



Weatherization Assistance Program - The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Mission/Operation

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (Weatherization) reduces energy costs for low-income families by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety.



Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the Act), Weatherization received \$5 billion dollars of funding to achieve the purposes set forth in the Act, including "to preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery; to assist those most impacted by the recession; to provide investments needed to increase economic efficiency by spurring technological advances in science and health; to invest in transportation, environmental protection, and other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits; and, to stabilize State and local government budgets, in order to minimize and avoid reductions in essential services and counterproductive state and local tax increases."

Statute Amendments

In addition to the funding increase, the following amendments, which will allow more cost-effective measures to be installed in more homes, were also made to the current statute:

- **Income Level** - Amended by striking "150 percent" both places it appears and inserting "200 percent".
- **Assistance Level Per Dwelling Unit** - Amended by striking "\$2,500" and inserting "\$6,500".
- **Effective Use of Funds** - In providing funds made available by this Act for the Weatherization Assistance Program, the Secretary may encourage States to give priority to using such funds for the most cost-effective efficiency activities, which may include insulation of attics, if, in the Secretary's view, such use of funds would increase the effectiveness of the Program.
- **Training and Technical Assistance** - Amended by striking "10 percent" and inserting "up to 20 percent".
- **Assistance for Previously Weatherized Units** - Amended by striking "September 30, 1979" and inserting "September 30, 1994".



Funding and Production

The Recovery Act provides \$5 billion of funding to Weatherization, which will help achieve the President's goal of weatherizing 1 million homes per year. Since the inception of the Program in 1976, over 6.3 million households have received Weatherization services.

Eligible Households

About 38 million households are currently eligible for Weatherization services. Any household at or below 200% of poverty, per the modified statute, is considered low-income. About 15 million of all eligible households are good candidates for Weatherization. Priority service is given to the elderly, people with disabilities, and families with children.

Technical Approach



Professionally trained crews use computerized energy audits and advanced diagnostic equipment, such as the blower door, to determine the most cost-effective measures. Typical measures may include: installing insulation, sealing ducts, tuning and repairing heating and cooling systems and if indicated, replacement of the same; mitigating air infiltration; and reducing electric base load consumption.

Training and Technical Assistance

At the national level, DOE reserves funds from the total appropriation for national training and technical assistance (T&TA) that benefit all Grantees. Additionally, DOE allocates funding to Grantees for state and local level activities. Under the amended statute, the combined funds for national, state, and local T&TA cannot exceed 20% of the total Congressional appropriation.

Impact on Communities

Weatherization helps revitalize communities by spurring economic growth and reducing environmental impacts.

Weatherization:

- Creates an opportunity to provide training and jobs.
- Reduces energy bills and our dependence on foreign oil.
- Lays the groundwork for long term energy independence.

Impact on Low-Income Americans

Weatherization alleviates the heavy energy burden on low-income families and helps them become self-sufficient.

Weatherization:

- Creates average energy savings of \$350 per year and \$5,505 over the life of the measure (ORNL/CON-493, ORNL/CON-484, EIA Annual Energy Outlook for 2009, EIA Short Term Energy Outlook).
- Reduces a household's annual gas heating consumption by 32%.
- Improves health & safety by eliminating energy-related hazards.

Weatherization Assistance Program State Allocations of Funding Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Weatherization Assistance Program has been assigned a significant role in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Below is an outline of the funding levels for each Weatherization Grantee.

