LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

State of Louisiana
Proposed Detailed Model State Plan

Fiscal Year 2021

Louisiana Housing Corporation

2415 Quail Drive • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808
(888) 454-2001 • FAX (225) 763-8710 • TTY/TDD (225) 763-8762

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mandatory Grant Application SF-424

Section 1 - Program Components

Section 2 - Heating Assistance

Section 3 - Cooling Assistance

Section 4 - Crisis Assistance

Section 5 - Weatherization Assistance

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Section 14 - Leveraging Incentive Program, 2607A

Section 15 - Training

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

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

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

Section 19 - Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Section 20 - Certification Regarding Lobbying

Assurances

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DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)

Program Name: Low Income Home Energy Assistance
Grantee Name: LOUISIANA
Report Name: DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)
Report Period: 10/01/2020 to 09/30/2021
Report Status: Saved -- with Errors

Report Sections

1. ***Mandatory Grant Application SF-424***
2. ***Section 1 - Program Components***
3. ***Section 2 - HEATING ASSISTANCE***
4. ***Section 3 - COOLING ASSISTANCE***
5. ***Section 4 - CRISIS ASSISTANCE***
6. ***Section 5 - WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE***
7. ***Section 6 - Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)***
8. ***Section 7 - Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4***
9. ***Section 8 - Agency Designation,, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6***
10. ***Section 9 - Energy Suppliers,, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7***
11. ***Section 10 - Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10) - Assurance 10***
12. ***Section 11 - Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, , 2605(b)(12) - Assurance 12, 2605(c)(2)***
13. ***Section 12 - Fair Hearings,2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13***
14. ***Section 13 - Reduction of home energy needs,2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16***
15. ***Section 14 - Leveraging Incentive Program ,2607A***
16. ***Section 15 - Training***
17. ***Section 16 - Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b)***
18. ***Section 17 - Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)***
19. ***Section 18: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters***
20. ***Section 19: Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements***
21. ***Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying***
22. ***Assurances***
23. ***Plan Attachments***

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

* 1.a. Type of Submission:	* 1.b. Frequency:	* 1.c. Consolidated Application/ Plan/Funding Request? Explanation:	* 1.d. Version:
(•) Plan	(•) Annual		(•) Initial ( ) Resubmission ( ) Revision ( ) Update
		2. Date Received:	State Use Only:
		3. Applicant Identifier:	
		4a. Federal Entity Identifier:	5. Date Received By State:
		4b. Federal Award Identifier:	6. State Application Identifier:

7. APPLICANT INFORMATION

*** a. Legal Name:** Louisiana Housing Corporation

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 45-4619102	* c. Organizational DUNS: 078424719

*** d. Address:**

* Street 1:	2415 QUAIL DR	Street 2:	
* City:	BATON ROUGE	County:	EAST BATON ROUGE
* State:	LA	Province:	
* Country:	United States	* Zip / Postal Code:	70808 -

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:	Division Name:
Energy Assistance	

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:	* First Name:	Middle Name:	* Last Name:
	Lauren		Holmes
Suffix:	Title: Housing Finance Deputy Administrator	Organizational Affiliation: Louisiana Housing Corporation	
* Telephone Number: 225-763-8700	Fax Number 225-754-1469	* Email: lhartley@lhc.la.gov	

*** 8a. TYPE OF APPLICANT:**
A: State Government

b. Additional Description:

*** 9. Name of Federal Agency:**

	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	CFDA Title:
10. CFDA Numbers and Titles	93568	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance

11. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

12. Areas Affected by Funding:
State of Louisiana

13. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:	
* a. Applicant 06	b. Program/Project: LA-Statewide
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.	

14. FUNDING PERIOD:		15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:	
a. Start Date: 10/01/2020	b. End Date: 09/30/2021	* a. Federal ($): $0	b. Match ($): $0

*** 16. IS SUBMISSION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?**

a. This submission was made available to the State under the 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.

*** 17. Is The Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt?**

○ YES

◉ NO

Explanation:

18. 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** ☑

** 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.**

18a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official	18c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)
	18d. Email Address
18b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official	18e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year)

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

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SF - 424 - MANDATORY

Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Community Services
Washington, DC 20201

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01
OMB Approval No. 0970-0075
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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 in years in which the grantee is not permitted to file an abbreviated plan. 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
☑	Heating assistance	11/15/2020	03/15/2021
☑	Cooling assistance	04/01/2021	09/30/2021
☑	Crisis assistance	10/01/2020	09/30/2021
☑	Weatherization assistance	07/01/2021	06/30/2022

Provide further explanation for the dates of operation, if necessary

Any Heating assistance funds that have not been expended by March 15 will be reprogrammed to Cooling assistance. Any Weatherization assistance funds that have not been expended by June 30 will be reprogrammed to Cooling Assistance.

