

DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)

Program Name: Low Income Home Energy Assistance

Grantee Name: DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES NEW MEXICO

Report Name: DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP) Revision # 1

Report Period: 10/01/2024 to 09/30/2025


Report Status: Submission Accepted by CO (Revision #1)

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Mandatory Grant Application SF-424

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES		August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01 OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013 Expiration Date: 02/28/2027							
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN SF - 424 - MANDATORY									
* 1.a. Type of Submission: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Plan	* 1.b. Frequency: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Annual	* 1.c. Consolidated Application/ Plan/Funding Request? Explanation:	* 1.d. Version: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Initial <input type="radio"/> Resubmission <input type="radio"/> Revision <input type="radio"/> Update						
		2. Date Received:	State Use Only:						
		3. Applicant Identifier:							
		4a. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) K49NN52HU4L7	5. Date Received By State:						
		4b. Federal Award Identifier: 1-856000570-A5	6. State Application Identifier:						
7. APPLICANT INFORMATION									
* a. Legal Name: Stat Of New Mexico Health Care Authority									
* b. Address:									
* Street 1:	P.O. BOX 2348, POLLON PLAZA	Street 2:	2009 S. PACHECO ST.						
* City:	SANTA FE	County:							
* State:	NM	Province:							
* Country:	United States	* Zip / Postal Code:	87504 - 2348						
c. Organizational Unit:									
Department Name: New Mexico Health Care Authority		Division Name: Income Support Division							
d. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application: (person will be listed on Notice of Funding Awards and on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' LIHEAP contact list webpage)									
* First Name: Marilyn		* Last Name: Newton-Wright							
Title: LIHEAP Staff Manager		Organizational Affiliation:							
* Telephone Number: 505-709-5391		Fax Number							
* Email: marilyn.wright@state.nm.us									
* 8. TYPE OF APPLICANT: A: State Government									
* a. Is the applicant a Tribal Consortium: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No									
* b. If yes please attach at least one the following documentation:									
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"> Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: </td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"> CFDA Title: </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">9. CFDA Numbers and Titles</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">93.568</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program</td> </tr> </table>					Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	CFDA Title:	9. CFDA Numbers and Titles	93.568	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	CFDA Title:							
9. CFDA Numbers and Titles	93.568	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program							
10. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: LIHEAP									
11. AREAS AFFECTED BY FUNDING: Low-Income Households in New Mexico									
12. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF APPLICANT: 3									
13. FUNDING PERIOD:									
a. Start Date: 10/01/2024		b. End Date: 09/30/2025							
* 14. IS SUBMISSION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?									
a. This submission was made available to the State under Executive Order 12372									

Process for review on:	
b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by State for review.	
c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.	
*15. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
If Yes, explain:	
16. By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001) **I Agree <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.	
17a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Marilyn Newton-Wright	17c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)
	17d. Email Address marilyn.wright@state.nm.us
17b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official 	17e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 10/21/2024

Section 1 - Program Components

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 1 - Program Components

THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) Use of this model plan is optional. However, the information requested is required in order to receive a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grant. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Section 1 Program Components

Program Components, 2605(a), 2605(b)(1) - Assurance 1, 2605(c)(1)(C)

1.1 Check which components you will operate under the LIHEAP program. (Note: You must provide information for each component designated here as requested elsewhere in this plan.)		Dates of Operation	
		Start Date	End Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Heating assistance	10/01/2024	09/30/2025
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cooling assistance	10/01/2024	09/30/2025
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Summer crisis assistance	10/01/2024	09/30/2025
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Winter crisis assistance	10/01/2024	09/30/2025
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Year-round crisis assistance	10/01/2024	09/30/2025
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Weatherization assistance	10/01/2024	09/30/2025

Provide further explanation for the dates of operation, if necessary

Estimated Funding Allocation, 2604(C), 2605(k)(1), 2605(b)(9), 2605(b)(16) - Assurances 9 and 16

1.2 Estimate what amount of available LIHEAP funds will be used for each component that you will operate: The total of all percentages must add up to 100%.	Percentage (%)	Prior year totals
Heating assistance	43.00%	48.00%
Cooling assistance	25.00%	20.00%
Summer crisis assistance	4.00%	12.00%
Winter crisis assistance	4.00%	4.00%
Year-round crisis assistance	4.00%	4.00%
Weatherization assistance	12.00%	12.00%
Carryover to the following federal fiscal year	0.00%	0.00%
Administrative and planning costs	8.00%	8.00%
Services to reduce home energy needs including needs assessment (Assurance 16)	0.00%	0.00%
Used to develop and implement leveraging activities	0.00%	0.00%
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%

Tribal grant recipients: direct-grant tribes, tribal organizations, or territories with allotments of \$20,000 or less may use for planning and administration up to 20% of the funds payable. Grant recipients that are direct grant tribes, tribal organizations, or territories with allotments over \$20,000 may use for planning and administration purposes up to 20% of the first \$20,000 (or \$4,000) plus 10% of the funds payable that exceeds \$20,000. Any administrative costs in excess of these limits must be paid from non-federal sources.

1.3 The funds reserved for winter crisis assistance that have not been expended by March 15 will be reprogrammed to:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Heating assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cooling assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Weatherization assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify:)
Categorical Eligibility, 2605(b)(2)(A) - Assurance 2, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(8A) - Assurance 8			
1.4 Do you consider households categorically eligible if at least one household member receives at least one of the following categories of benefits in the left column below? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
If you answered "Yes" to question 1.4, you must complete the table below and answer questions 1.5 and 1.6.			
	Heating	Cooling	Crisis
Weatherization			
TANF	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
SSI	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
SNAP	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Means-tested Veterans Programs	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
1.4a. - Provide your definition of categorical eligibility.			
1.5 Do you automatically enroll households without a direct annual application? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If Yes, explain:			
1.6 How do you ensure there is no difference in the treatment of categorically eligible households from those not receiving other public assistance when determining eligibility and benefit amounts?			
SNAP Nominal Payments			
1.7a Do you allocate LIHEAP funds toward a nominal payment for SNAP households? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
If you answered "Yes" to question 1.7a, you must provide a response to questions 1.7b, 1.7c, and 1.7d.			
1.7b Amount of Nominal Assistance: \$0.00			
1.7c Frequency of Assistance			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once Per Year		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once every five years		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:		
1.7d How do you confirm that the household receiving a nominal payment has an energy cost or need?			
Determination of Eligibility - Countable Income			
1.8. In determining a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP, do you use gross income or net income?			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gross Income		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Net Income		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe		
1.9. Select all the applicable forms of countable income used to determine a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wages		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Self - Employment Income		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contract Income		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Payments from mortgage or Sales Contracts		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment insurance		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strike Pay		

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Including MediCare deduction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excluding MediCare deduction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Retirement / pension benefits	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General Assistance benefits	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Loans that need to be repaid	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash gifts	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Savings account balance	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	One-time lump-sum payments, such as rebates/credits, winnings from lotteries, refund deposits, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jury duty compensation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rental income	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Income from employment through Workforce Investment Act (WIA)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Income from work study programs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alimony	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Child support	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Interest, dividends, or royalties	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissions	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Legal settlements	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance payments made directly to the insured	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance payments made specifically for the repayment of a bill, debt, or estimate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Veterans Administration (VA) benefits	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Earned income of a child under the age of 18	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Balance of retirement, pension, or annuity accounts where funds cannot be withdrawn without a penalty.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income tax refunds	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stipends from senior companion programs, such as VISTA	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Funds received by household for the care of a foster child	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ameri-Corp Program payments for living allowances, earnings, and in-kind aid	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reimbursements (for mileage, gas, lodging, meals, etc.)	

