

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)

WAP Basics

What is the Weatherization Assistance Program?

WAP provides measures to reduce the heating and cooling costs for low-income families and to enhance the health and safety of their homes.

What kind of work can be performed?

Typical weatherization services include:

- Sealing air leaks with insulation, caulking, or weather-stripping;
- Installing ventilation fans;
- Repairing drafty duct systems;
- Repairing and replacing inefficient or unsafe heating and cooling systems; however, WAP is **not** intended as an **emergency** response for no-heat situations. (See '**Other Resources**' below)
- Installing energy efficient lighting
- Checking for health and safety risks, including testing for carbon monoxide levels and installing CO2 and fire alarms where necessary. Recipients are also educated about proper use and maintenance of all installed systems.

Can WAP provide general repairs to the house such as a new roof, window/door replacement, a porch, floors or new plumbing?

WAP is an energy conservation program and not a housing rehabilitation program. It is not a window/door replacement program.

The Program can make only small repairs where the weatherization measures otherwise would be compromised, such as patching a small roof leak to protect new attic insulation.

A home may be deferred from weatherization because of its condition. See '**Deferrals**' below.

Is there a cost to receive WAP assistance?

No, the work is provided at no cost to an approved income eligible household.

Applying for Assistance

Is there an application to complete?

Services are provided Statewide through a network of designated non-profit weatherization providers representing specific territories.

To receive the application or apply for assistance under the Weatherization Program, contact the local agency serving the area in which the home is located.

Click [here](#) for the Provider List by [County](#)

(NOTE: The DHCD WAP office does not provide, accept or process applications. The application is not on the DHCD website.)

Eligibility

Who is eligible to apply?

There are two parts to eligibility: 1) The qualifying applicant household; and 2) The qualifying home.

1) Qualifying Applicant Household

WAP services are intended for low-income families. *Applicant eligibility* is based on income and number of persons in the household. View the income limits [here](#). Income is verified during the application process.

After income is verified, applications are ranked, and priority is assigned to households that include elderly persons, individuals with disabilities and/or families with children.

If a member of the household receives cash payments under Titles IV (*TANF*) or XVI (*SSI*) of the Social Security Act, the household is automatically eligible.

2) Qualifying Home

If the applicant household is eligible, the home's condition is evaluated. The weatherization provider will schedule a *home inspection* appointment.

- A trained residential energy auditor will inspect the home, conduct diagnostic tests and collect information about the structure.
- The audit may take several hours and will identify the energy-saving measures that are most cost effective, healthy, and safe.

If there are conditions in the home that make weatherization infeasible, the weatherization job can be deferred until such time as the condition is remedied. As an example, a bad roof leak would make installing attic insulation infeasible. Severe mold or the presence of asbestos are other examples of causes for deferral (See "*Deferrals*" below).

The Process

How long does the whole WAP process take?

There are many variables that affect the timeline. There is significant demand for these services and there may be a waiting list in your area.

The following steps will occur:

1. Application is completed and required documentation provided
2. Application is reviewed and approved, denied, or deferred
3. If approved, an energy audit is scheduled
4. Energy auditor completes diagnostic tests in the home and gathers data about the home

5. Audit determines the measures that generate the highest cost savings to investment ratio
6. Work order is prepared
7. WAP crew completes the work
8. Work is inspected by a Quality Control Inspector (required by DOE)

Once the audit is complete, a work order is prepared, and the local provider will contact you to schedule installation. It can be several weeks or months between the audit and the installation if the agency has a backlog of approved applicants.

Can the owner choose only items they want done and skip others?

No, the diagnostic energy audit determines which weatherization measures will result in the greatest overall energy savings.

Who do I call if I have not heard anything about my application?

Contact the local WAP provider to which you submitted the application.

Are renters eligible to receive assistance?

Yes, this program is available to eligible homeowners and renters. The owner must sign an agreement giving written permission for the tenant to receive the weatherization work.

Can a landlord raise the rent as a result of weatherization?

A landlord is prohibited from raising rent solely as a result of the weatherization work. If the landlord also made other improvements to the property at the landlord's own expense, a reasonable rent increase may occur.

Is a mobile/manufactured home eligible?

Yes.

Deferrals

If the home is deferred for weatherization because of certain conditions, it may be referred for assistance using Weatherization Readiness Funds (WRF) or under the Weatherization Deferral and Repair Program (WDR). The same local weatherization agency administers the WRF funds and the WDR Program. If a home is referred, the cause for the deferral may be alleviated and then the weatherization work will resume. Typical examples of work that can be done while in deferred status include roof repair and/or replacement, minor structural repair, electrical or plumbing repairs, and hazardous materials remediation/removal.