



## Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs Office

### Overview

One of the Department of Energy's (DOE) primary forums for helping state and local governments implement cost-effective and productive energy systems for American homes, communities, businesses, and industries is the Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs Office (WIP). WIP is part of DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) and supports a national energy strategy to create greater energy affordability, security, and resiliency.

WIP's mission is to enable strategic investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies with innovative practices across the United States by a wide range of stakeholders, in partnership with state and local organizations and community-based nonprofits.

### What We Do

WIP supports DOE's strategic objective to lower energy bills while expanding cost-effective energy choices for all American communities. WIP's near-term activities produce almost immediate results, saving taxpayer dollars, making full use of domestic energy resources, boosting local economic development and job creation, cutting energy waste, improving energy independence and security, and furthering the development of energy infrastructure. WIP is made up of two programs focused on state and local governments, the Weatherization Assistance Program, (WAP) and the State Energy Program (SEP), and two teams that develop and deliver targeted technical assistance and strategic initiatives to state and local governments.

#### STATE ENERGY PROGRAM

WIP's State Energy Program (SEP) provides funding and technical assistance to states, territories, and the District of Columbia to enhance energy security, advance state-led energy initiatives, and maximize the benefits of decreasing energy waste. State-led activities include energy emergency planning and response, low-cost financing programs for energy efficiency, performance contracting, school and public building retrofit programs and innovative energy technology demonstration projects, among other program that spur economic development, increase energy efficiency and expand domestic energy resources.

#### WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WIP's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. The program provides funding to states and territories for locally-run weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year. States contract with community action agencies, non-profits, and local governments that use in-house employees and private contractors to deliver services to low-income families. WAP has served more than 7 million families since inception in 1976.

#### PARTNERSHIPS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

WIP's Partnerships and Technical Assistance (P&TA) team serves at the nexus of state and local governments to catalyze lead-by-example programs by developing solutions to barriers facing state and local governments; convening and creating peer exchanges to showcase public-sector leadership and effective public-private partnerships; and providing information from leading technical experts. P&TA cultivates diverse partnerships and provides technical assistance through initiatives that include the Better Buildings Challenge, Better Communities Alliance, and Accelerators.

#### STRATEGIC AND INTERAGENCY INITIATIVES

WIP's Strategic and Interagency Initiatives (SI2) team leads inter-organizational initiatives that provide states and local governments technical assistance to help underserved communities have access to more energy choices. DOE's Clean Energy for Low Income Communities Accelerator and Remote Alaskan Communities Energy Efficiency Competition initiatives demonstrate replicable, scalable models that address barriers to energy efficiency and renewable energy access in low-income communities.

## WHY IT MATTERS

### STIMULATING THE U.S. ECONOMY, JOB GROWTH, AND COMPETITIVENESS

WAP SUPPORTS  
**8,500 JOBS**  
AND INCREASES NATIONAL  
ECONOMIC OUTPUT BY  
**\$1.2 BILLION**  
PER YEAR <sup>1</sup>

WAP  
SAVINGS-TO-INVESTMENT  
RATIO IS  
**4.1 TO 1**  
INCLUDING HEALTH AND  
SAFETY BENEFITS <sup>1</sup>

SEP CREATES OR RETAINS  
**4,000 JOBS**  
NATIONALLY – ONE JOB  
FOR EVERY  
\$12,500 INVESTED <sup>2</sup>

A SEP INVESTMENT OF  
**\$50 MILLION**  
REALIZES  
**\$225 MILLION**  
IN CUMULATIVE ENERGY  
COST SAVINGS <sup>2</sup>



### Accelerating Deployment of Energy Saving Technologies

- WAP works with the private sector to establish industry standards including [Home Energy Professional Certifications](#), [Standard Work Specifications](#), and accreditation of national training programs.
- SEP partners with states to develop solutions to barriers affecting energy technology deployment on diverse topics that include energy data management, benchmarking, wastewater infrastructure, outdoor lighting, low-income energy solutions, Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC), and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE).

### Saving Energy Costs for Low Income Families

- WAP has helped more than 7 million low-income families save money through energy efficiency retrofits over 40 years allowing families with elderly or disabled members, or young children, improve their health and safety while reducing household utility bills and average of \$283 per year.
- WAP provides the foundation for state and utility weatherization programs.
- Weatherization returns \$2.78 in non-energy benefits for every \$1.00 invested in the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits), and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514 per year. Non-energy benefits represent tremendous benefits for families whose homes receive weatherization services.

<sup>1</sup>WAP data above derives from a national evaluation of the Weatherization Assistance Program led by Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The Retrospective Evaluation covers Program Year (PY) 2008 and is reflective of a typical year in WAP operations

<sup>2</sup>SEP data above derives from a national evaluation of State Energy Program operations in 2008, led by Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

### Supporting State and Local Governments With Their Energy Priorities

State and local governments possess a wealth of relevant energy efficiency and renewable energy information. Thus, WIP maintains the following platforms to share state and local government best practices:

- The [State and Local Solution Center](#) is a one-stop shop of impactful public sector resources.
- The [State and Local Spotlight Newsletter](#) is WIP's monthly newsletter for state, local, and K-12 officials with updates on relevant news, resources, and events sent to more than 8,000 subscribers.
- Public sector partners receive recognition at the annual [Better Buildings Summit](#) of stakeholders across key sectors; Approximately 175 state and local government leaders attend the Summit.
- [Technical Assistance Webinars](#) are held throughout the year to leverage subject area expertise with peer-to-peer exchange. Archives of past webinars are available on the State and Local Solution Center.



For additional resources and information, visit:  
[energy.gov/eere/wipo](http://energy.gov/eere/wipo)

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