

# 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

<b>* 1.a. Type of Submission:</b> Plan	<b>* 1.b. Frequency:</b> Annual	<b>* 1.c. Consolidated Application/Plan/Funding Request?</b>  <b>Explanation:</b>	<b>* 1.d. Version:</b> Initial
		<b>2. Date Received:</b>	<b>State Use Only:</b>
		<b>3. Applicant Identifier:</b>	
		<b>4a. Federal Entity Identifier:</b>	<b>5. Date Received By State:</b>
		<b>4b. Federal Award Identifier:</b>	<b>6. State Application Identifier:</b>

#### 7. APPLICANT INFORMATION

<b>* a. Legal Name:</b> Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs			
<b>* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):</b> 17426105429		<b>* c. Organizational DUNS:</b> 806781902	
<b>* d. Address:</b>			
<b>* Street 1:</b>	PO BOX 13941	<b>Street 2:</b>	221 EAST 11 TH STREET
<b>* City:</b>	AUSTIN	<b>County:</b>	TRAVIS
<b>* State:</b>	TX	<b>Province:</b>	
<b>* Country:</b>	United States	<b>* Zip / Postal Code:</b>	78711

#### e. Organizational Unit:

<b>Department Name:</b>	<b>Division Name:</b> Community Affairs Division
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#### f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

<b>Prefix:</b> Ms.	<b>* First Name:</b> Sharon	<b>Middle Name:</b> D	<b>* Last Name:</b> Gamble
<b>Suffix:</b>	<b>Title:</b> Manager, Planning & Training	<b>Organizational Affiliation:</b>	
<b>* Telephone Number:</b> (512) 475-0471 Ext.	<b>Fax Number:</b> (512) 475-3935	<b>* Email:</b> sharon.gamble@tdhca.state.tx.us	

#### \* 8a. TYPE OF APPLICANT: A: State Government

#### b. Additional Description:

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

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

#### 11. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project Energy Assistance and Weatherization Program

#### 12. Areas Affected by Funding: Statewide

#### 13. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:

<b>* a. Applicant</b> 10	<b>b. Program/Project:</b> Statewide
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Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

<b>14. FUNDING PERIOD:</b>		<b>15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:</b>	
<b>a. Start Date:</b> 10/01/2014	<b>b. End Date:</b> 09/30/2015	<b>* a. Federal (\$):</b> \$0	<b>b. Match (\$):</b> \$0
<b>* 16. IS SUBMISSION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?</b>			
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.			
<b>* 17. Is The Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt?</b>			
NO			
<b>Explanation:</b>			
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)			
<b>**I Agree ✓</b>			
<b>** 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.</b>			
<b>18a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official</b> Michael Deyoung		<b>18c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)</b> ( 512) 475- 2125 Ext.	
		<b>18d. Email Address</b> michael.deyoung@tdhca.state.tx.us	
<b>18b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official</b> 		<b>18e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year)</b> 08/28/2014	
<b>Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.</b>			

## Section 1 - Program Components

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

August 1987, revised 05/92,02/95,03/96,12/98,11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-0075  
Expiration Date: 06/30/2017

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

Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families  
Office of Community Services  
Washington, DC 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
✓ Heating assistance	12/01/2014	02/28/2014
✓ Cooling assistance	03/01/2015	11/30/2015
✓ Crisis assistance	01/01/2015	09/30/2015
✓ Weatherization assistance	01/01/2015	12/31/2015

**Provide further explanation for the dates of operation, if necessary**

The Texas LIHEAP program runs from January - December. Crisis and Weatherization Assistance operate year-round. The 09/30/2015 date is entered to clear report validation error indicating that crisis assistance must be provided by this date.