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 (%)
Heating assistance	25.00%
Cooling assistance	37.50%
Crisis assistance	10.00%
Weatherization assistance	15.00%
Carryover to the following federal fiscal year	0.00%

Administrative and planning costs	10.00%
Services to reduce home energy needs including needs assessment (Assurance 16)	2.50%
Used to develop and implement leveraging activities	0.00%
TOTAL	100.00%

Alternate Use of Crisis Assistance Funds, 2605(c)(1)(C)

1.3 The funds reserved for winter crisis assistance that have not been expended by March 15 will be reprogrammed to:

☐	Heating assistance	☑	Cooling assistance
☐	Weatherization assistance	☐	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 one household member receives one of the following categories of benefits in the left column below? ○ Yes ◉ 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	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No
SSI	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No
SNAP	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No
Means-tested Veterans Programs	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No

	Program Name	Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization
Other(Specify) 1		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No

1.5 Do you automatically enroll households without a direct annual application? ○ Yes ◉ 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? ○ Yes ◉ 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

☐	Once Per Year
☐	Once every five years
☐	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

Determination of Eligibility - Countable Income

1.8. In determining a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP, do you use gross income or net income ?

☑	Gross Income
☐	Net Income

1.9. Select all the applicable forms of countable income used to determine a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP

☑	Wages
☑	Self - Employment Income

☑	**Contract Income**
☐	**Payments from mortgage or Sales Contracts**
☑	**Unemployment insurance**
☑	**Strike Pay**
☑	**Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits**
	☐ **Including MediCare deduction** ☑ **Excluding MediCare deduction**
☑	**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**
☑	**Retirement / pension benefits**
☐	**General Assistance benefits**
☑	**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits**
☐	**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits**
☐	**Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) benefits**
☐	**Loans that need to be repaid**
☐	**Cash gifts**
☐	**Savings account balance**
☑	**One-time lump-sum payments, such as rebates/credits, winnings from lotteries, refund deposits, etc.**
☑	**Jury duty compensation**
☑	**Rental income**
☐	**Income from employment through Workforce Investment Act (WIA)**
☐	**Income from work study programs**
☑	**Alimony**
☐	**Child support**
☑	**Interest, dividends, or royalties**
☐	**Commissions**
☐	**Legal settlements**
☐	**Insurance payments made directly to the insured**
☐	**Insurance payments made specifically for the repayment of a bill, debt, or estimate**
☑	**Veterans Administration (VA) benefits**

☐	**Earned income of a child under the age of 18**
☑	**Balance of retirement, pension, or annuity accounts where funds cannot be withdrawn without a penalty.**
☐	**Income tax refunds**
☐	**Stipends from senior companion programs, such as VISTA**
☐	**Funds received by household for the care of a foster child**
☐	**Ameri-Corp Program payments for living allowances, earnings, and in-kind aid**
☐	**Reimbursements (for mileage, gas, lodging, meals, etc.)**
☐	**Other**

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.

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MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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	State Median Income	60.00%

2.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for HEATING ASSITANCE?	○ Yes ◉ No
2.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.	
Do you require an Assets test ?	○ Yes ◉ No
Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:	
Renters?	○ Yes ◉ No
Renters Living in subsidized housing ?	◉ Yes ○ No
Renters with utilities included in the rent ?	◉ Yes ○ No
Do you give priority in eligibility to:	
Elderly?	◉ Yes ○ No
Disabled?	◉ Yes ○ No
Young children?	◉ Yes ○ No
Households with high energy burdens ?	◉ Yes ○ No
Other?	○ Yes ◉ No

Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:

2.3 Renters living in subsidized housing, the amount of the utility allowance is deducted from the total energy cost. Households receiving a utility allowance greater than the utility bill are not eligible. Applicants over 60 years old are exempt from this requirement.

Contractors may utilize an appointment system to schedule a specific date and time to complete the application process for the elderly, and persons with disabilities or infirmity.

Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

2.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of heating assistance tovulnerable populations,e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.

Households containing one or more members of the targeted priority groups (elderly, disabled, young children) are eligible for one additional $100 benefit payment per household.

