



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM NOTICE 21-3
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 10, 2021

SUBJECT: 2021 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES AND DEFINITION OF INCOME

INTENDED AUDIENCE: WAP Grantee Program Managers, WAP Subgrantee Managers

PURPOSE: To provide Grantees with the 2021 Federal Poverty Guidelines and Definition of Income for use in the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

SUPERSEDES: Weatherization Program Notice (WPN) 21-3 supersedes WPN 20-3.

SCOPE: The provisions of this WPN apply to all WAP Grantees applying for financial assistance under the Department of Energy's (DOE) WAP. This Notice supersedes WPN 20-3.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended, authorizes DOE to administer the WAP. All grant awards made under this Program shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the WAP Regulations contained in Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) [10 CFR Part 440](#), as applicable.

PROCEDURES: The annual revision of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty income guidelines is published in the Federal Register. The guidelines are accessible at the [HHS website](#), as well.

Attached is a table displaying the revised guidelines showing income eligibility limits at 200 percent of the poverty guidelines per the requirements contained in Section 412(7) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6862(7)). Adjusted tables for Alaska and Hawaii are also included. These guidelines are effective as of January 13, 2021, and apply to both farm and non-farm families. American Samoa, Guam, Northern Arapaho, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands must select the appropriate set of poverty guidelines and include them in their State Plans for review and approval by DOE prior to use.

Grantees shall distribute these tables immediately to their Subgrantees for use in the Program from the effective date of this Guidance until updated in subsequent policy documents. Additionally, this WPN provides Grantees with a definition of income for use in the WAP. This Guidance continues to reaffirm previous guidance by outlining what is expected to be available in terms of source documentation for review when requested by an outside authority.

DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: As defined in [10 CFR 440.3](#), low-income means that income in relation to family size which:

- (1) Is at or below 200 percent of the poverty level determined in accordance with criteria established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), except that the Secretary may establish a higher level if the Secretary, after consulting with the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, determines that such a higher level is necessary to carry out the purposes of this part and is consistent with the eligibility criteria established for the Weatherization Program under Section 222(a)(12) of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964;
- (2) Is the basis on which cash assistance payments have been paid during the preceding twelve-month period under Titles IV and XVI of the Social Security Act or applicable State or local law; or
- (3) If a Grantee elects, is the basis for eligibility for assistance under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, provided that such basis is at least 200 percent of the poverty level determined in accordance with criteria established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

QUALIFIED ALIENS RECEIVING WEATHERIZATION BENEFITS: Grantees are directed to review guidance provided by HHS under Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). This Guidance can be found at:

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/immigration/restrictions-sum.shtml>.

ELIGIBLE RENTAL WEATHERIZATION: A dwelling unit is eligible for weatherization assistance if it is occupied by a family unit that meets the income guidelines set forth within this WPN and meets building eligibility guidelines detailed in [10 CFR 440.22](#). A Subgrantee may weatherize a rental building containing a sufficient percentage of eligible rental dwelling units or a single-family building or a mobile home provided written permission is obtained from the owner or the owner's authorized agent. See [10 CFR 440.22\(b\)](#)



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Attachment

**2021 POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES
CONTIGUOUS STATES U.S. GRANTEES
EFFECTIVE January 13, 2021**

INCOME LEVELS

Size of Family Unit	Threshold	200%
1	\$12,880	\$25,760
2	\$17,420	\$34,840
3	\$21,960	\$43,920
4	\$26,500	\$53,000
5	\$31,040	\$62,080
6	\$35,580	\$71,160
7	\$40,120	\$80,240
8	\$44,660	\$89,320

For families with more than 8 persons, 100% of poverty level increases \$4,540 for each additional person. Therefore, for weatherization at 200% of poverty level, add \$9,080 for each additional person.

2021 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR ALASKA

Size of Family Unit	Threshold	200%
1	\$16,090	\$32,180
2	\$21,770	\$43,540
3	\$27,450	\$54,900
4	\$33,130	\$66,260
5	\$38,810	\$77,620
6	\$44,490	\$88,980
7	\$50,170	\$100,340
8	\$55,850	\$111,700

For families with more than 8 persons, 100% of poverty level increases \$5,680 for each additional person. Therefore, for weatherization at 200% of poverty level, add \$11,360 for each additional person.

2021 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR HAWAII

Size of Family Unit	Threshold	200%
1	\$14,820	\$29,640
2	\$20,040	\$40,080
3	\$25,260	\$50,520
4	\$30,480	\$60,960
5	\$35,700	\$71,400
6	\$40,920	\$81,840
7	\$46,140	\$92,280
8	\$51,360	\$102,720

For families with more than 8 persons, 100% of poverty level increases \$5,220 for each additional person. Therefore, for weatherization at 200% of poverty level, add \$10,440 for each additional person.

Separate poverty guideline figures for Alaska and Hawaii reflect Office of Economic Opportunity administrative practice beginning in the 1966–1970 period. (Note that the Census Bureau poverty thresholds—the version of the poverty measure used for statistical purposes—have never had separate figures for Alaska and Hawaii.) The poverty guidelines are not defined for Puerto Rico or other outlying jurisdictions, as such the U.S. Territories, must indicate in their Annual Plan which poverty guideline will be followed in their service territory.