**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	10.00%
Cooling assistance	40.00%
Crisis assistance	25.00%
Weatherization assistance	15.00%
Carryover to the following federal fiscal year	0.00%
Administrative and planning costs	10.00%
Services to reduce home energy needs including needs assessment (Assurance 16)	0.00%
Used to develop and implement leveraging activities	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

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 crisis

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? 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				
SSI				
SNAP				
Means-tested Veterans Programs				

Other(Specify) 1	Program Name	Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization

1.5 Do you automatically enroll households without a direct annual application? 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? 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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Once Per Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once every five years
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

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

Determination of Eligibility - Countable Income

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gross Income
<input type="checkbox"/>	Net Income

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wages
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Self - Employment Income
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contract Income
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Payments from mortgage or Sales Contracts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment insurance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strike Pay

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

	Ameri-Corp Program payments for living allowances, earnings, and in-kind aid
	Reimbursements (for mileage, gas, lodging, meals, etc.)
✓	<b>Other</b> Worker's compensation, military family allotments (except where excluded by other federal law), net gambling or lottery winnings
<b>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.</b>	

## Section 2 - HEATING 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 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	125.00%
2	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

**2.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for HEATING ASSISTANCE?** Yes

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

**Do you require an Assets test ?** No

**Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:**

<b>Renters?</b>	No
<b>Renters Living in subsidized housing ?</b>	No
<b>Renters with utilities included in the rent ?</b>	Yes

**Do you give priority in eligibility to:**

<b>Elderly?</b>	Yes
<b>Disabled?</b>	Yes
<b>Young children?</b>	Yes
<b>Households with high energy burdens ?</b>	Yes
<b>Other? Households with High Energy Consumption</b>	Yes

**Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:**

2.1  
In the county of a major disaster or emergency designated by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services or by the President under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, the State will use the highest of 125% of the poverty guidelines or 60% of the State's median income. The State may also use this flexibility to set poverty guidelines in a local crisis as defined by the Department's Executive Director. The State will communicate this designation to affected subrecipients through email and by website posting. Subrecipients must receive prior written approval before using 60% SMI.

2.2  
Currently, Section 5.407(e) of 10 Texas Administrative Code states: "A Household unit cannot be served if the meter is utilized by another Household." The Department is considering a change to this rule to allow for assistance in certain circumstances.

If the renter's situation is one where the utilities are not a distinct charge from the rent, the State does not provide assistance as there is no individual bill and neither energy cost not energy burden can be determined.

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.**

Subrecipients use a household rating system which determines priority based on persons in Households who are particularly vulnerable such as the Elderly, Persons with Disabilities, Households with Young Children, Households with High Energy Burden, and Households with High Energy Consumption. Benefit amounts are determined on a sliding scale based on the Household's income. The number of benefit payments is based on the presence of a vulnerable member such as the Elderly, Persons with Disabilities, and Young Children. The maximum benefit amount is determined per program year based on household need, is split between heating and cooling assistance, and is not required to be applied equally to heating and cooling costs.

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

**Income**

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

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

**2.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2015:**

<b>Minimum Benefit</b>	\$1	<b>Maximum Benefit</b>	\$1,200
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**2.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., blankets, space heaters) and/or other forms of benefits? Yes**

**If yes, describe.**

Under energy crisis, a Household may receive repair of existing heating and cooling units not to exceed \$2,500. Households that include at least one member that is Elderly, Disabled, or a Young Child may receive either repair of existing heating and cooling units or crisis-related purchase of portable heating and cooling units not to exceed \$2,500. LIHEAP may provide blankets, fans, generators, etc. in the event of a natural disaster. The number, type, size, and cost of these items may not exceed the minimum needed to resolve the crisis.

**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	125.00%
2	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

**3.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for COOLING ASSISTANCE?** Yes

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

**Do you require an Assets test ?** No

**Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:**

<b>Renters?</b>	No
<b>Renters Living in subsidized housing ?</b>	No
<b>Renters with utilities included in the rent ?</b>	Yes

**Do you give priority in eligibility to:**

<b>Elderly?</b>	Yes
<b>Disabled?</b>	Yes
<b>Young children?</b>	Yes
<b>Households with high energy burdens ?</b>	Yes
<b>Other? Households with High Energy Consumption</b>	Yes

**Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:**

3.1  
In the county of a major disaster or emergency designated by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services or by the President under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, the State will use the highest of 125% of the poverty guidelines or 60% of the State's median income. The State may also use this flexibility to set poverty guidelines in a local crisis as defined by the Department's Executive Director. The State will communicate this designation to affected subrecipients through email and by website posting. Subrecipients must receive prior written approval before using 60% SMI.

