



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
1011 Plum Street SE • PO Box 42525 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2525 • 360-725-4000
www.commerce.wa.gov

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Agreement

Between

Small Tribes Organization of Western Washington

3040 96th St. S
Lakewood, WA 98499

(253) 589-7101

smalltribesorg@yahoo.com

<https://stoww.org/>



And

Washington State Department of Commerce

1011 Plum Street SE
P.O. Box 42525
Olympia, WA 98504

(360) 725-2862

brian.sarensen@commerce.wa.gov

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/>



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 Small Tribes Organization of Western Washington (STOWW) agrees to deliver LIHEAP services for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, and the Upper Skagit 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

STOWW shall provide benefits to:

Cowlitz Indian Tribe

- All eligible Native American households residing on the Cowlitz Tribe reservation.
- Any Cowlitz Tribal member residing within Washington State.

Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

- All eligible Native American households residing on the Sauk-Suiattle reservation.
- Any Sauk-Suiattle Tribal member residing within Washington State.

Snoqualmie Indian Tribe

- All eligible Native American households residing on the Snoqualmie reservation.
- Any Snoqualmie Tribal member residing within Washington State.

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians

- All eligible Native American households residing on the Stillaguamish reservation and off-reservation trust land in Snohomish County.

Upper Skagit Indian Tribe

- All eligible Native American households residing on the Upper Skagit reservation and off-reservation trust land in Skagit 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 STOWW runs out of LIHEAP funds.

4. Funding Allocation

STOWW will receive \$151,662 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

STOWW and Commerce will take the necessary steps to prevent duplicate payments to eligible households. STOWW 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 STOWW 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 STOWW and Commerce when appropriate.

6. Hold Harmless

STOWW holds Commerce harmless for any violations of federal regulations by STOWW. STOWW further holds Commerce harmless for any audit exceptions of STOWW's administration of LIHEAP. STOWW 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 STOWW.

STOWW

Tom Anderson
 Signature

June 20, 2024
 Date

Program Mgr.
 Position Title

Commerce

DocuSigned by:
Cindy Austin-Anderson
 6A85C9B618494EF...
 Signature

7/5/2024 | 11:43 AM PDT
 Date

Assistant Director, Commerce
 Position Title