

Energy Education and Consumer Competency (E2C2) Program Fact Sheet

OHCS Energy Assistance programs are committed to addressing the disproportionate energy burden facing many low-income households throughout Oregon. The **E2C2 (Energy Education and Consumer Competency) Program** is designed to give households receiving energy or weatherization assistance an opportunity to move toward economic stability.

The program consists of two components. *Energy Education* is intended to increase knowledge of home energy conservation, thereby reducing household energy usage and utility bills. Additionally, *Case Management* services provide six to twelve months of assessment, goal setting, action plans and connection to a wide range of services—all in an effort to reduce existing barriers to household self-sufficiency.

Why is this Program Important?

Low-income households should not be forced to make decisions between energy bills and basic needs like housing, food, childcare or prescriptions. However, the reality is that many Oregonians must make these choices everyday. E2C2 recognizes that people and their needs are complex, and that energy burdens cannot always be addressed by bill payment assistance alone.

National studies, in addition to our Oregon REACH pilot program, indicate that an individually tailored, comprehensive and “integrated” approach to energy independence is most effective—E2C2 has been developed to fulfill this need.

How is this program delivered?

The E2C2 program is delivered through local Community Action Agencies throughout the state. Each local program is individually designed to best meet the needs of low-income households in their community. You may contact your local community action agency for more information.