The applicant's energy burden is automatically calculated using the Hancock Energy Software (HES). The highest total energy cost (TEC) is divided by the total household monthly gross income to determine the percentage of the household income used for energy costs.

The applicant's benefit amount is determined using a benefit matrix. Households with zero income are eligible to receive the maximum benefit payment allowed for their family size.

Eligible households can receive one benefit payment during the heating season.

2.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):

- ☑ **Income**
- ☑ **Family (household) size**

- [x] **Home energy cost or need:**
  - [ ] **Fuel type**
  - [ ] **Climate/region**
  - [x] **Individual bill**
  - [ ] **Dwelling type**
  - [x] **Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)**
  - [ ] **Energy need**
  - [ ] **Other - Describe:**

See Attachment

Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

2.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2020:

Minimum Benefit	$200	**Maximum Benefit**	$800

2.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., blankets, space heaters) and/or other forms of benefits? ○ Yes ◉ 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.

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SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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	State Median Income	60.00%

3.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for COOLING ASSITANCE?	○ Yes ◉ No
3.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.	
Do you require an Assets test ?	○ Yes ◉ No
Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:	
Renters?	○ Yes ◉ No
Renters Living in subsidized housing ?	◉ Yes ○ No
Renters with utilities included in the rent ?	◉ Yes ○ No
Do you give priority in eligibility to:	
Elderly?	◉ Yes ○ No
Disabled?	◉ Yes ○ No
Young children?	◉ Yes ○ No
Households with high energy burdens ?	◉ Yes ○ No
Other?	○ Yes ◉ No

Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:

3.3 Renters living in subsidized housing, the amount of the utility allowance is deducted from the total energy cost. Households receiving a utility allowance greater than the utility bill are not eligible. Applicants over 60 years old are exempt from this requirement.

Contractors may utilize an appointment system to schedule a specific date and time to complete the application process for the elderly, and persons with disabilities or infirmity.

3.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of cooling assistance tovulnerable populations,e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.

Households containing one or more members of the targeted priority groups (elderly, disabled, young children) are eligible for one additional $100 benefit payment per household.

The applicant's energy burden is automatically calculated using the Hancock Energy Software (HES). The highest total energy cost (TEC) is divided by the total household monthly gross income to determine the percentage of the household income used for energy costs.

The applicant's benefit amount is determined using a benefit matrix. Households with zero income are eligible to receive the maximum benefit payment allowed for their family size.

Eligible households can receive one benefit payments during the cooling season.

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):

☑ **Income**

- [x] **Family (household) size**
- [x] **Home energy cost or need:**
  - [ ] **Fuel type**
  - [ ] **Climate/region**
  - [x] **Individual bill**
  - [ ] **Dwelling type**
  - [x] **Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)**
  - [ ] **Energy need**
  - [ ] **Other - Describe:**

See Attachment

LHC reserves the right the issue Supplemental Cooling Benefits to applicants who previously received Cooling assistance within the grant period based on funds available.

Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

3.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2020:

Minimum Benefit	$200	**Maximum Benefit**	$800

3.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., fans, air conditioners) and/or other forms of benefits? ○ Yes ◉ 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.

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SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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	State Median Income	60.00%

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

A crisis exists when a household's energy source for heating and/or cooling has been disconnnected or scheduled for disconnection, depleted and there are insufficient resources to resolve the situation. A crisis may also include natural disaster events, public health emergencies, and supply shortage emergencies declared by state or federal government.

4.3 What constitutes a life-threatening crisis?

When an eligible household is faced with an adverse situation that jeopardizes the health and/or safety of the household members. This would include a household member that has a medical condition that require the operation of medical equipment, such as oxygen, and/or extreme weather conditions that would keep the household cool/warm.

Crisis Requirement, 2604(c)

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

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

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

4.6 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for CRISIS ASSISTANCE?	○ Yes ◉ No
4.7 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each	
Do you require an Assets test ?	○ Yes ◉ No
Do you give priority in eligibility to :	
Elderly?	○ Yes ◉ No
Disabled?	○ Yes ◉ No
Young Children?	○ Yes ◉ No
Households with high energy burdens?	○ Yes ◉ No
Other?	○ Yes ◉ No
In Order to receive crisis assistance:	
Must the household have received a shut-off notice or have a near empty tank?	◉ Yes ○ No
Must the household have been shut off or have an empty tank?	◉ Yes ○ No
Must the household have exhausted their regular heating benefit?	○ Yes ◉ No
Must renters with heating costs included in their rent have received an eviction notice ?	○ Yes ◉ No
Must heating/cooling be medically necessary?	◉ Yes ○ No

