

DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)

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: 06/30/2017

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: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity			
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 36-4-76134		* c. Organizational DUNS: 968930664	
* d. Address:			
* Street 1:	107 E. MADISON STREET, MSC 400	Street 2:	
* City:	TALLAHASSEE	County:	
* State:	FL	Province:	
* Country:	United States	* Zip / Postal Code:	32399 -
e. Organizational Unit:			
Department Name: Division of Community Development		Division Name: Bureau of Community Assistance	

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:	* First Name: Jean	Middle Name:	* Last Name: Amison
Suffix:	Title: Planning Manager	Organizational Affiliation:	
* Telephone Number: 850-717-8468	Fax Number: 850-488-2488	* Email: jean.amison@deo.myflorida.com	

* 8a. TYPE OF APPLICANT:

A: State Government

b. Additional Description:

*** 9. Name of Federal Agency:**

	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	CFDA Title:
10. CFDA Numbers and Titles	93568	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance

11. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project

12. Areas Affected by Funding:
Statewide

13. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:

* a. Applicant 2	b. Program/Project: 2
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Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

14. FUNDING PERIOD:		15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:	
a. Start Date: 10/01/2015	b. End Date: 09/30/2016	* 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		18c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)	
		18d. Email Address	
18b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official		18e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year)	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.			

Section 1 - Program Components

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Community Services
Washington, DC 20447

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Approval No. 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 02/28/2005

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	10/01/2015	03/31/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooling assistance	04/01/2016	09/30/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crisis assistance	10/01/2015	09/30/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weatherization assistance	10/01/2015	09/30/2016

Provide further explanation for the dates of operation, if necessary

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	10.50%
Cooling assistance	16.00%
Crisis assistance	38.00%
Weatherization assistance	15.00%
Carryover to the following federal fiscal year	10.00%
Administrative and planning costs	10.00%
Services to reduce home energy needs including needs assessment (Assurance 16)	0.50%
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 type="checkbox"/> Cooling assistance
<input type="checkbox"/> Weatherization assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify:) Year-round home energy cooling and/or heating assistance, and weather-related

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? Yes 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 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
SSI	<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
SNAP	<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
Means-tested Veterans Programs	<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

	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? Yes 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? Yes 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

1.7c Frequency of Assistance

Once Per Year

Once every five years

Other - Describe:

1.7d How do you confirm that the household receiving a nominal payment has an energy cost or need?

Not applicable to Florida

Determination of Eligibility - Countable Income

1.8. In determining a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP, do you use gross income or net income ?

Gross Income

Net Income

1.9. Select all the applicable forms of countable income used to determine a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP

Wages

Self - Employment Income

Contract Income

Payments from mortgage or Sales Contracts

Unemployment insurance

Strike Pay

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Including MediCare deduction	<input 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Income from employment through Workforce Investment Act (WIA)	
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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"/>	Other training stipends, net gambling or lottery winnings, periodic receipts from estates or trusts, payments to foster children age 18/older received through the Independent Living Program, Social Security Benefit Garnishes for Non-Payment of School Loans

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 2 - HEATING ASSISTANCE

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

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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	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

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:

Additional requirements for HEATING Assistance: At least one member of the household must be a legal resident; household must not have received the same type of benefit within the previous 12 months (excludes crisis); must show proof that the applicant is responsible to pay for part or all of the utility bill.

Priority in eligibility to elderly, disabled or young child: additional benefit is provided if at least one member of the household is elderly, disabled or child 5 and under; additional priority and an additional benefit provided to households with higher energy burdens (i.e., lower household income).

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.

Vulnerable populations are provided an additional benefit when applying for heating assistance (see attached benefit payment matrix for home energy benefits):

Applicant with one or more elderly members: Additional \$50 benefit per household

Applicant with one or more disabled members: Additional \$50 benefit per household

Applicant with one or more young children: Additional \$75 benefit per household

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:

Applicant household with one or more vulnerable population members (elderly, disabled, young child) are provided an additional benefit (see 2.4 above and attached).