3.2  
Currently, Section 5.407(e) of the Texas Administrative Code states: "A Household unit cannot be served if the meter is utilized by another Household." The Department is considering a change to this rule to allow for assistance in certain circumstances.

If the renter's situation is one where the utilities are not a distinct charge form the rent, the Department does not provide assistance as there is no individual bill and neither energy cost nor energy burden can be determined.

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

Subrecipients use a household rating system which determines priority based on persons in Households who are particularly vulnerable such as the Elderly, Persons with Disabilities, Households with Young Children, Households with High Energy Burden, and Households with High Energy Consumption. Benefit amounts are determined on a sliding scale based on the Household's income. The number of benefit payments is based on the presence of a vulnerable member such as the Elderly, Persons with Disabilities, and Young Children. The maximum benefit amount is determined per program year based on household need, is split between heating and cooling assistance, and is not required to be applied equally to heating and cooling costs.

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**

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

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

**3.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2015:**

<b>Minimum Benefit</b>	\$1	<b>Maximum Benefit</b>	\$1,200
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**3.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., fans, air conditioners) and/or other forms of benefits? Yes**

**If yes, describe.**

Under energy crisis, a Household may receive repair of existing heating and cooling units not to exceed \$2,500. Households that include at least one member that is Elderly, Disabled, or a Young Child may receive either repair of existing heating and cooling units or crisis-related purchase of portable heating and cooling units not to exceed \$2,500. LIHEAP may provide blankets, fans, generators, etc. in the event of a natural disaster. The number, type, size, and cost of these items may not exceed the minimum needed to resolve the crisis.

**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	125.00%
2	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

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

A bona fide household crisis exists when extraordinary events or situations resulting from extreme weather conditions and/or fuel supply shortages or a terrorist attack have depleted or will deplete household financial resources and/or have created problems in meeting basic household expenses, particularly bills for energy so as to constitute a threat to the well-being of the Household, particularly to Elderly, Persons with Disabilities, or children age 5 and younger. A utility disconnection notice may constitute a Household energy crisis.

**4.3 What constitutes a life-threatening crisis?**

A life-threatening crisis exists when at least one person in the applicant Household could lose their life without the Subrecipient's utility assistance because there is a shut-off notice or a delivered fuel source is below a ten (10) day supply (by client report) and any member of the Household is dependent upon equipment that is prescribed by a medical professional, operated on electricity or gas, and is necessary to sustain the person's life. Examples of life-sustaining equipment include but are not limited to dialysis machines, oxygen concentrators, cardiac monitors, and in some cases heating and air conditioning when ambient temperature control is prescribed by a medical professional. Documentation should not include information regarding the applicant's medical condition but may include certification that such a device is required in the home to sustain life.

**Crisis Requirement, 2604(c)**

**4.4 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households? 48Hours**

**4.5 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households in life-threatening situations? 18Hours**

Crisis Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A)

**4.6 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for CRISIS ASSISTANCE?** No

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

**Do you require an Assets test ?** No

**Do you give priority in eligibility to :**

Elderly?	Yes
Disabled?	Yes
Young Children?	Yes
Households with high energy burdens?	Yes
Other? Households with High Energy Consumption	Yes

**In Order to receive crisis assistance:**

Must the household have received a shut-off notice or have a near empty tank?	Yes
Must the household have been shut off or have an empty tank?	Yes
Must the household have exhausted their regular heating benefit?	No
Must renters with heating costs included in their rent have received an eviction notice ?	No
Must heating/cooling be medically necessary?	No
Must the household have non-working heating or cooling equipment?	No