Must the household have non-working heating or cooling equipment?	◉ Yes ○ No
Other?	○ Yes ◉ No
Do you have additional / differing eligibility policies for:	
Renters?	○ Yes ◉ No
Renters living in subsidized housing?	○ Yes ◉ No
Renters with utilities included in the rent?	○ Yes ◉ No
Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:	

Eligible applicants are required to provide support documentation to establish a crisis situation. (i.e. Disconnect/Shut-Off Notice, Final Bill and proof of new account, doctor's statements or medical reports, written estimates to refill fuel tanks, and/or evidence of an economic hardship-monthly expenses and income).

Determination of Benefits

4.8 How do you handle crisis situations?

☑	**Separate component**
☐	**Fast Track**
☑	**Other - Describe:**

Disaster Relief

LHC use of LIHEAP Funding for Disaster Relief is based on LIHEAP regulations at 45 C.F.R. 96.50(e).

Allowable uses of LIHEAP funds to deal with crisis situations, particularly with respect to assistance for home energy related needs resulting from a hurricane or other natural disaster, include:

- Costs to temporarily shelter or house individuals in hotels, apartments, or other living situations in which homes have been destroyed or damaged, i.e., placing people in settings to preserve health and safety and to move them away from the crisis situation.

- Costs for transportation (such as cars, shuttles, buses) to move individuals away from the crisis area to shelters, when helath and safety is a endangered by loss of access to heating or cooling.

- Utility reconnection costs

- Repair or replacement cost for furnaces and air conditioners

- Insulation repair

- Coats and blankets, as tangible benefits to keep individuals warm

- Crisis payments for utilities and utility deposits

- Purchase and installation of fans and air conditioners

- Purchase and installation of generators

All related activities must be pre-approved by LHC and will be targeted to areas covered by a disaster declaration.

4.9 If you have a separate component, how do you determine crisis assistance benefits?

☑	**Amount to resolve the crisis.**
☑	**Other - Describe:**

Eligible households can receive only one crisis benefit payment, not to exceed $600, during a 12 month period.

For utility bill assistance, the crisis benefit payment will cover only the amount of the disconnect notice, if the services have NOT been disconnected at the time of application. If utilities have been disconnected at the time of application, the total benefit requested should include all costs to connect or reconnect services, except any other non-energy related charges.

In the event a household is in transition, a Final Bill and proof of a new account, showing the total cost to restore services, should be used to provide assistance and calculate the benefit. The referenced bill should clearly state "Final Bill". A recent statement from the vendor, preferably on letterhead, within the past 30 days may be used to calculate a benefit payment. The intent of this provision does not arbitrarily substitute the mandatory Disconnect Notice, or cause any inconsistency with the LHC's established policy for LIHEAP crisis assistance.

For equipment repair/replacement, the amount of the equipment plus installation, not to exceed $600 per household.

For disaster relief, the amount of the in-kind benefits, not to exceed $600 per household.

In the event that Supplemental funds are granted or available within the year due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e.

public health emergencies, etc.), LHC reserves the right to develop a separate benefit matrix to deliver bill payment assistance that meets the need of the particular crisis based on the amount of funds awarded or still available. Applicants impacted by the crisis will be eligible for Supplemental funds in addition to eligibility for regular crisis assistance.

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?

(●) Yes ( ) No **Explain.**

Contractors are required to provide crisis assistance to all eligible households within the designated service delivery area, indicated in the contract.

4.11 Do you provide individuals who are physically disabled the means to:

Submit applications for crisis benefits without leaving their homes?

(●) Yes ( ) No **If No, explain.**

Travel to the sites at which applications for crisis assistance are accepted?

( ) Yes (●) 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?

Contractors are required to make provisions for home-bound and infirmed applicants to complete an application by either traveling to the applicant's home or accepting a signed statement by the applicant that names an authorized representative to apply for LIHEAP services on their behalf.

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	$600.00	**maximum benefit**

4.13 Do you provide in-kind (e.g. blankets, space heaters, fans) and/or other forms of benefits?

(●) Yes ( ) No **If yes, Describe**

Contractors may provide an in-kind benefit (in accordance with the Louisiana Disaster Relief Policy), not to exceed $600 per household, in times of disaster relief. An explanation of the disaster should be included in the applicant's file.

The cost for disaster relief will be reimbursed to the contractor. The contractor should expend the funds necessary to resolve the crisis situation in a timely manner.