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

2.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2016:

Minimum Benefit	\$150	Maximum Benefit	\$475
------------------------	-------	------------------------	-------

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

If yes, describe.

Not with home energy benefits

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 componenet:

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

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?	<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

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
Households with high energy burdens ?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Other?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:

Additional requirements for COOLING Assistance: At least one member of the household must be a legal resident; household must not have received the same type of benefit within the previous 12 months (excludes crisis); must show proof that the applicant is responsible to pay for part or all of the utility bill.

Priority in eligibility to elderly, disabled or young child: additional benefit is provided if at least one member of the household is elderly, disabled or child 5 and under; additional priority and an additional benefit provided to households with higher energy burdens (i.e., lower household income).

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

Vulnerable populations are provided an additional benefit when applying for heating assistance (see attached benefit payments matrix):

Applicant with one or more elderly members: Additional \$50 benefit per household

Applicant with one or more disabled members: Additional \$50 benefit per household

Applicant with one or more young children: Additional \$75 benefit per household

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
 - 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:			
Applicant household with one or more vulnerable population members (elderly, disabled, young child) are provided an additional benefit (see 2.4 above and attached).			
Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)			
3.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2016:			
Minimum Benefit	\$150	Maximum Benefit	\$475
3.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., fans, air conditioners) and/or other forms of benefits? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
If yes, describe.			
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
 ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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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	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

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

Florida has a statewide definition of crisis that all subgrantees must use in determining if a client is eligible for a crisis benefit:

Home Energy Crisis - shall be defined as no access or being in immediate danger of losing access to needed home energy because of any of the following:

- a. The Applicant's home cooling or heating energy source has been cut off;
- b. The Applicant has been notified that the energy source for cooling or heating is going to be cut off;
- c. The Applicant has received a notice indicating the energy source is delinquent or past due;
- d. The Applicant is unable to get delivery of fuel for heating, is out of fuel for heating, or is in danger of being out of fuel for heating;
- e. The Applicant has a bill for which the due date has lapsed; or
- f. The Applicant has other problems with lack of cooling or heating in the home, such as needing to pay a deposit, needing a repair or purchase of heating or cooling equipment, or needing interim emergency measures to avoid further crisis.

4.3 What constitutes a life-threatening crisis?

All crisis applications/situations must be resolved within 18 hours. The statewide policy is:

Eligible Actions - All applications for Crisis Assistance must be acted upon by Recipient with an Eligible Action taken to mediate the crisis within 18 hours of Application Receipt. Eligible Actions include:

- a. Approval of application;
- b. Denial of application pending further information;
- c. Denial of application because Applicant is deemed ineligible;
- d. Contact utility vendor to halt power disconnection or interruption in services; or
- e. Written referral to, along with providing Applicant assistance in contacting, another agency if LIHEAP funding is not available or the Applicant is ineligible.

Crisis Requirement, 2604(c)

4.4 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households? 18Hours

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? Yes No

4.7 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each

Do you require an Assets test ? Yes No

Do you give priority in eligibility to :

Elderly? Yes No

Disabled?

	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Young Children?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Households with high energy burdens?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Other?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Must heating/cooling be medically necessary?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Must the household have non-working heating or cooling equipment?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Other? delinquent notices	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input 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>Additional requirements for CRISIS Assistance: At least one member of the household must be a legal resident; household must not have received the same type of benefit within the same season (i.e., one cooling crisis and one heating crisis per season); must show proof that the applicant is responsible to pay for part or all of the utility bill.</p> <p>Local provider agencies give priority in appointments to households with members in one or more of the vulnerable population, and depending on funding, may only provide crisis benefits to households with one or more members of a vulnerable population.</p> <p>Additional requirements for RENTERS LIVING IN SUBSIDIZED HOUSING: Applicants are eligible for both crisis and non-crisis benefits; however, the portion of the utilities subsidized through the housing program must be deducted from any CRISIS benefit received.</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount to resolve the crisis.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:
Amount to resolve the crisis, up to the maximum of \$600 per occurrence. Applicants are eligible to receive one COOLING crisis (April-September) and one HEATING crisis (October-March) per season. Each agency has the option to provide only 1 crisis benefit per year, depending on funding and demand.	
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.	
Each local provider agency must operate offices and hours that are accessible to all households in each county they serve.	
4.11 Do you provide individuals who are physically disabled the means to:	
Submit applications for crisis benefits without leaving their homes?	