<b>Other?</b>	No
<b>Do you have additional / differing eligibility policies for:</b>	
<b>Renters?</b>	No
<b>Renters living in subsidized housing?</b>	No
<b>Renters with utilities included in the rent?</b>	Yes
<b>Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:</b>	
Households located in a service area that has met the Subrecipient's set weather criteria may also receive crisis assistance. In these cases, a shut-off notice or empty or near empty tank are not required.	
If the renter's situation is one where the utilities are not a distinct charge from the rent, the Department does not provide assistance as there is no individual bill and neither energy cost nor energy burden can be determined.	
Determination of Benefits	
<b>4.8 How do you handle crisis situations?</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Separate component
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fast Track
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:
<b>4.9 If you have a separate component, how do you determine crisis assistance benefits?</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount to resolve the crisis.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe: Amount to resolve the crisis, up to a maximum of \$1,200 Heating and cooling equipment repair up to \$2,500.
Crisis Requirements, 2604(c)	
<b>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?</b>	
Yes <b>Explain.</b>	
According to program rules: "Subrecipients shall accept applicaitons at sites that are geographically and physically accessible to all Households requesting assistance. If Subrecipient's office is not accessible, Subrecipient shall make reasonable accommodations to ensure that all Households can apply for assistance."	
<b>4.11 Do you provide individuals who are physically disabled the means to:</b>	
<b>Submit applications for crisis benefits without leaving their homes?</b>	
Yes <b>If No, explain.</b>	
<b>Travel to the sites at which applications for crisis assistance are accepted?</b>	
No <b>If No, explain.</b>	
<b>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?</b>	
We do not provide travel for applicants. If the applicant cannot get to the site, they are either mailed an application, or the Subrecipient arranges a home visit.	
Benefit Levels, 2605(c)(1)(B)	
<b>4.12 Indicate the maximum benefit for each type of crisis assistance offered.</b>	
Winter Crisis	\$0 maximum benefit
Summer Crisis	\$0 maximum benefit
Year-round Crisis	\$1,200 maximum benefit
<b>4.13 Do you provide in-kind (e.g. blankets, space heaters, fans) and/or other forms of benefits?</b>	
Yes <b>If yes, Describe</b>	
Purchase of portable heating and/or cooling units, temporary shelter, blankets, fans, generators	
<b>4.14 Do you provide for equipment repair or replacement using crisis funds?</b>	
Yes	
<b>If you answered "Yes" to question 4.14, you must complete question 4.15.</b>	

**4.15 Check appropriate boxes below to indicate type(s) of assistance provided.**

	Winter Crisis	Summer Crisis	Year-round Crisis
Heating system repair			✓
Heating system replacement			
Cooling system repair			✓
Cooling system replacement			
Wood stove purchase			✓
Pellet stove purchase			✓
Solar panel(s)			
Utility poles / gas line hook-ups			
Other (Specify):			

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

Yes

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.**

The Texas Public Utilities Commission rule states: "An electric utility cannot disconnect a customer anywhere in its service territory on a day when:

(1) the previous day's highest temperature did not exceed 32 degrees Fahrenheit, and the temperature is predicted to remain at or below that level for the next 24 hours, according to the nearest National Weather Service (NWS) reports; or

(2) the NWS issues a heat advisory for any county in the electric utility's service territory, or when such advisory has been issued on any one of the two preceeding calendar days."

**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**

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OMB Clearance No.: 0970-0075  
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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	125.00%
2	All Household Sizes	State Median Income	60.00%

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

**5.3 If yes, name the agency.**

**5.4 Is there a separate monitoring protocol for weatherization?Yes**

**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:

Energy-related home repair: The Department will allow the use of LIHEAP weatherization funds for structural and ancillary repairs only if required to enable effective weatherization.