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other</p> <p>When a crisis applicant is over the 150% of FPL, NM allows for the household's net income to be considered for eligibility if during the 30 days preceding the application, the household has faced a financial hardship, i.e., unforeseen medical/prescription expenses, emergency household repair.</p> <p>New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) 8.150.6209 Crisis Intervention Standards: Households who are over the income standards but meet the crisis intervention requirement may be eligible for a crisis LIHEAP benefit.</p> <p>NMAC 8.150.520.18 If a household is over the income standards, HCA staff should explore the household's financial circumstance and take into account any financial crisis in the household that may have resulted in the household's inability to meet its utility or fuel expense in the past 30 days. In these cases, the household's net income, rather than gross income, may be considered to determine income eligibility.</p>
<p>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</p>	
<p>1.10 Do you have an online application process? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p>1.10a If yes, describe the type of online application (Select all boxes that apply)</p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A PDF version of the application is available online and can be downloaded, filled out and mailed in for processing.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A state-wide online application that allows a customer to complete data entry and submit an application electronically for processing.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	One or more locally available online applications that allows a customer to complete data entry and submit an application electronically for processing.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Online application that is also mobile friendly
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other, please describe</p> <p>https://www.yes.state.nm.us/yesnm/home/index</p>
<p>Please include a link(s) to a statewide application, if available:</p> <p>https://www.yes.state.nm.us/yesnm/home/index</p>	
<p>1.10b Can all program components be applied for online? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p>If no, explain which components can and cannot be applied for online.</p>	
<p>1.11 Do you have a process for conducting and completing applications by phone? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p>1.12 Do you or any of your subrecipients require in person appointments in order to apply? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p>If yes, please provide more information regarding why in-person appointments are required and in what circumstances they are required.</p>	
<p>1.13 How can applicants submit documentation for verification? Select all that apply:</p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In-person
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Portal application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please describe

Hidden for Section 1

Section 2 - HEATING ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 2 - Heating Assistance

Section 2 - Heating Assistance

Eligibility, 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

2.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the heating component:

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

2.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for Heating Assistance? ☐ Yes ☒ No

2.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.

Do you require an Assets test? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe: Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:

Renters? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Renters Living in subsidized housing? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

- Subsidized rent/utilities with additional separate utility cost: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance who receive a subsidy for utilities but who incur an additional out-of-pocket expense for utilities are eligible for LIHEAP;
- Subsidized rent with utilities included: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance whose heating/cooling cost is included in their subsidized rent and do not incur an additional out-of-pocket heating or cooling expense are not eligible for LIHEAP;
- Subsidized rent with rental cost: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance who pay rent but do not pay utilities are not eligible for LIHEAP; and,
- Subsidized rent with no cost: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance who pay no rent and no utilities are not eligible for LIHEAP;

Renters with utilities included in the rent? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Households paying non-subsidized rent whose utility costs are included in their rent, even if no such cost is designated, are eligible for LIHEAP.

Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Older Adults (60 years or older)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Age 60 and over: Two points are assigned to eligible households based on the inclusion of one or more household members age 60 or over as determined by birthdate data.

Individuals with a disability? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Disability: Two points are assigned to eligible households having one or more members with a disability. Disability is defined as physical or mental impairment resulting in substantial reduction in the ability of an individual to care for themselves or carry out normal activities. When one or more members receive disability based income, the household is entitled to the points. A doctor's statement of current disability will be required for assignment of the point for this factor if the disabled member does not receive disability-based income.

Young children? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Age five and under: Two points are assigned to eligible households based on the inclusion of one or more household members age five and under as determined by birthdate data.			
Households with high energy burdens?		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
If yes, describe: Points are assigned to the household by determining the households' percentage of energy burden. The point allocation for energy burden is: (a) Zero points for zero to five percent energy burden; (b) One point for six to ten percent energy burden; (c) Two points for eleven to fifteen percent energy burden; or (d) Three points for sixteen percent or more energy burden. (2) Additional energy burden: If the household's energy burden is for the use of propane, an additional two points will be allocated.			
Other?		<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	
If yes, describe:			
Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:			
Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)			
2.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of heating assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc. Households with vulnerable members; such as age 60 and over, age 5 and under, members with a disability, and for any household that is seeking assistance with bulk fuel propane are eligible for an additional benefit.			
2.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family (household) size			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home energy cost or need:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel type			
<input type="checkbox"/> Climate/region			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual bill			
<input type="checkbox"/> Dwelling type			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy need			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:			
Households with vulnerable members; such as age 60 and over, age 5 and under, members with a disability, and for any household that is seeking assistance with bulk fuel propane are eligible for an additional benefit. Households who cut/gather their own firewood or whose utilities are included in their rent receive a benefit but do not receive the energy burden			
Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)			
2.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for the fiscal year for which this plan applies. Please note: the maximum and minimum benefits must be shown in the payment matrix.			
Minimum Benefit	\$70	Maximum Benefit	\$490
2.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., blankets, space heaters) and/or other forms of benefits? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
If yes, describe.			
If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.			

Section 3 - COOLING ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 3 - Cooling Assistance

Section 3 - Cooling Assistance

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605 (b)(2) - Assurance 2

3.1 Designate The income eligibility threshold used for the Cooling component:

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

3.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for Cooling assistance? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.

Do you require an Assets test? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:

Renters? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Renters Living in subsidized housing? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

- Subsidized rent/utilities with additional separate utility cost: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance who receive a subsidy for utilities but who incur an additional out-of-pocket expense for utilities are eligible for LIHEAP;
- Subsidized rent with utilities included: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance whose heating/cooling cost is included in their subsidized rent and do not incur an additional out-of-pocket heating or cooling expense are not eligible for LIHEAP;
- Subsidized rent with rental cost: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance who pay rent but do not pay utilities are not eligible for LIHEAP; and,
- Subsidized rent with no cost: Households receiving subsidized rent assistance who pay no rent and no utilities are not eligible for LIHEAP;

Renters with utilities included in the rent? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Households paying non-subsidized rent whose utility costs are included in their rent, even if no such cost is designated, are eligible for LIHEAP.

Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Older Adults (60 years or older)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Age 60 and over: Two points are assigned to eligible households based on the inclusion of one or more household members age 60 or over as determined by birthdate data.

Individuals with a disability? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Disability: Two points are assigned to eligible households having one or more members with a disability. Disability is defined as physical or mental impairment resulting in substantial reduction in the ability of an individual to care for themselves or carry out normal activities. When one or more members receive disability based income, the household is entitled to the points. A doctor's statement of current disability will be required for assignment of the point for this factor if the disabled member does not receive disability-based income.

Young children? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Age five and under: Two points are assigned to eligible households based on the inclusion of one or more household members age five and under as determined by birthdate data.