Yes No If No, explain.

Travel to the sites at which applications for crisis assistance are accepted?

Yes 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?

Benefit Levels, 2605(c)(1)(B)

4.12 Indicate the maximum benefit for each type of crisis assistance offered.

Winter Crisis \$600 maximum benefit

Summer Crisis \$600 maximum benefit

Year-round Crisis \$0 maximum benefit

4.13 Do you provide in-kind (e.g. blankets, space heaters, fans) and/or other forms of benefits?

Yes No If yes, Describe

Local provider agencies may provide space heaters and electric blankets. In the event of a weather-related or supply shortage emergency, directives are developed specifically to address the emergency need, such as repair or replacement of heating/cooling equipment, emergency deposits, short-term housing costs, etc. The allowable limits and measures are outlined as needed.

4.14 Do you provide for equipment repair or replacement using crisis funds?

Yes 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heating system replacement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood stove purchase	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pellet stove purchase	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar panel(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utility poles / gas line hook-ups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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.

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
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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	HHS Poverty Guidelines	200.00%

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.

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:

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 Yes No

Renters living in subsidized housing? Yes No

5.8 Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Elderly? Yes No

Disabled? Yes No

Young Children? Yes No

House holds with high energy burdens? Yes No

Other? Yes 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.

The Weatherization Assistance Program follows all US DOE guidelines for client income, eligibility and priority.

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? \$6,904

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

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weatherization needs assessments/audits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy related roof repair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caulking and insulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major appliance Repairs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Storm windows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major appliance replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace/heating system modifications/ repairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Windows/sliding glass doors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace replacement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooling system modifications/ repairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Heater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water conservation measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooling system replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compact florescent light bulbs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe: Solar sun screens; health and safety

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)

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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):

The Department's website contains information concerning income eligibility and lists local providers and contact information for 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joint application for multiple programs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intake referrals to/from other programs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	One - stop intake centers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe: Economic/workforce development

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?

NA

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

NA

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

NA

8.5 LIHEAP Component Administration.	Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization
8.5a Who determines client eligibility?	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits State Community Services Agency	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits
8.5b Who processes benefit payments to gas and electric vendors?	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits State Community Services Agency	

8.5c who processes benefit payments to bulk fuel vendors?	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits State Community Services Agency	
8.5d Who performs installation of weatherization measures?				Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies 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?

1) For unserved areas, see the attached process for selecting a local administering agency for a county that is unserved.

2) For current local administering agencies, the process is non-competitive once the agency is chosen through the process outlined in the attachment noted in #1 above. Each year, once DEO receives its allocation from HHS, DEO uses its current funding formula to derive the amount each local agency will receive. 15% is allocated to Weatherization through an MOA; 6% is allocated to the State of Florida Department of Elder Affairs for an elderly emergency component program. The local agencies complete and submit a grant package that includes their budget and workplan, cost allocation plans, vendor agreements, and other supporting documentation. DEO must review and approve each grant prior to signature. A copy of the FY2015 LIHEAP Agreement is attached. The FY2015 Agreement began March 1, 2015.

8.7 How many local administering agencies do you use? 30

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

NA

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.

The only exception is if the subgrantee does not have a vendor agreement in place (i.e., for smaller, locally owned gas businesses). The exception would be to provide a 2-party check made out to the client and the vendor.

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

Each approved applicant is provided an approval letter with the amount of assistance provided and appeal procedures if they feel the benefit amount is incorrect or if they feel their application was not acted upon in a timely manner.