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

**5.6 Do you require an assets test?** No

**5.7 Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for :**

**Renters** No

**Renters living in subsidized housing?** No

**5.8 Do you give priority in eligibility to:**

**Elderly?** Yes

**Disabled?** Yes

**Young Children?** Yes

**House holds with high energy burdens?** Yes

<b>Other?</b> Households with High Energy Consumption	Yes
<p>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.</p> <p>The Department prioritizes these Households in accordance with 10 CFR 440.16.</p>	
<b>Benefit Levels</b>	
5.9 Do you have a maximum LIHEAP weatherization benefit/expenditure per household? Yes	
5.10 If yes, what is the maximum? \$5,000	
<b>Types of Assistance, 2605(c)(1), (B) &amp; (D)</b>	
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
Storm windows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major appliance replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace/heating system modifications/ repairs	Windows/sliding glass doors
Furnace replacement	Doors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooling system modifications/ repairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Heater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water conservation measures	Cooling system replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compact florescent light bulbs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe: solar screens or window film
<p>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</p>	

Section 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):

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.).

✓	Joint application for multiple programs
✓	Intake referrals to/from other programs
	One - stop intake centers
	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Administration Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commerce Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Services Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy / Environment Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Welfare Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

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

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

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

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

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

<b>8.5 LIHEAP Component Administration.</b>	<b>Heating</b>	<b>Cooling</b>	<b>Crisis</b>	<b>Weatherization</b>
<b>8.5a Who determines client eligibility?</b>	Local City Government Local County Government Community Action Agencies Non-profits			
<b>8.5b Who processes benefit payments to gas and electric vendors?</b>	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	
<b>8.5c who processes benefit payments to bulk fuel vendors?</b>	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	
<b>8.5d Who performs installation of weatherization measures?</b>				Local City Government Local County Government Community Action

**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?**

The Department ensures that to the extent it is necessary to designate local administering agencies in order to carry out the purposes of Title 42 U.S.C. Section 8621 et seq, special consideration is given to any local public or private nonprofit agency which was receiving federal funds.

(1) Before giving such special consideration, the Department determines that the agency involved meets program and fiscal requirements established by law and by the Department; and

(2) If there is no such agency because of any change in the assistance furnished to programs for economically disadvantaged persons, then the Department gives 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 that fiscal year for which the determination is made.

The Department administers the program through the existing Subrecipients that have demonstrated that they are operating the program in accordance with the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, as amended (42 U.S.C. Section 8621, et seq), and the Department's rules. If Subrecipients are successfully administering the program, the Department may offer to renew the contract.

When the Department determines that an organization is not administering the program satisfactorily, corrective actions are taken to remedy the problem. Thereafter, if Subrecipient fails to administer the program correctly, the Department reassigns the service area or a portion of the service area to another existing Subrecipient or conducts solicitation or selection of a new Subrecipient in accordance with the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981. The affected Subrecipient may request a hearing in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 2105.204.

**8.7 How many local administering agencies do you use? 42**

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

Yes

**8.9 If so, why?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Agency was in noncompliance with grantee requirements for LIHEAP -
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agency is under criminal investigation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Added agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agency closed
<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 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

Cooling Yes

Crisis Yes

Are there exceptions? No

If yes, Describe.

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

The administering agency informs them once the determination is made.

**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?**

Vendor agreements are used in all components. A sample is attached.

**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?**

Vendor agreements are used in all components. A sample is attached.

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

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?**

1. Review annual audits
2. Monitor fiscal records
3. Review current and prior year monthly expenditure and performance reports

**Audit Process**

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

Yes

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

No Findings

Finding	Type	Brief Summary	Resolved?	Action Taken
1	reporting	The Department was unable to fully document information entered in the LIHEAP Households Report	Yes	procedure/policy changes
2	monitoring	The Department did not provide a definition for "life threatening condition" for use by Subrecipients during benefit determination	Yes	procedure/policy changes

**10.4. Audits of Local Administering Agencies**

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

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

**Compliance Monitoring**

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

Grantee employees:

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

Cross-division peer review of documents

**Local Adminstering Agencies / District Offices:**

✓ On - site evaluation

Annual program review

Monitoring through central database

✓ Desk reviews

Client File Testing / Sampling

✓ Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:

Desk review of A-133 audit

Review if the Subrecipient's resolution of prior minitoring or Single Audit reports si performed prior to the award of new contracts.