Households with high energy burdens?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
If yes, describe:			
<p>Points are assigned to the household by determining the households' percentage of energy burden. The point allocation for energy burden is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Zero points for zero to five percent energy burden; (b) One point for six to ten percent energy burden; (c) Two points for eleven to fifteen percent energy burden; or (d) Three points for sixteen percent or more energy burden. <p>(2) Additional energy burden: If the household's energy burden is for the use of propane, an additional two points will be allocated.</p>			
Other?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
If yes, describe:			
Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:			
3.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of cooling assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.			
Households with vulnerable members; such as age 60 and over, age 5 and under, members with a disability, and for any household that is seeking assistance with bulk fuel propane are eligible for an additional benefit.			
Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)			
3.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family (household) size			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home energy cost or need:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel type			
<input type="checkbox"/> Climate/region			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual bill			
<input type="checkbox"/> Dwelling type			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy need			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:			
Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)			
3.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for the fiscal year for which this plan applies. Please note: the maximum and minimum benefits must be shown in the payment matrix.			
Minimum Benefit	\$70	Maximum Benefit	\$490
3.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., fans, air conditioners) and/or other forms of benefits? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
If yes, describe.			
If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.			

Section 4 - CRISIS ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 4 - Crisis Assistance

Section 4: CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Eligibility - 2604(c), 2605(c)(1)(A)

4.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the crisis component

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

4.2 Provide your LIHEAP program's definition for determining a crisis.

If you administer multiple crisis assistance programs (winter, summer, and/or year-round), Include all program definitions.

Households that have received a written disconnect notice from their utility vendor or a statement of non-delivery or sale of fuel from their fuel vendor due to lack of payment or inability to pay, do not have sufficient funds to open an account, or do not meet the security deposit requirements, may be eligible to receive a crisis LIHEAP benefit. The Department is required to provide intervention to resolve an energy crisis that may exist. The processing of the applications for households in a crisis situation includes contacting the utility company or fuel provider within the specified time frames to resolve. Contact with the utility vendors will be provided no later than 48 hours after the household's application for LIHEAP benefits has been received and no later than 18 hours for households with a life-threatening emergency. Crisis intervention is not available to households that have already received a LIHEAP benefit in the current federal fiscal year. When it is determined that a household has an inoperable heating/cooling system, MFA will be allowed to have its subcontractors repair or replace the unit depending on whether it is a summer or winter need. ISD LIHEAP will ensure that if a replacement is needed, MFA subcontractors use the most energy efficient and cost-effective model available.

4.3 What

4.3 What constitutes a life-threatening crisis?

Per NMAC, 8.150.100.7, a life-threatening situation is a related emergency that poses a threat to the health or safety of one or more members of the household. Eligible households with a life-threatening emergency will be provided assistance no later than 18 hours after the household's application for LIHEAP benefits. Assistance is defined as contact with the vendor to intercede on the household's behalf to resolve the crisis situation.

Crisis Requirement, 2604(c)

4.4 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households? 48Hours

4.5 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households in life-threatening situations? 18Hours

Crisis Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A)

	Winter Crisis	Summer Crisis	Year-Round Crisis
4.6 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for Crisis Assistance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.7 Check the appropriate boxes below to indicate type(s) of assistance provided

0

Do you require an Assets test?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you give priority in eligibility to:			
Older Adults (60 years or older)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Individuals with a disability?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Young Children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Households with high energy burdens?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In Order to receive crisis assistance:			
Must the household have received a shut-off notice or have a near empty tank?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Must the household have been shut off or have an empty tank?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Must the household have exhausted their regular heating benefit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must renters with heating costs included in their rent have received an eviction notice?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must heating/cooling be medically necessary?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Must the household have non-working heating or cooling equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:			
Renters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renters living in subsidized housing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Renters with utilities included in the rent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:			
Determination of Benefits			
4.8 How do you handle crisis situations?			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Separate component		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Benefit Fast Track, no separate amount of crisis funds is issued. Rather benefits are issued to crisis customers within crisis response time frames.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:		
4.9 If you have a separate component, how do you determine crisis assistance benefits?			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount to resolve the crisis. \$0		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:		
Crisis Requirements, 2604(c)			
4.10 Do you accept applications for energy crisis assistance at sites that are geographically accessible to all households in the area to be served?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Explain.			
4.11 Do you provide individuals who are individuals with a disability the means to:			
Submit applications for crisis benefits without leaving their homes?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If No, explain.			
Travel to the sites at which applications for crisis assistance are accepted?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If No, explain.			
If you answered "No" to both options in question 4.11, please explain alternative means of intake to those who are homebound or physically disabled?			
Benefit Levels, 2605(c)(1)(B)			
4.12 Indicate the maximum benefit for each type of crisis assistance offered.			
Winter Crisis	\$0.00 maximum benefit		
Summer Crisis	\$0.00 maximum benefit		
Year-round Crisis	\$490.00 maximum benefit		
4.13 Do you provide in-kind (e.g. blankets, space heaters, fans) and/or other forms of benefits?			
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No If yes, Describe			
4.14 Do you provide for equipment repair or replacement using crisis funds?			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If you answered "Yes" to question 4.14, you must complete question 4.15.			
4.15 Check appropriate boxes below to indicate type(s) of assistance provided.			
	Winter Crisis	Summer Crisis	Year-round Crisis

Heating system repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Heating system replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wood stove purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pellet stove purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar panel(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utility poles / gas line hook-ups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.16 Do any of the utility vendors you work with enforce a moratorium on shut offs?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you responded "Yes" to question 4.16, you must respond to question 4.17.

4.17 Describe the terms of the moratorium and any special dispensation received by LIHEAP clients during or after the moratorium period.

Customers who are up to date on their utility bills are included in the winter moratorium that is from November 15 to March 15.

4.18 If you experience a natural disaster, do you intend to utilize LIHEAP crisis funds to address disaster related crisis situations? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe

If the disaster is recognized by the Governor, supplemental benefits will be issued to those have received a LIHEAP benefit within the FFY.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 5 - WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 5 - Weatherization Assistance

Section 5: WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

5.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the Weatherization component

Add	Household Size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

5.2 Do you enter into an interagency agreement to have another government agency administer a WEATHERIZATION component? ☒ Yes ☐ No

5.3 If yes, name the agency and attach a copy of the Internal Agreement or Contract. New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority

5.4 Is there a separate monitoring protocol for weatherization? ☒ Yes ☐ No

WEATHERIZATION - Types of Rules

5.5 Under what rules do you administer LIHEAP weatherization? (Check only one.)

- ☐ Entirely under LIHEAP (not DOE) rules
- ☐ Entirely under DOE WAP (not LIHEAP) rules
- ☒ Mostly under LIHEAP rules with the following DOE WAP rule(s) where LIHEAP and WAP rules differ (Check all that apply):

- ☐ Income Threshold
- ☐ Weatherization of entire multi-family housing structure is permitted if at least 66% of units (50% in 2- & 4-unit buildings) are eligible units or will become eligible within 180 days
- ☐ Weatherize shelters temporarily housing primarily low income persons (excluding nursing homes, prisons, and similar institutional care facilities).

☒ Other - Describe:

Weatherization funds will be used to weatherize eligible single family and multifamily units on tribal lands. With prior approval from New Mexico Health Care Authority, MFA subrecipients will be allowed to expend funding on multi-family units. The State of New Mexico allows an average of \$8,497 per single family unit. MFA, the weatherization contractor provides weatherization services to eligible Native American pueblos in New Mexico that do not receive their own LIHEAP funding. MFA cannot categorically approve weatherization services to households with income over the allowable 200%. For multifamily units, at least 65% of the units must be households with income less than 200%. LIHEAP funds cannot be used for those units with households over 200% FPL. Eligible disabled vets will not be subject to the priority requirements for vulnerability. LIHEAP funds may be used to fully weatherize homes of disabled vets before other applicants in a county, as long as the vets with the highest-ranking score are serviced first. The disability income the vet receives will not be counted towards the total household income.