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?

Each local provider agency is required to enter into an agreement with each home energy supplier in their area. Within that agreement, the supplier agrees to this stipulation. If not, that supplier may not participate in the LIHEAP program.

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?

Each local provider agency is required to enter into an agreement with each home energy supplier in their area. Within that agreement, the supplier agrees to this stipulation. If not, that supplier may not participate in the LIHEAP program.

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?

The Department conducts on-site monitoring of administrative, fiscal and program operations every 2-3 years of each local provider agency. A sampling of fiscal operations, client files and vendor payments are reviewed to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements of expenditures of funds. Monthly financial status reports are reviewed to ensure correct accounting of expenditures. Yearly A-133 audits are required of all subgrantees and must be reviewed each year for deficiencies or material weaknesses. The monitoring tool used by DEO is attached.

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				

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Client File Testing / Sampling
<input type="checkbox"/> Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:
10.6 Explain, or attach a copy of your local agency monitoring schedule and protocol.
Both our current monitoring manual and the monitoring schedule are attached.
10.7. Describe how you select local agencies for monitoring reviews.
Site Visits: The Department conducts on-site monitoring of all local agencies every 2-3 years. Priority in scheduling of monitoring visits is given based on the risk assessment conducted prior to issuance of the grant, if there are recent management or key program staff turnover, unresolved monitoring issues more than one year old, or identified audit findings or concerns that required a management letter.
Desk Reviews: Desk reviews are conducted monthly, quarterly and yearly. Monthly, financial reports are reviewed for accurate expenditure of funds. Quarterly, household data is reported and reviewed. Yearly, the contract is reviewed for fiscal compliance at closeout, and again during the negotiation process for program and financial compliance.
10.8. How often is each local agency monitored ?
On-site every 2-3 years, or more often as described in 10.7.
10.9. What is the combined error rate for eligibility determinations? OPTIONAL
NA
10.10. What is the combined error rate for benefit determinations? OPTIONAL
NA
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?

Please see the document attached below.

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	8/20/2015	Public Hearing

11.4. How many parties commented on your plan at the hearing(s)? 0

11.5 Summarize the comments you received at the hearing(s).

No additional comments were received at the hearing.

11.6 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of the comments received at the public hearing(s)?

No additional changes were made as a result of the hearing as no additional comments were received. Some of the suggested changes from the workshops were already incorporated.

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.

Florida has a minimum process for fair hearings and appeals that all subgrantees must follow:

At a minimum, Recipient's appeals process must provide an opportunity for an Applicant or Client to file a written appeal or complaint with Recipient's Program Supervisor within ten (10) working days of receipt of the written Notice of Denial and Appeal:

- a. Upon receipt of a validly filed appeal or complaint, Recipient must respond in writing within ten (10) working days.
- b. The Applicant or Client may appeal Recipient's first response by filing its objections to the response with Recipient's Director, Executive Director or Board Chair, as applicable, within five (5) working days of receipt of the first response.
- c. Upon receipt of a validly filed objection to the first response, Recipient must respond in writing within ten (10) working days, and the response must clearly state the final outcome of the appeal, that the decision is final, and, if applicable, the circumstances under which the Applicant or Client may re-apply for services.

12.5 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

At a minimum, local provider agencies are required to furnish in writing to all applicants a Notice of Denial OR Approval and Appeals within 15 working days of the Application Date (defined as the date the application is completed). The subgrantee's fair hearing and appeals process must also be posted in a prominent place where applications are taken. At a minimum, the written Notice of Denial and Appeals shall contain:

1. Name of Applicant;
2. Date of Application;
3. Type of benefit sought;
4. Reason(s) for denial;
5. Statement on Recipient's benefit limits, if applicable;
6. Statement of appeals process;
7. Explanation of the circumstances under which the Applicant may reapply;
8. Explanation of the information or documentation needed for the Applicant to reapply;
9. Name, phone number, and address applicable to the appeal process; and
10. Number of days the Applicant has to file the appeal.