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

See attached monitoring schedule and monitoring instruments.

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

**Site Visits:**

The Compliance Division performs a risk assessment to determine Subrecipients with the highest risk based on award amount, the number of Department programs awarded to the Subrecipient, prior monitoring concerns and/or unresolved issues, and prior Single Audit issues. Subsequently, Compliance determines the last date of monitoring for the Subrecipient. If the Subrecipient was monitored more than 12 months prior to the risk assessment, then the Subrecipient will be monitored. If the Subrecipient was monitored 12 months or less prior to the risk assessment then the division considers monitoring for ongoing concerns of the Subrecipient and/or for cost effectiveness when monitoring another Department program. Site visits will be performed for those with the highest assessed risk.

**Desk Reviews:**

After the description of the risk assessment process above, those with the lowest assessed risk will receive a desk review.

**10.8. How often is each local agency monitored ?**

At least once every two years.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tribal Council meeting(s)

Public Hearing(s)

Draft Plan posted to website and available for comment

Hard copy of plan is available for public view and comment

Comments from applicants are recorded

Request for comments on draft Plan is advertised

Stakeholder consultation meeting(s)

Comments are solicited during outreach activities

Other - Describe:

Comments are solicited via online forums.

11.2 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of this participation?

The definition of "life threatening crisis" was developed through this participation.

**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	05/29/2014	Draft Plan Posted for TDHCA Board Approval
2	06/05/2014	TDHCA Board Review of Plan and Approval for Public Comment Posting
3	07/10/2014	Public Hearing to Receive Comment on Draft Plan
4	07/31/2014	TDHCA Board Approval of Final Plan

11.4. How many parties commented on your plan at the hearing(s)? None

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

Comments received via email from the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies and the Department's responses are attached.

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

In Section One of the Plan, the Department had checked the box for "jury duty compensation" in error. This check was removed.

**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?** N/A

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

N/A

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

Subgrantee contracts include the following:

"Section 39. Appeals Process:

In compliance with the LIHEAP Act, Subrecipient must provide an opportunity for a fair administrative hearing to individuals whose application for assistance is denied, terminated or not acted upon in a timely manner. Subrecipient must establish a denial of service complaint procedure in accordance with Section 5.405 of the State Rules."

Text of the State Rule is attached.

**12.5 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?**

Within 10 days of the determination the Subrecipient must provide written notification; can be made in person or by mail.

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

Applicants are required to submit an application for each program year. During the intake process, applicants are assigned a priority rating based on indicators such as poverty level, energy burden and use, and the presence of vulnerable household members. The applicant is informed of their rating at that time and informed whether their application will be acted on immediately or if higher priority applicants will be served first. I due to a low priority tating an applicant does not receive services during a program year, the applicant must re-apply the followng year. This is a program requirement and is not subject to applicant appeal.

If an applicant is concerned that their application has been mishandled, the applicant may file a written complaint with the Department. TDHCA has an online complaint system, and staff phone numbers are posted online. In general, applicants who have a complaint are given contact information for TDHCA at the time the complaint is received by the Subrecipient. Applicants who contact the Department by phone are encouraged to use the online system to file a written complaint. Staff proceeds with the complaint as if it were a denial of services complaint and follows the process described in the attached rule.

**12.7 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?**

Applicants who have a complaint are given contact information for TDHCA at the time of the complaint.

**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?**

Through client case management, the program:

1. Identifies Household needs;
2. Provides literature and other energy conservation education;
3. Refers clients to other appropriate programs; and
4. Encourages responsible vendor and consumer behavior.

Subrecipients provide applications, forms, and energy education materials in English, Spanish, or other languages when appropriate.

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

The Department does not administer Assurance as a stand-alone program or component. All clients benefit from these activities as part of outreach and intake. Benefit levels are the same as previously described.

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

Since this is not a stand-alone program, the impact of these activities is not measured.

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

Since this is not a stand-alone program, the level of direct benefits is not measured.