☐ Mostly under DOE WAP rules, with the following LIHEAP rule(s) where LIHEAP and WAP rules differ (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Income Threshold
- ☐ Weatherization not subject to DOE WAP maximum statewide average cost per dwelling unit.
- ☐ Weatherization measures are not subject to DOE Savings to Investment Ratio (SIR) standards.
- ☐ Other - Describe:

Eligibility, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5

5.6 Do you require an assets test? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5.7 Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for :

Renters	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Renters living in subsidized housing?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Renters with utilities included in the	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

rent?	
5.8 Do you give priority in eligibility to:	
Older Adults?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Individuals with a disability?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Young Children?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
House holds with high energy burdens?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Other?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
<p>If you selected "Yes" for any of the options in questions 5.6, 5.7, or 5.8, you must provide further explanation of these policies in the text field below.</p> <p>HCA maintains a contract with the Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA), who determines eligibility. Per MFA, if someone rents, the landlord must sign an agreement that gives certain tenancy protections. Also per MFA, preference is given to households that contain persons over 60 years of age, persons with disabilities, families with young children, and/or have high energy burdens that meet the income qualification criteria.</p>	
Benefit Levels	
5.9 Do you have a maximum LIHEAP weatherization benefit/expenditure per household? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	
5.9a If yes, what is the maximum? \$0	
5.10 Do you use an Average Cost per Unit (ACPU). <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
5.10a If so, what is the ACPU amount? \$8,497	
Types of Assistance, 2605(c)(1), (B) & (D)	
5.11 What LIHEAP weatherization measures do you provide ? (Check all categories that apply.)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weatherization needs assessments/audits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy related roof repair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caulking and insulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major appliance repairs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Storm windows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major appliance replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace/heating system modifications/repairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Windows/sliding glass doors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace replacement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooling system modifications/repairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Heater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water conservation measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooling system replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Roof top solar	<input type="checkbox"/> Community solar projects
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compact florescent light bulbs	<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
<p>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</p>	

Section 6 - Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 6 - Outreach

Section 6: Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)

6.1 Select all outreach activities that you conduct that are designed to assure that eligible households are made aware of all LIHEAP assistance available:



Place posters/flyers in local and county social service offices, offices of aging, Social Security offices, VA, etc.



Publish articles in local newspapers or broadcast media announcements.



Include inserts in energy vendor billings to inform individuals of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance.



Mass mailing(s) to prior-year LIHEAP recipients.



Inform low income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.



Execute interagency agreements with other low-income program offices to perform outreach to target groups.



Web Posting



Email



Texting



Events



Social Media



Other (specify):

HSD works closely with utility vendors and other local organizations to reach low income families, the elderly, disabled, and families with young children. LIHEAP staff has started participating in outreach activities throughout the state and provides literature and information. Staff works closely with the 33 New Mexico counties and 33 Income Support field offices to ensure that approximately the 115,00 eligible households are aware of the services provided. Mass text messaging to reach out to current/past Income Support Customers to provide information on the various low-income programs offered to eligible households. This will be an ongoing communication to eligible NM families/households.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 7 - Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 7 - Coordination

Section 7: Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4

7.1 Describe how you will ensure that the LIHEAP program is coordinated with other programs available to low-income households (TANF, SSI, WAP, etc.).

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joint application for multiple programs (indicate programs included) SNAP, TANF, MEDICAID, LIHEAP, GENERAL ASSISTANCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intake referrals to/from other programs (indicate programs included) SNAP, TANF, MEDICAID, LIHEAP, GENERAL ASSISTANCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	One - stop intake centers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

Several organizations are set up around the state to help household's complete applications. Vendors also send out fliers and the LIHEAP information in their monthly utility bills. Many entities will accept the applications and submit to HSD on behalf of the household. HCA also uses mass text messaging to reach out to current/past Income Support customers to apprise them of low-income programs being offered by ISD.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 8 - Agency Designation,, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 8 - Agency Designation

Section 8: Agency Designation, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6 (Required for state Grant recipients and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico)

8.1 How would you categorize the primary responsibility of your State agency?

<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	Administration Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commerce Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Services Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy/Environment Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Department of Welfare (administers TANF, SNAP, and/or Medicaid)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Development Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

Include current list of subrecipient name, main office address (do not list P.O. Box), phone number, county(s) served, Congressional District, and UEI number. Used for Near hotline and OCS Service Provider Tool and clearinghouse.

Alternate Outreach and Intake, 2605(b)(15) - Assurance 15

If you selected "State Department of Welfare (administers TANF, SNAP, and/or Medicaid)" in question 8.1, you must complete questions 8.2, 8.3, and 8.4, as applicable.

8.2 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for heating assistance?

Several organizations are set up around the state to help household's complete applications. Vendors also send out fliers and the LIHEAP application information in their monthly bills. Many entities will accept the applications and submit to HSD on behalf of the recipient. State and private organizations work with LIHEAP Staff to attend outreach events where HCA provides information and training on filling out the LIHEAP application.

8.3 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for cooling assistance?>

Several organizations are set up around the state to help household's complete applications. Vendors also send out fliers and the LIHEAP application in their monthly bills. Many entities will accept the applications and submit to HSD on behalf of the recipient. State and private organizations work with LIHEAP Staff to attend outreach events where HSD provides information and training on filling out the LIHEAP application.

8.4 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for crisis assistance?

Several organizations are set up around the state to help household's complete applications. Vendors also send out fliers and the LIHEAP application in their monthly bills. Many entities will accept the applications and submit to HSD on behalf of the recipient. State and private organizations work with LIHEAP Staff to attend outreach events where HSD provides information and training on filling out the LIHEAP application.

application. IN FFY2025 NM will begin using Real Time Eligibility when using the online portal. This will enable to give the customer's vendor immediate payment and notification of benefit if the household is eligible.

8.5 LIHEAP Component Administration.	Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization
8.5a Who determines client eligibility?	State Administration Agency	State Administration Agency	State Administration Agency	State Housing Agency
8.5b Who processes benefit payments to gas and electric vendors?	State Administration Agency	State Administration Agency	State Administration Agency	
8.5c who processes benefit payments to bulk fuel vendors?	State Administration Agency	State Administration Agency	State Administration Agency	
8.5d Who performs installation of weatherization measures?				State Housing Agency

Include a current list of subrecipient(s) name, main office address (do not list P.O. Box), phone number, county(s) served, Congressional District, and UEI number.

If any of your LIHEAP components are not centrally-administered by a state agency, you must complete questions 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, and, if applicable, 8.9.

8.6 What is your process for selecting local administering agencies?

HCA is the administering agency for LIHEAP. HCA has 33 field offices located statewide and HCA field staff are trained in determining the eligibility of LIHEAP applications.

8.7 How many local administering agencies do you use? 33

8.8 Have you changed any local administering agencies in the last year?

☐ Yes
☒ No

8.9 If so, why?

☐

Agency was in noncompliance with Grant recipient requirements for LIHEAP -

☐

Agency is under criminal investigation

☐

Added agency

☐

Agency closed

☐

Other - describe

8.10 If a subrecipient is no longer providing LIHEAP, are you aware of prior-year LIHEAP funds being mismanaged or misspent? ☐ Yes

☒ No

8.10a If yes, please explain.

N/A

8.10b If you are aware, were other federal programs impacted such as CSBG, SSBG, Head Start, TANF, and Department of Energy Weatherization funding, etc. ☐ Yes ☒ No

8.10c If yes, please explain.