The Notice of Approval and Appeals must contain:

1. Type and amount of assistance received
2. The name of the energy vendor to be paid
3. The next date when the client will be eligible to apply
4. The appeals and fair hearing policy (see 12.6 below)

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

The fair hearing process for applications not acted upon in a timely manner is the same as the process for a fair hearing for a denial of an application. All applications must be acted upon with 'Reasonable Promptness' defined as within 15 working days of Application Receipt (which is defined as the date an Applicant first submits an application for assistance.

Florida has a minimum process for fair hearings and appeals that all subgrantees must follow:

At a minimum, Recipient's appeals process must provide an opportunity for an Applicant or Client to file a written appeal or complaint with Recipient's Program Supervisor within ten (10) working days of receipt of the written Notice of Denial OR Approval and Appeals:

- a. Upon receipt of a validly filed appeal or complaint, Recipient must respond in writing within ten (10) working days.
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- c. Upon receipt of a validly filed objection to the first response, Recipient must respond in writing within ten (10) working days, and the response must clearly state the final outcome of the appeal, that the decision is final, and, if applicable, the circumstances under which the Applicant or Client may re-apply for services.

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1. Name of Applicant;
2. Date of Application;
3. Type of benefit sought;
4. Reason(s) for denial;
5. Statement on Recipient's benefit limits, if applicable;
6. Statement of appeals process;
7. Explanation of the circumstances under which the Applicant may reapply;
8. Explanation of the information or documentation needed for the Applicant to reapply;
9. Name, phone number, and address applicable to the appeal process; and
10. Number of days the Applicant has to file the appeal.

The Notice of Approval and Appeals must contain:

1. Type and amount of assistance received
2. The name of the energy vendor to be paid
3. The next date when the client will be eligible to apply
4. The appeals and fair hearing policy

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?

The Department budgets .5 percent of its LIHEAP funds for Assurance 16 activities. In the coming Federal Fiscal Year, the Department may work with a local LIHEAP provider (or consultant) to conduct a state-wide energy needs assessment. Based on the results of the assessment, the Department plans to provide energy-related education materials targeted to specific community energy needs.

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

Once the .5 percent funds are obligated at the state level, the obligation is confirmed in the State's budget and payment system, FLAIR. Once confirmed, the Department is unable to expend any funds greater than the budgeted amount of .5 percent.

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

The Department conducted no Assurance 16 activities in the previous Federal Fiscal Year.

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

N/A

13.5 How many households applied for these services? none

13.6 How many households received these services? none

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.

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. Â§ 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			

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

Biannually

As needed

Other - Describe:

Employees are provided with policy manual

Other-Describe:

Team monitoring trips where newer staff members conduct on-site monitoring with seasoned staff members.

b. Local Agencies:

Formal training conference

How often?

Annually

Biannually

As needed

Other - Describe:

On-site training

How often?

Annually

Biannually

As needed

Other - Describe:

Employees are provided with policy manual

Other - Describe

Local agency staff is trained at the local level. Each agency is required to have a policy and procedure manual, and the guidelines for that manual are outlined in the subgrant agreement and the monitoring manual (that is incorporated by reference into the agreement). DEO staff also provides training and technical assistance as needed, onsite and via phone/webinar to all local agencies. DEO is currently working on a policy manual that will outline state minimum policies for all agencies to follow.

c. Vendors

Formal training conference

How often?

Annually

Biannually

As needed

Other - Describe:



Policies communicated through vendor agreements



Policies are outlined in a vendor manual



Other - Describe:

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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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 performance measures. Include timeframes and plans for meeting these requirements and what you believe will be accomplished in the coming federal fiscal year.

Florida plans to implement full data collection of all four required LIHEAP performance measures beginning in FY 2016 (October 1, 2015), with first reporting available by December 15, 2016. Florida is working with APPRISE and its vendors to determine the most expedient way to collect, transfer and analyze the data.

