



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
1011 Plum Street SE • PO Box 42525 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2525 • 360-725-4000  
[www.commerce.wa.gov](http://www.commerce.wa.gov)

## Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Agreement

Between

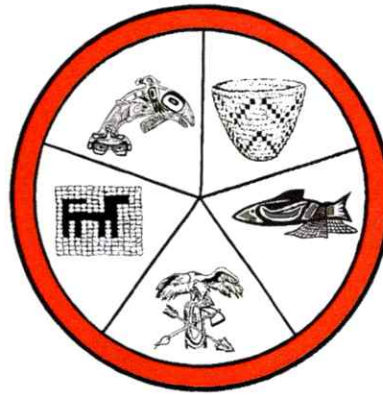
South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency

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And

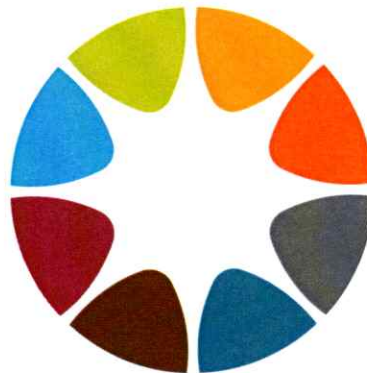
Washington State Department of Commerce

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## **1. Purpose**

Title XXVI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 states under section 2604(d) (2) of the LIHEAP statute provides that the LIHEAP allocations of reservation-based Native American Tribes applying for direct federal LIHEAP funding are to be based on the ratio of the number of eligible Native American households living within a state on the Tribe's reservation or adjacent trust land, to the total number of eligible households in the state, with the resulting percentage multiplied by the state's gross LIHEAP allocation—or on a larger amount agreed on by the Tribe and the State.

The Washington State Department of Commerce (Commerce) agrees to apply to the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), for LIHEAP funds allocated to the State of Washington.

The South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA) agrees to deliver LIHEAP services for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Nisqually Indian Tribe, Skokomish Indian Tribe, Squaxin Island Tribe and Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe.

## **2. Length of Agreement**

We intend the agreement to be reviewed every three years. If the agreement cannot be reviewed in this time period, the agreement will remain in effect. The agreement can be extended or renegotiated at any time with consent of both parties.

## **3. Service Territory**

SPIPA shall provide benefits to all eligible Native American households residing on the:

- Chehalis reservation and off-reservation trust land in Grays Harbor and Thurston counties.
- Nisqually reservation in Thurston and Pierce counties.
- Skokomish reservation in Mason County.
- Squaxin Island reservation and off-reservation trust land in Mason County.
- Shoalwater Bay reservation and off-reservation trust land in Pacific County.

For purposes of LIHEAP, a Native American household is one in which a member is Native American. Tribal members may seek services from a non-Tribal LIHEAP servicer when the household has moved outside of the tribe's geographical service area, if the household is closer to a non-Tribal LIHEAP provider and chooses to be served closer to home, or if SPIPA runs out of LIHEAP funds.

## **4. Funding Allocation**

SPIPA will receive \$260,447 from the US Department of Health and Human Services for each fiscal year of this agreement. The total Tribal distribution is based on a percentage of households with income at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

## **5. Data sovereignty, data sharing and non-duplication of payments**

SPIPA and Commerce will take the necessary steps to prevent duplicate payments to eligible households. SPIPA and Commerce will identify procedures to prevent duplicate payments to eligible households and will identify procedures to prevent duplicate payments in the separate funding plans

serving separate geographic areas. In order for Commerce and SPIPA to prevent duplicate payments, the following is agreed to when necessary.

- A. Name and social security number of household members.
- B. Amount of assistance received in the case of persons moving on or off tribal service territory.

Referral of applicant households will be made by SPIPA and Commerce when appropriate.

**6. Hold Harmless**

SPIPA holds Commerce harmless for any violations of federal regulations by the said Tribal organization. SPIPA further holds Commerce harmless for any audit exceptions of SPIPA administration of LIHEAP. SPIPA further holds Commerce harmless for any liability, loss, or damage that may be suffered directly or indirectly by any third party as the result of any claims, demands, or actions arising from the performance of this agreement by SPIPA.

**SPIPA**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

6-10-24  
Date

Executive Director  
Position Title

**Commerce**

DocuSigned by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
6A85C9B618494EF...  
Signature

7/5/2024 | 11:44 AM PDT  
Date

Assistant Director, Commerce  
Position Title