N/A

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 9 - Energy Suppliers,, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 9 - Energy Suppliers

Section 9: Energy Suppliers, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7

9.1 Do you make payments directly to home energy suppliers?

Heating ☒ Yes ☐ No

Cooling ☒ Yes ☐ No

Crisis ☒ Yes ☐ No

Are there exceptions? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, Describe.

The benefit is sent directly to the customer for energy assistance in the following instances:

- The household cuts or gathers their own firewood or uses wood pellets for heating purposes;
- The household receives their energy from an energy provider that has not signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the New Mexico Health Care Authority Income Support Division;
- The household pays a landlord for the home energy heat/cooling cost, and it is not included in their rental agreement.

9.2 How do you notify the client of the amount of assistance paid?

A Notice of Case Action (NOCA), with the approved benefit amount and the utility vendor receiving the payment is sent to the customer upon approval of the LIHEAP application and the initial issuance of the LIHEAP benefit.

9.3 How do you assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment?

In the MOU between HSD and each vendor, the payment process to the customer is outlined. The vendor is held to the language stated in the MOU.

9.4 How do you assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of their receipt of LIHEAP assistance?

In the MOU between HSD and each vendor, there is language that states "eligible LIHEAP household customers are not treated differently than other customer households." The vendor is held to the language stated in the MOU.

9.5. Do you make payments contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If so, describe the measures unregulated vendors may take.

All vendors are held to the same MOU language.

Attach a copy of the template statewide vendor agreement or a policy that indicates local agreements must adhere to statewide policies and assurances.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 10 - Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10) - Assurance 10

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 10 - Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit

Section 10: Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10)

10.1. How do you ensure good fiscal accounting and tracking of funds?

LIHEAP funding is tracked in several ways:

1. The Grants Management Bureau of the HSD Administrative Services Division (ASD) tracks all grant funding for LIHEAP including obligations and expenditures.
2. Program Support Bureau (PAB) of the HSD/ISD tracks benefits and administration funding.
3. Quarterly reconciliation with the Administrative Services Division (ASD) meetings are conducted.
4. Payments are reconciled on a monthly basis with our state wide accounting system.
5. The Restitutions Bureau of the HSD Administrative Services Division tracks all claims.
6. The LIHEAP Unit and ASD Accounts Receivable (AR) Bureau track vendor refunds. AR and the Grants Bureau from ASD track the deposits.

10.1a Provide your definitions of the following:

Obligation

An obligation of LIHEAP funds is a legal liability to disburse funds immediately or at a later date as a result of a series of actions. All of the actions below must occur in order to obligate funds for the LIHEAP formula-based grant.

1. The director of the Office of Community Services, (OCS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), will make available by April 1 of each year, the application for the Federal LIHEAP Block Grant;
- By September 1 of each year, the New Mexico Health Care Authority, Income Support Division (NMHCA/ISD) will submit the required application online in OLDC or through mechanisms as directed by the Director of OCS/ACF.
 - The HCA/ISD will commit on the state plan, the estimated percentage of funds that will be allowed for each program component. HSD/ISD will ensure that the funds will be obligated after completing the following:
 - Request meaningful participation from the public, Income Support Division (ISD) employees, subgrantees, and stakeholders in the development of the LIHEAP State Plan;
 - The Governor or their designee will sign the plan and will agree to abide by federal terms and conditions of the grant;
 - HSD/ISD will receive notification from the designated LIHEAP program specialist that he or she approves the application for Federal assistance.

When HSD/ISD is notified by OCS/ACF that the LIHEAP State Plan has been approved and the Grant of Award is received, HSD Administrative Services Division (ASD) will submit the LIHEAP budget to the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) to obtain budget authority. Once completed, HSD/ISD recognizes that it may begin incurring allowable costs during the grant period that will require payment immediately or in the future thus obligating the allowable amount of 90% of the grant.

Expenditures

Funds can only be expended if they have been obligated. LIHEAP funds can only be expended on allowable obligated funds such as:

- Payment to customers if vendor is not an approved LIHEAP vendor
- Payment for Weatherization contract services
- Payment for eligibility system enhancements
- Payment to vendors
- Payment for office supplies
- Payment for employee salaries and benefits

Payment for LIHEAP staff to attend conferences related to LIHEAP				
Expenditure timeframe				
All funds must be expended by 09/30 of the current FFY.				
Administrative costs				
10% of the LIHEAP grant is allowable for administrative services. NM currently budget 8% of the total grant for admin costs.				
Audit Process				
10.2. Is your LIHEAP program audited annually under the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A - 133?				
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No				
10.2a - if yes, describe your auditor selection process.				
Auditors are selected to audit all fiscal activities that occur in all programs administered by the Health Care Authority.				
10.3. Describe any audit findings of the grant recipient (i.e. State/Tribe/Territory) rising to the level of material weakness or reportable condition cited in the single audits, inspector general reviews, or other government agency reviews from the most recently audited fiscal year.				
No Findings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Finding	Type	Brief Summary	Resolved?	Action Taken
1				
10.4. Audits of Local Administering Agencies				
What types of annual audit requirements do you have in place for local administering agencies/district offices? Select all that apply.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit in compliance with Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133				
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit (other than A-133)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices' A-133 or other independent audits are reviewed by Grant recipient as part of compliance process.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient conducts fiscal and program monitoring of local agencies/district offices				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local agencies and district offices are required to have an annual audit in compliance with Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133				
Compliance Monitoring				
10.5. Describe your monitoring process for compliance at each level below. Check all that apply.				
Grant recipients have a policy in place for appropriate separation of duties and internal controls.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal program review				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Departmental oversight				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secondary review of invoices and payments				
<input type="checkbox"/> Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:				
HCA contracts the weatherization component to the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) which functions as a pass through entity to their service providers. We conduct a yearly on-site visit and Management Evaluation (ME). The ME consists of fiscal and program review. On a monthly basis we conduct second party review of invoices and payments along with cross referencing the billing with MFA's weatherized unit report to ensure that services are allocable and allowable.				
Local Administering Agencies/District Offices:				
<input type="checkbox"/> On - site evaluation				
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual program review				
<input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring through central database				
<input type="checkbox"/> Desk reviews				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Client File Testing/Sampling				
<input type="checkbox"/> Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:				

LIHEAP staff conduct monthly case reviews of randomly selected households to ensure that all policies and procedures are being adhered to. They also conduct random LIHEAP case reviews to make sure all policies and procedures are met by field staff approving applications. If inaccuracies are found, the Regional Office Manager (ROM), County Director (CD), and the Family Assistance Analyst (FAA) responsible for reviewing and approving the case are contacted by staff so that necessary corrections can be completed. LIHEAP staff tracks cases with inconsistent information until the error/s have been corrected and appropriate steps have been put in place so as to avoid a reoccurrence.

10.6 Explain, or attach a copy of your local agency monitoring schedule and protocol.

Customer case files are reviewed weekly to ensure that benefits are being given timely, that customers have provided required documents, and that applications are being approved by case workers appropriately.

10.7. Describe how you select local agencies for monitoring reviews. Attach a risk assessment if subrecipients are utilized.

