

Community Action Agency Weatherization Process

Low-Income Individuals and Families Applying for Weatherization

- Start by contacting the [community action agency](#) in your area.
- Low-income renters and homeowners may be eligible.
- Some home-owning seniors and others on fixed or limited incomes may be eligible.
- The community action agency will determine eligibility based on an applicant's income.
- Many community action agencies, but not all, honor a waiting list.
- For example, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency has a weatherization waiting list of 1,600 homes.
- The prioritization of waiting lists is based on U.S. Department of Energy guidelines that place greater weight on lower levels of income, the disability of individuals, and senior status.
- In the case of renter applicants, landlord approval is required. Further, weatherization of the renter's unit must meet intended energy efficiency outcomes that may involve the landlord's weatherization of the adjacent part of the structure.
- The community action agency will conduct an energy audit to determine what work is required to meet weatherization standards. After the work is complete, the agency will conduct a post inspection to see that the work meets standards of energy efficiency.

Contractors Applying for Designation to Weatherize

- Contact the [community action agency](#) in your area.
- The community action agency will provide information on the scope of the weatherization process. The community action agency also provides information on its monitoring of contractors and reporting to the federal government.
- The process includes the understanding that energy audits are done on all weatherization projects before and after the work is completed to ensure the needed work is identified and properly completed.
- The work may include, but may not be limited to, wrapping heating ducts, installing weather stripping and wall and ceiling insulation along with doors and windows.
- In some cases, specific professional certification or training may be required for eligibility to participate in the program as an installer. At a minimum, contractors will be required to agree to adhere to performance standards that meet the requirements of the federal funding agencies.

Community Wage Jobs

- Community action agencies support community wage jobs.
- Community action agencies are awaiting final guidelines from the U.S. Department of Energy on wage requirements that apply to the federal stimulus funds.
- Invocation of the Davis-Bacon Act could increase operational costs by an estimated 30 percent under federal standards that consider the ratio of the weatherization investment to the savings that accrue.