State	Recovery Act Program Allocation	Recovery Act T&TA Allocation	Recovery Act Total Allocation
Alabama	\$59,210,812	\$12,589,787	\$71,800,599
Alaska	\$14,930,556	\$3,212,024	\$18,142,580
Arizona	\$52,244,706	\$11,114,491	\$63,359,197
Arkansas	\$39,664,241	\$8,450,174	\$48,114,415
California	\$153,295,769	\$32,515,292	\$185,811,061
Colorado	\$65,590,353	\$13,940,860	\$79,531,213
Connecticut	\$53,029,752	\$11,280,750	\$64,310,502
Delaware	\$11,292,186	\$2,441,482	\$13,733,668
District of Columbia	\$6,634,049	\$1,454,973	\$8,089,022
Florida	\$145,186,565	\$30,797,909	\$175,984,474
Georgia	\$102,911,503	\$21,844,809	\$124,756,312
Hawaii	\$3,293,877	\$747,584	\$4,041,461
Idaho	\$24,997,836	\$5,344,093	\$30,341,929
Illinois	\$200,099,200	\$42,427,419	\$242,526,619
Indiana	\$108,763,274	\$23,084,109	\$131,847,383
Iowa	\$66,665,793	\$14,168,618	\$80,834,411
Kansas	\$46,536,232	\$9,905,539	\$56,441,771
Kentucky	\$58,478,957	\$12,434,793	\$70,913,750
Louisiana	\$41,762,855	\$8,894,623	\$50,657,478
Maine	\$34,564,809	\$7,370,206	\$41,935,015
Maryland	\$50,662,365	\$10,779,380	\$61,441,745
Massachusetts	\$100,700,829	\$21,376,628	\$122,077,457
Michigan	\$200,819,095	\$42,579,880	\$243,398,975
Minnesota	\$108,837,568	\$23,099,843	\$131,937,411
Mississippi	\$40,742,634	\$8,678,559	\$49,421,193
Missouri	\$105,710,451	\$22,437,576	\$128,148,027
Montana	\$21,863,484	\$4,680,293	\$26,543,777
Nebraska	\$34,325,032	\$7,319,426	\$41,644,458
Nevada	\$30,724,945	\$6,556,992	\$37,281,937
New Hampshire	\$19,119,440	\$4,099,154	\$23,218,594
New Jersey	\$98,013,744	\$20,807,552	\$118,821,296
New Mexico	\$24,375,534	\$5,212,301	\$29,587,835
New York	\$325,666,247	\$69,020,266	\$394,686,513
North Carolina	\$108,851,700	\$23,102,836	\$131,954,536
North Dakota	\$20,809,295	\$4,457,035	\$25,266,330
Ohio	\$220,115,002	\$46,666,407	\$266,781,409
Oklahoma	\$50,217,938	\$10,685,258	\$60,903,196
Oregon	\$31,740,226	\$6,772,010	\$38,512,236
Pennsylvania	\$208,571,386	\$44,221,676	\$252,793,062

State	Recovery Act Program Allocation	Recovery Act T&TA Allocation	Recovery Act Total Allocation
Rhode Island	\$16,524,106	\$3,549,509	\$20,073,615
South Carolina	\$48,558,873	\$10,333,898	\$58,892,771
South Dakota	\$20,166,412	\$4,320,884	\$24,487,296
Tennessee	\$81,749,107	\$17,362,994	\$99,112,101
Texas	\$269,789,218	\$57,186,514	\$326,975,732
Utah	\$31,232,682	\$6,664,521	\$37,897,203
Vermont	\$13,857,753	\$2,984,823	\$16,842,576
Virginia	\$77,641,252	\$16,493,024	\$94,134,276
Washington	\$49,097,174	\$10,447,900	\$59,545,074
West Virginia	\$30,974,113	\$6,609,761	\$37,583,874
Wisconsin	\$116,730,672	\$24,771,461	\$141,502,133
Wyoming	\$9,197,587	\$1,997,884	\$11,195,471
American Samoa	\$552,501	\$167,010	\$719,511
Guam	\$882,417	\$236,880	\$1,119,297
Puerto Rico	\$40,284,132	\$8,581,456	\$48,865,588
Northern Mariana Islands	\$614,967	\$180,239	\$795,206
Virgin Islands	\$1,126,794	\$288,635	\$1,415,429
Headquarters T&TA			\$146,250,000
Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumer Grants			\$100,000,000
0.5% Set-Aside for Management & Oversight			\$25,000,000
TOTAL	\$3,900,000,000	\$828,750,000	\$5,000,000,000

Navajo Grant:	\$7,781,464	\$1,286,687	\$9,068,150
Northern Arapahoe Grant:	\$785,570	\$170,640	\$956,210
Arizona (adjusted)	\$47,020,236	\$10,003,042	\$57,023,278
New Mexico (adjusted)	\$21,818,540	\$5,037,063	\$26,855,604
Wyoming (adjusted)	\$8,412,017	\$1,827,244	\$10,239,261

NOTE: The proposed FY2009 appropriation is above the threshold that triggers changes to the allocation formula mandated by the interim final rule published on June 5, 1995 in the Federal Register, Volume 60, No. 107, Pages 29469-29481.

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 made provisions to reserve up to 2% of the Weatherization appropriation for Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers Grants for local weatherization agencies to expand their Programs to include materials, benefits, and renewable and domestic energy technologies not covered by the Program at the time of enactment.