Site Visits:

N/A

Desk Reviews:

N/A

10.8. How often is each local agency monitored? Please attach a monitoring schedule if one has been developed.

Annually

10.9. How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans? 0

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 11 - Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, , 2605(b)(12) - Assurance 12, 2605(c)(2)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01 OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013 Expiration Date: 02/28/2027	
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 11 - Timely and Meaningful Public Participation		
Section 11: Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, 2605(b)(12), 2605(C)(2)		
11.1 How did you obtain input from the public in the development of your LIHEAP plan? Select all that apply. <i>Note: Tribes do not need to hold a public hearing but must ensure participation through other means.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Council meeting(s)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing(s)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft Plan posted to website and available for comment		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hard copy of plan is available for public view and comment		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments from applicants are recorded		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for comments on draft Plan is advertised		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder consultation meeting(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments are solicited during outreach activities		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:		
Public Hearings, 2605(a)(2) - For States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Only		
11.2 List the date and location(s) that you held public hearing(s) on the proposed use and distribution of your LIHEAP funds?		
	Date	Event Description
1	08/30/2024	Public Hearing occurred in person and 39-B Plaza La Prensa, Santa Fe, NM from 9am to 10 am.
11.3. How many parties commented on your plan at the hearing(s)? 1		
11.4 Summarize the comments you received at the hearing(s). The Weatherization contractor asked that subrecipient be used instead of subcontractor.		
11.5 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of public participation and solicitation of input? Made the requested change as listed above.		
If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.		

Section 12 - Fair Hearings, 2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 12 - Fair Hearings

Section 12: Fair Hearings, 2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13

12.1 How many fair hearings did the Grant recipient have in the prior federal Fiscal Year? 57

12.2 How many of those fair hearings resulted in the initial decision being reversed? 11

12.3 Describe any policy and/or procedural changes made in the last federal Fiscal Year as a result of fair hearings?

The increase of Fair Hearings occurred because of the shortage of field staff that review and approve applications. By completing enhancement for Real Time Eligibility, we feel that this will no longer occur.

12.4 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are denied and/or not acted upon in a timely manner.

Per NMAC, 8.100.970.9, a request for a fair hearing can be made by the claimant or an authorized representative orally or in writing. If a claimant requests a fair hearing orally, the department shall take such actions as are necessary to initiate the fair hearing process. The HSD Fair Hearings Bureau shall promptly send written acknowledgment to the claimant and/or the authorized representative upon its receipt of a written or oral hearing request. Time limits, denial or dismissal of request for hearing and good cause for failing to appear are all described in detail in this policy. Per NMAC, 8.100.970.100, unless the claimant or authorized representative requests an expedited scheduling of a fair hearing, the HSD Fair Hearings Bureau shall provide written notice of the scheduling of a fair hearing to all parties not less than ten (10) calendar days prior to date of the fair hearing. A claimant or authorized representative is entitled to, and the HSD Fair Hearings Bureau shall grant, at least one postponement of a scheduled fair hearing. A request for postponement must be submitted not less than one (1) business day prior to the scheduled fair hearing, unless otherwise allowed by the fair hearings bureau. A postponement may not exceed thirty (30) days and the time limit for action on the decision is extended for as many days as the fair hearing is postponed. Further detail is available in the above NMAC policy.

12.5 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

The Notice of Rights, which details the rights to a hearing, is included on every application and Notice of Case Action. Applicants will receive a notice of case action regarding their benefits which also includes their rights. If applicants do not agree with the decision that HSD has made regarding their application/benefits, they may request a hearing by completing and returning the bottom of their notice, writing or calling the local HSD office, or by writing or calling HSD's Hearings Bureau.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 13 - Reduction of home energy needs,2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16

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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 13 - Reduction of Home Energy Needs

Section 13: Reduction of home energy needs, 2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16

13.1 Describe how you use LIHEAP funds to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and thereby the need for energy assistance?

N/A

13.2 How do you ensure that you don't use more than 5% of your LIHEAP funds for these activities?

N/A

13.3 Describe the impact of such activities on the number of households served in the previous federal Fiscal Year.

N/A

13.4 Describe the level of direct benefits provided to those households in the previous federal Fiscal Year.

N/A

13.5 How many households received these services?

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 14 - Leveraging Incentive Program ,2607A

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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 14 - Leveraging Incentive Program

Section 14:Leveraging Incentive Program, 2607(A)

14.1 Do you plan to submit an application for the leveraging incentive program?

☐ Yes ☒ No

14.2 Describe instructions to any third parties and/or local agencies for submitting LIHEAP leveraging resource information and retaining records.

14.3 For each type of resource and/or benefit to be leveraged in the upcoming year that will meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 96.87(d)(2)(iii), describe the following:

Resource	What is the type of resource or benefit ?	What is the source(s) of the resource ?	How will the resource be integrated and coordinated with LIHEAP?
1			

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 15 - Training

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 15 - Training

Section 15: Training

15.1 Describe the training you provide for each of the following groups:

a. Grant recipient Staff:

☒ Formal training provided virtually, on-site, and/or formal training conference

How often?

☒ Annually

☐ Biannually

☒ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

☒ Employees are provided with policy manual

☒ Other, describe:

Training is conducted by the ISD Training Unit. Classes are available year round for LIHEAP staff and new employees. Internet based training (Blackboard) is required once per state fiscal year or is also available as needed. Staff have been trained in New Mexico's Automated System Program and Eligibility Network (ASPEN) and have received policy and procedures training manuals that guide them through the system.

b. Local Agencies:

☐ Formal training provided virtually, on-site, and/or formal training conference

How often?

☒ Annually

☐ Biannually

☐ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

☐ On-site training

How often?

☐ Annually

☐ Biannually

☐ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

☒ Employees are provided with policy manual

☐ Other, describe:

c. Vendors

☐ Formal training conference

How often?

☐ Annually

☐ Biannually

☐ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Policies communicated through vendor agreements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Policies are outlined in a vendor manual
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other, describe:</p> <p>Vendors are provided written and verbal trainings on the Secured Transport System. This system is automated for the vendors to review and approve payments and to ensure that the eligible client is a customer. Vendors can also see a pay file which identifies the payment and the amount. Vendors are trained on this system on an as needed basis and are provided a training manual. NM does not host formal training conferences for vendors. Vendor requirements which include policy and procedures are within the MOU.</p>
<p>15.2 Does your training program address fraud reporting and prevention?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</p>	

Section 16 - Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 16 - Performance Goals and Measures

Section 16: Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b) - Required for States Only

16.1 Describe your progress toward meeting the data collection and reporting requirements of the four required LIHEAP (Benefit Targeting Index, Burden Reduction Targeting Index, Restoration of Home Energy Service, and Prevention of Loss of Home Energy Service). Include timeframes and plans for meeting these requirements and what you believe will be accomplished in the coming federal fiscal year.

Performance Measures for this year will include timeliness of application processing and issuance of benefits to clients. Consumption data from 113 vendors to include natural gas, electric, and propane is submitted and reviewed quarterly. New Mexico currently obtains data from the state's Automated System Program and Eligibility Network (ASPEN). Upon review of data for the Performance Measure report, it was determined that the configuration of how the data was being collected for some of the data points was incorrect. Enhancements were created and implemented in FFY2024 to ensure that New Mexico was providing the most accurate data possible. Enhancements are currently under way to create Realtime Eligibility (RTE) approval for customers applying for LIHEAP. This enhancement will provide benefits on behalf of eligible customers almost instantly. Verification of income and required utility bill will be completed immediately by field staff and payments will be made to vendors immediately upon verification. As this will be a tremendous benefit to customers, LIHEAP funds are used for these enhancements. system enhancements. Because of the new quarterly Performance Data Measures, the dates that the report is due does not coincide with the dates that the data is provided in our system.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 17 - Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN Section 17 - Program Integrity

Section 17: Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)

17.1 Fraud Reporting Mechanisms

a. Describe all mechanisms available to the public for reporting cases of suspected waste, fraud, and abuse. Select all that apply.