**13.5 How many households applied for these services? N/A**

**13.6 How many households received these services? N/A**

**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

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

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the Texas Public Utilities Commission, the Commission will make available to the Department information on LITE-UP Texas electric discount program activities sufficient for the Department to report activities to USHHS for the previous federal fiscal year.

**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	Electric utility discount	Texas Public Utilities Commission	The Department will refer eligible LIHEAP households to LITE-UP, and the Commission will refer eligible LITE-UP households to the Department.

**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:**

**b. Local Agencies:**

**Formal training conference**

**How often?**

**Annually**

Biannually

As needed

**Other - Describe:** The annual conference is held by the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, and the Department provides training at this annual conference.

**On-site training**

**How often?**

Annually

Biannually

**As needed**

**Other - Describe:**

Employees are provided with policy manual

**Other - Describe**

**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

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.**

The Department is working to update the Community Affairs Contract System, our online reporting system, to include the required data with the Subrecipients' regular monthly reporting.

**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 type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	
Social Security Number (Without actual Card)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant Only Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant Only Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	All Adults in Household Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
						All Adults in Household Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>
						All Household Members Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
						All Household Members Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. Describe any exceptions to the above policies.

#### 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:

At this time, the Department only verifies the authenticity of identification documents provided by applicants who are not U.S. citizens or nationals. That verification is made through the Systematic Alien Entitlement ("SAVE") system.

#### 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:

Court documents or government benefit statements as applicable.

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:

Grantee contracts include the following section:

Section 9. Record Keeping Requirements

Subrecipient acknowledges that all information collected, assembled, or maintained by Subrecipient pertaining to this Contract, except records made confidential by law, is subject to the Texas Public Information Act (Chapter 552 of Texas Government Code) and must provide citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties with reasonable access to all records pertaining to this Contract subject to and in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act.

Texas Administrative Code, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter A Section 5.22 requires that:

The Department requires that Subrecipients that administer Community Affairs Programs and serve clients to document client services. Subrecipient organizations must arrange for the security of all computer files through a remote, online, or managed backup service. Confidential client files must be maintained in a manner to protect the privacy of each client and to maintain the same for future reference. Subrecipient organizations must store physical client files in a secure space in a manner that ensures confidentiality and in accordance with Subrecipient organization policies and procedures. To the extent that it is financially feasible, archived client files should be stored offsite from Subrecipient headquarters, in a secure space and in a manner that ensures confidentiality and in accordance with organization policies and procedures.

**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:

**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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
Other - Describe:
<b>17.9. Benefits Policy - Bulk Fuel Vendors</b>
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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clients are relied on for reports of non-delivery or partial delivery
Two-party checks are issued naming client and vendor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
Other - Describe:
<b>17.10. Investigations and Prosecutions</b>
Describe the Grantee's procedures for investigating and prosecuting reports of fraud, and any sanctions placed on clients/staff/vendors found to have committed fraud. Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refer to state Inspector General
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refer to local prosecutor or state Attorney General
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refer to US DHHS Inspector General (including referral to OIG hotline)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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
Clients found to have committed fraud are banned from LIHEAP assistance. For how long is a household banned?
Contracts with local agencies require that employees found to have committed fraud are reprimanded and/or terminated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendors found to have committed fraud may no longer participate in LIHEAP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
A Subrecipient made be referred to the Administrative Penalties Committee or proposed for debarment from administering Department programs.
<b>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.</b>

**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 point is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.**

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

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

***Controlled substance* means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the**

Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

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

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

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

#### Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

##### Alternate I. (Grantees Other Than Individuals)

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

- (a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
- (b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about --
  - (1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
  - (2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
  - (3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
  - (4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;**
- c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);**
- (d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will --**
  - (1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and**
  - (2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;**
- (e) Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;**
- (f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted -**
  - (1) Taking appropriate**

personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or  
(2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;  
(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).  
(B) The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

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

221 E 11th Street

**\* Address Line 1**

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Austin

**\* City**

Texas

**\* State**

78701-2410

**\* 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).**