance under the plan described in subsection (c) are denied or are not acted upon with reasonable promptness; and

(14) cooperate with the Secretary with respect to data collecting and reporting under section 2610.

(15) * beginning in fiscal year 1992, provide, in addition to such services as may be offered by State Departments of Public Welfare at the local level, outreach and intake functions for crisis situations and heating and cooling assistance that is administered by additional State and local governmental entities or community-based organizations (such as community action agencies, area agencies on aging and not-for-profit neighborhood-based organizations), and in States where such organizations do not administer functions as of September 30, 1991, preference in awarding grants or contracts for intake services shall be provided to those agencies that administer the low-income weatherization or energy crisis intervention programs.

*** This assurance is applicable only to States, and to territories whose annual regular LIHEAP allotments exceed \$200,000. Neither territories with annual allotments of \$200,000 or less nor Indian tribes/tribal organizations are subject to Assurance 15.**

(16) use up to 5 percent of such funds, at its option, to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and

thereby the need for energy assistance, including needs assessments, counseling, and assistance with energy vendors, and report to the Secretary concerning the impact of such activities on the number of households served, the level of direct benefits provided to those households, and the number of households that remain unserved.

Plan Attachments

PLAN ATTACHMENTS
The following documents must be attached to this application
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delegation Letter is required if someone other than the Governor or Chairman Certified this Report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heating component benefit matrix, if applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cooling component benefit matrix, if applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes, notes, or transcripts of public hearing(s).