- ☒ Online Fraud Reporting
- ☒ Dedicated Fraud Reporting Hotline
- ☒ Report directly to local agency/district office or Grant recipient office
- ☒ Report to State Inspector General or Attorney General
- ☒ Forms and procedures in place for local agencies/district offices and vendors to report fraud, waste, and abuse
- ☐ Other - Describe:

b. Describe strategies in place for advertising the above-referenced resources. Select all that apply

- ☒ Printed outreach materials
- ☒ Posted in local administering agencies offices.
- ☒ Addressed on LIHEAP application
- ☒ Website
- ☐ Other - Describe:

17.2. Identification Documentation Requirements

a. Indicate which of the following forms of identification are required or requested to be collected from LIHEAP applicants or their household members.

Type of Identification Collected	Collected from Whom?					
		Applicant Only		All Adults in Household		All Household Members
Social Security Card is photocopied and retained	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requested
Social Security Number (Without actual Card)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested
Government-issued identification card (i.e.: driver's license, state ID, Tribal ID, passport, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested

17.3. Citizenship/Legal Residency Verification

What are your procedures for ensuring LIHEAP recipients are U.S. citizens or qualified non-citizens who are eligible to receive LIHEAP

benefits? Select all that apply.							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clients sign an attestation of citizenship or U.S. Citizen or Qualified Non-Citizen							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Client's submission of certain Social Security Administration cards is accepted as proof of U.S. Citizen or Qualified Non-Citizen.							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Citizens must provide documentation of immigration status							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citizens must provide a copy of their birth certificate, naturalization papers, or passport							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Citizens are verified through the SAVE system							
<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal members are verified through Tribal enrollment records/Tribal ID card							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;">Only those individuals seeking benefits for themselves are required to verify any of the above.</div>							
	Other	Applicant Only Required	Applicant Only Requested	All Adults in Household Required	All Adults in Household Requested	All Household Members Required	All Household Members Requested
1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

17.4. Income Verification	
What methods does your agency utilize to verify household income? Select all that apply.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Require documentation of income for all adult household members	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pay stubs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Security award letters	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bank statements	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax statements	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zero-income statements	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unemployment Insurance letters	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;">A sworn statement or collateral contact, per 8.100.130 NMAC.</div>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Computer data matches:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income information matched against state computer system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proof of unemployment benefits verified with state Department of Labor	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Security income verified with SSA	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilize state directory of new hires	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:	
b. Describe any exceptions to the above policies.	
17.5 Identification Verification	
Describe what methods are used to verify the authenticity of identification documents provided by clients or household members. Select all that apply	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Verify SSNs with Social Security Administration	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Match SSNs with death records from Social Security Administration or state agency	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Match SSNs with state eligibility/case management system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Match with state Department of Labor system	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Match with state and/or federal corrections system	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Match with state child support system	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Verification using private software (e.g., The Work Number)	
<input type="checkbox"/> In-person certification by staff (for tribal Grant recipients only)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Match SSN/Tribal ID number with tribal database or enrollment records (for tribal Grant recipients only)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:	

17.6. Protection of Privacy and Confidentiality
Describe the financial and operating controls in place to protect client information against improper use or disclosure. Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy in place prohibiting release of information without written consent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient LIHEAP database includes privacy/confidentiality safeguards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employee training on confidentiality for:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient employees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employees must sign confidentiality agreement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient employees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical files are stored in a secure location
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic files are protected in a secure location.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
17.7. Verifying the Authenticity
What policies are in place for verifying vendor authenticity? Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All vendors must register with the State/Tribe.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All vendors must supply a valid SSN or TIN/W-9 form
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendors are verified through energy bills provided by the household
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient and/or local agencies/district offices perform physical monitoring of vendors
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe and note any exceptions to policies above:
17.8. Benefits Policy - Gas and Electric Utilities
What policies are in place to protect against fraud when making benefit payments to gas and electric utilities on behalf of clients? Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicants required to submit proof of physical residency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicants must submit current utility bill
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data exchange with utilities that verifies:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Account ownership
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consumption
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Balances
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment history
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Account is properly credited with benefit
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Centralized computer system/database tracks payments to all utilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Centralized computer system automatically generates benefit level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separation of duties between intake and payment approval
<input type="checkbox"/> Payments coordinated among other energy assistance programs to avoid duplication of payments
<input type="checkbox"/> Payments to utilities and invoices from utilities are reviewed for accuracy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Computer databases are periodically reviewed to verify accuracy and timeliness of payments made to utilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedures are in place to require prompt refunds from utilities in cases of account closure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
17.9. Benefits Policy - Bulk Fuel Vendors
What procedures are in place for averting fraud and improper payments when dealing with bulk fuel suppliers of heating oil, propane, wood,

and other bulk fuel vendors? Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendors are checked against an approved vendors list
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Centralized computer system/database is used to track payments to all vendors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clients are relied on for reports of non-delivery or partial delivery
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two-party checks are issued naming client and vendor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
<input type="checkbox"/> Vendors are only paid once they provide a delivery receipt signed by the client
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conduct monitoring of bulk fuel vendors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bulk fuel vendors are required to submit reports to the grant recipient.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
17.10. Investigations and Prosecutions
Describe the Grant recipients procedures for investigating and prosecuting reports of fraud, and any sanctions placed on clients, staff, or vendors found to have committed fraud. Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refer to state Inspector General
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to local prosecutor or state Attorney General
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to US DHHS Inspector General (including referral to OIG hotline)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices or Grant recipient conduct investigation of fraud complaints from public
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient attempts collection of improper payments. If so, describe the recoupment process
<input type="checkbox"/> Clients found to have committed fraud are banned from LIHEAP assistance. For how long is a household banned?
<input type="checkbox"/> Contracts with local agencies require that employees found to have committed fraud are reprimanded and/or terminated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendors found to have committed fraud may no longer participate in LIHEAP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe: <p>Per NMAC 8.100.640, the Department shall take action to establish a claim against any eligibility determination group that received more benefits than it was entitled to receive, including LIHEAP benefits paid to a vendor on behalf of the eligibility determination group, whether or not the overpayment occurred because of an inadvertent household error (IHE), an administrative or agency error (AE), or an intentional program violation (IPV). Claims resulting from fraud or an IPV will always be established for the full amount of the overpayment. Upon receiving indication that a possible error exists, the Department shall investigate whether an erroneous payment has occurred. Pertinent information shall be requested from the participant. Because this information may be used to prosecute the participant for fraud, the participant shall not be required to provide such information; however, if the participant declines to provide information crucial to the determination of overpayment, the participant shall be ineligible for the period in question because of failure or refusal to provide information. If the Department decides that fraud may exist, the case is referred to the HSD Office of Inspector General (OIG) for further investigation or possible prosecution. Further detail is described in the above NMAC policy.</p>
If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.

Section 18: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.

