

Weatherization Assistance

Total Funding Available: \$5 billion

N.C. Funding Available: \$136 million

Overview: Provides funding towards low-income weatherization programs. Under the existing DOE weatherization program, weatherization services are cost-effective energy efficiency measures for existing residential and multi-family housing with low-income residents. The program includes a wide variety of energy efficiency measures that encompass the building envelope, its heating and cooling systems, its electrical system, and electricity consuming appliances.

Weatherization projects using federal stimulus funding will also be undertaken using funds being distributed by HUD. These projects, however, are not funded through the DOE stimulus funding stream called “weatherization assistance.”

Still, HUD and DOE have announced a partnership to coordinate stimulus spending efforts, create a common baseline for measuring energy efficiency measures, and develop new home energy efficiency financing projects. This partnership does not affect availability of federal stimulus funds, and does not affect the manner in which DOE will award formula grants. More information can be found at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/2009/02/27/comms/pr09-016.cfm?CFID=15758401&CFTOKEN=77259353>.

Special Factors: DOE will distribute funds to states through existing federal weatherization program formulas. North Carolina’s share will be distributed by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Office of Economic Opportunity. The eligibility income threshold is raised from 150% of the poverty rate to 200% of the poverty rate. The limit on the amount of assistance is increased under this legislation from \$2,500 to \$6,500.

How to Access Funding:

Non-profits can apply for weatherization funding on behalf of North Carolina low-income residents through the Office of Economic Opportunity. **In the past, local governments themselves have not been typical applicants for this funding.**

Federal Contact: <http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/weatherization/>

State Contact: Zack Hamlett, (919) 715-5850
www.ncdhhs.gov/oeo/WAP/weather.htm

League Staff Liaison: Erin Wynia, ewynia@nclm.org, 919-715-4126

Last updated March 13, 2009