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:

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested	
Government-issued identification card (i.e.: driver's license, state ID, Tribal ID, passport, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input checked="" 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

b. Describe any exceptions to the above policies.

There may be cases where a SSN is not obtainable (infant, non-legal resident, work visa, etc.). in these cases, other acceptable 3rd party verifiable documents are acceptable.

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:

Some local provider agencies have access to third party verification systems, but not all.

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:

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:
- Computer data matches:
- Income information matched against state computer system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)
- Proof of unemployment benefits verified with state Department of Labor
- Social Security income verified with SSA
- Utilize state directory of new hires
- 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.

- Policy in place prohibiting release of information without written consent
- Grantee LIHEAP database includes privacy/confidentiality safeguards
- Employee training on confidentiality for:
 - Grantee employees
 - Local agencies/district offices
- Employees must sign confidentiality agreement
 - Grantee employees
 - Local agencies/district offices
- Physical files are stored in a secure location
- Other - Describe:

Each provider agency is required to have a policy addressing the confidentiality and security of client records, both paper and electronic.

17.7. Verifying the Authenticity

What policies are in place for verifying vendor authenticity? Select all that apply.

- All vendors must register with the State/Tribe.
- All vendors must supply a valid SSN or TIN/W-9 form
- Vendors are verified through energy bills provided by the household
- Grantee and/or local agencies/district offices perform physical monitoring of vendors
- Other - Describe and note any exceptions to policies above:

All vendors must be verified through the EPLS and cannot be on the debarred vendor listing

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.

- Applicants required to submit proof of physical residency
- Applicants must submit current utility bill
- Data exchange with utilities that verifies:
 - Account ownership
 - Consumption
 - Balances
 - Payment history
- Account is properly credited with benefit
- Other - Describe:

- Centralized computer system/database tracks payments to all utilities
- Centralized computer system automatically generates benefit level
- Separation of duties between intake and payment approval
- Payments coordinated among other energy assistance programs to avoid duplication of payments
- Payments to utilities and invoices from utilities are reviewed for accuracy
- Computer databases are periodically reviewed to verify accuracy and timeliness of payments made to utilities
- Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
- Procedures are in place to require prompt refunds from utilities in cases of account closure
- Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
- Other - Describe:

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.

- Vendors are checked against an approved vendors list
- Centralized computer system/database is used to track payments to all vendors
- Clients are relied on for reports of non-delivery or partial delivery
- Two-party checks are issued naming client and vendor
- Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
- Vendors are only paid once they provide a delivery receipt signed by the client
- Conduct monitoring of bulk fuel vendors
- Bulk fuel vendors are required to submit reports to the Grantee
- Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
- 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.

- Refer to state Inspector General
- Refer to local prosecutor or state Attorney General
- Refer to US DHHS Inspector General (including referral to OIG hotline)
- Local agencies/district offices or Grantee conduct investigation of fraud complaints from public
- Grantee attempts collection of improper payments. If so, describe the recoupment process

If fraud is discovered in regards to client benefits, the Department details the finding in a report to the local agency and requires the local agency to refund the disallowed costs to the Department. The local agency then attempts to recoup the funds from the client.

- Clients found to have committed fraud are banned from LIHEAP assistance. For how long is a household banned? decided by local agency
- Contracts with local agencies require that employees found to have committed fraud are reprimanded and/or terminated
- Vendors found to have committed fraud may no longer participate in LIHEAP
- Other - Describe:

The Department requires each local provider agency to carry insurance/fidelity bonds that cover employee theft.

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.BrBbr.**
- 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 pint 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)

107 East Madison Street
*** Address Line 1**

MSC-400
Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Tallahassee
*** City**

Florida
*** State**

32399-4120
*** 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

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

- **Delegation Letter is required if someone other than the Governor or Chairman Certified this Report.**
- **Heating component benefit matrix, if applicable**
- **Cooling component benefit matrix, if applicable**
- **Minutes, notes, or transcripts of public hearing(s).**