3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

4. The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

5. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

6. The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

7. The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or

voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

(2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later

determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, [[Page 33043]] should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled ``Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility an Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

☒ **By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.**

Section 19: Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988: 45 CFR Part 76, Subpart, F. Sections 76.630(c) and (d)(2) and 76.645(a)(1) and (b) provide that a Federal agency may designate a central receipt point for STATE-WIDE AND STATE AGENCY-WIDE certifications, and for notification of criminal drug convictions. For the Department of Health and Human Services, the central pint is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Instructions for Certification)

1. By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the Grant recipient is providing the certification set out below.
2. The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the Grant recipient knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the agency, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
3. For Grant recipients other than individuals, Alternate I applies.
4. For Grant recipients who are individuals, Alternate II applies.
5. Workplaces under grants, for Grant recipients other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the Grant recipient does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the Grant recipient must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the Grant recipients drug-free workplace requirements.
6. Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio studios).
7. If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the Grant recipient shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph five).
8. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grant recipients attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

Controlled substance means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

Criminal drug statute means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

Employee means the employee of a Grant recipient directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including: (i) All direct charge employees; (ii) All indirect charge employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and, (iii) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the Grant recipients payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the Grant recipient (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the Grant recipients payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Alternate I. (Grant recipients Other Than Individuals)

The Grant recipient certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the Grant recipients workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about --

(1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(2) The Grant recipients policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

(3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will --

(1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and

(2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;

(e) Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a

central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;

(f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted - (1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

(2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

(B) The Grant recipient may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (*That this must be physical address. No PO Boxes allowed.*)

39-B Plaza La Prensa
*** Address Line 1**

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Santa Fe * <u>City</u>	New Mexico * <u>State</u>	87507 * <u>Zip Code</u>
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Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

Alternate II. (Grant recipients Who Are Individuals)

(a) The Grant recipient certifies that, as a condition of the grant, he or she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant;

(b) If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, he or she will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to every grant officer or other designee, unless the Federal agency designates a central point for the receipt of such notices. When notice is made to such a central point, it shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

[55 FR 21690, 21702, May 25, 1990]

☒ **By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.**

Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying

Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying

The submitter of this application certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

☒ By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.

Assurances

Assurances

(1) use the funds available under this title to--

(A) conduct outreach activities and provide assistance to low income households in meeting their home energy costs, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, consistent with paragraph (5);

(B) intervene in energy crisis situations;

(C) provide low-cost residential weatherization and other cost-effective energy-related home repair; and

(D) plan, develop, and administer the State's program under this title including leveraging programs, and the State agrees not to use such funds for any purposes other than those specified in this title;

(2) make payments under this title only with respect to--

(A) households in which one or more individuals are receiving--

(i) assistance under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act;

(ii) supplemental security income payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act;

(iii) food stamps under the Food Stamp Act of 1977; or

(iv) payments under section 415, 521, 541, or 542 of title 38, United States Code, or under section 306 of the Veterans' and Survivors' Pension Improvement Act of 1978; or

(B) households with incomes which do not exceed the greater of -

(i) an amount equal to 150 percent of the poverty level for such State; or

(ii) an amount equal to 60 percent of the State median income;

(except that a State may not exclude a household from eligibility in a fiscal year solely on the basis of household income if such income is less than 110 percent of the poverty level for such State, but the State may give priority to those households with the highest home energy costs or needs in relation to household income.

(3) conduct outreach activities designed to assure that eligible households, especially households with elderly individuals or disabled individuals, or both, and households with high home energy burdens, are made aware of the assistance available under this title, and any similar energy-related assistance available under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program) or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(4) coordinate its activities under this title with similar and related programs administered by the Federal Government and such State, particularly low-income

energy-related programs under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program), under the supplemental security income program, under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, under title XX of the Social Security Act, under the low-income weatherization assistance program under title IV of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(5) provide, in a timely manner, that the highest level of assistance will be furnished to those households which have the lowest incomes and the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income, taking into account family size, except that the State may not differentiate in implementing this section between the households described in clauses 2(A) and 2(B) of this subsection;

(6) to the extent it is necessary to designate local administrative agencies in order to carry out the purposes of this title, to give special consideration, in the designation of such agencies, to any local public or private nonprofit agency which was receiving Federal funds under any low-income energy assistance program or weatherization program under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 or any other provision of law on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, except that -

(A) the State shall, before giving such special consideration, determine that the agency involved meets program and fiscal requirements established by the State; and

(B) if there is no such agency because of any change in the assistance furnished to programs for economically disadvantaged persons, then the State shall give special consideration in the designation of local administrative agencies to any successor agency which is operated in substantially the same manner as the predecessor agency which did receive funds for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made;

(7) if the State chooses to pay home energy suppliers directly, establish procedures to --

(A) notify each participating household of the amount of assistance paid on its behalf;

(B) assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment made by the State under this title;

(C) assure that the home energy supplier will provide assurances that any agreement entered into with a home energy supplier under this paragraph will contain provisions to assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of such assistance under applicable provisions of State law or public regulatory requirements; and

(D) ensure that the provision of vendor payments remains at the option of the State in consultation with local Grant recipients and may be contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households, including providing for agreements between suppliers and individuals eligible for benefits under this Act that seek to reduce home energy costs, minimize the risks of home energy crisis, and encourage regular payments by individuals receiving financial assistance for home energy costs;

(8) provide assurances that,

(A) the State will not exclude households described in clause (2)(B) of this subsection from receiving home energy assistance benefits under clause (2), and

(B) the State will treat owners and renters equitably under the program assisted under this title;

(9) provide that--

(A) the State may use for planning and administering the use of funds under this title an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the funds payable to such State under this title for a fiscal year; and

(B) the State will pay from non-Federal sources the remaining costs of planning and administering the program assisted under this title and will not use Federal funds for such remaining cost (except for the costs of the activities described in paragraph (16));

(10) provide that such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures will be established as may be necessary to assure the proper disbursal of and accounting for Federal funds paid to the State under this title, including procedures for monitoring the assistance provided under this title, and provide that the State will comply with the provisions of chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the "Single Audit Act");

(11) permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 2608;

(12) provide for timely and meaningful public participation in the development of the plan described in subsection (c);

(13) provide an opportunity for a fair administrative hearing to individuals whose claims for assistance under the plan described in subsection (c) are denied or are not acted upon with reasonable promptness; and

(14) cooperate with the Secretary with respect to data collecting and reporting under section 2610.

(15) * beginning in fiscal year 1992, provide, in addition to such services as may be offered by State Departments of Public Welfare at the local level, outreach and intake functions for crisis situations and heating and cooling assistance that is administered by additional State and local governmental entities or community-based organizations (such as community action agencies, area agencies on aging and not-for-profit neighborhood-based organizations), and in States where such organizations do not administer functions as of September 30, 1991, preference in awarding grants or contracts for intake services shall be provided to those agencies that administer the low-income weatherization or energy crisis intervention programs.

*** This assurance is applicable only to States, and to territories whose annual regular LIHEAP allotments exceed \$200,000. Neither territories with annual allotments of \$200,000 or less nor Indian tribes/tribal organizations are subject to Assurance 15.**

(16) use up to 5 percent of such funds, at its option, to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and

thereby the need for energy assistance, including needs assessments, counseling, and assistance with energy vendors, and report to the Secretary concerning the impact of such activities on the number of households served, the level of direct benefits provided to those households, and the number of households that remain unserved.



By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is agreeing to the Assurances set out above.

Plan Attachments

PLAN ATTACHMENTS
The following documents must be attached to this application
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delegation Letter is required if someone other than the Governor or Chairman Certified this Report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heating component benefit matrix, if applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cooling component benefit matrix, if applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes, notes, or transcripts of public hearing(s).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy Manual.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subrecipient Contract.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Model Plan Participation Notes for Tribes.