In the event that Supplemental funds are granted or available within the year due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. public health emergencies, etc.), LHC reserves the right to develop a separate benefit matrix to deliver bill payment assistance that meets the need of the particular crisis based on the amount of funds awarded or still available. Applicants impacted by the crisis will be eligible for Supplemental funds in addition to eligibility for regular crisis assistance.

4.14 Do you provide for equipment repair or replacement using crisis funds?

(●) Yes ( ) 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	☐	☐	☑
Heating system replacement	☐	☐	☑
Cooling system repair	☐	☐	☑
Cooling system replacement	☐	☐	☑
Wood stove purchase	☐	☐	☐

Pellet stove purchase	☐	☐	☐
Solar panel(s)	☐	☐	☐
Utility poles / gas line hook-ups	☐	☐	☐
Other (Specify): Contractors may provide minor repair or replacement up to $600 of heating or cooling equipment. An explanation of the emergency should be included in the applicant's file. The cost for equipment plus installation, if any, will be reimbursed to the contractor not to exceed $600. The total reimbursement from LIHEAP may not exceed the total amount for a Crisis benefit payment. The contractor should expend the funds necessary to resolve the crisis situation in a timely manner.	☐	☐	☑

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.

The utility vendors agree to accept energy benefit pledges on behalf of LIHEAP eligible customers in crisis situations facing threatened or actual interruption of 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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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	200.00%

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.

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:**

☑ **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 Ration (SIR) standards.**
- ☑ **Other - Describe:**

Some homes are weatherized using a combination of both DOE and LIHEAP funds for Incidental Repairs to maximize the effectiveness of the Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs).

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	◉ Yes ○ No
Renters living in subsidized housing?	◉ Yes ○ No

5.8 Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Elderly?	◉ Yes ○ No
Disabled?	◉ Yes ○ No
Young Children?	◉ Yes ○ No
House holds with high energy burdens?	◉ Yes ○ No
Other? High Energy Use	◉ Yes ○ No

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.

Property Owners (landlords) must sign an agreement to not increase the rent costs for at least 12 months. Owners are encourged to contribute financially to overall weatherization projects.

The Hancock Energy Software automatically assigns a WAP ranking based on criteria set in policy. Eligible households are awarded points for children age 17 and under, elderly age 60 and older, disability, high energy burden (25% of household total income used for energy cost), and number of months on the waiting list.

Benefit Levels

5.9 Do you have a maximum LIHEAP weatherization benefit/expenditure per household? ○ Yes ◉ No

5.10 If yes, what is the maximum? $0

Types of Assistance, 2605(c)(1), (B) & (D)

5.11 What LIHEAP weatherization measures do you provide ? (Check all categories that apply.)

☑ **Weatherization needs assessments/audits**	☑ **Energy related roof repair**
☑ **Caulking and insulation**	☑ **Major appliance Repairs**
☐ **Storm windows**	☑ **Major appliance replacement**
☑ **Furnace/heating system modifications/ repairs**	☑ **Windows/sliding glass doors**
☑ **Furnace replacement**	☑ **Doors**
☑ **Cooling system modifications/ repairs**	☑ **Water Heater**
☑ **Water conservation measures**	☑ **Cooling system replacement**
☑ **Compact florescent light bulbs**	☑ **Other - Describe:** Minor repairs (i.e., electrical problems, leaks, patching, thresholds, weatherstripping, switch/outlet gaskets, replace broken window panes, repair windows and doors, etc.)

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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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:

- [x] **Place posters/flyers in local and county social service offices, offices of aging, Social Security offices, VA, etc.**
- [x] **Publish articles in local newspapers or broadcast media announcements.**
- [x] **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.**
- [x] **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.**
- [x] **Other (specify):**

  Presentations at community and school meetings. Off-site event for distribution (Housing conferences, seminars, churches, community centers, etc.)

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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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.).

☐	**Joint application for multiple programs**
☑	**Intake referrals to/from other programs**
☑	**One - stop intake centers**
☑	**Other - Describe:**

Participate in a state telephone call center (i.e. 211), which directs callers to LIHEAP providers.

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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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

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

☐	**Administration Agency**
☐	**Commerce Agency**
☐	**Community Services Agency**
☐	**Energy / Environment Agency**
☑	**Housing Agency**
☐	**Welfare Agency**
☐	**Other - Describe:**

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

If you selected "Welfare Agency" 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?

8.3 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for COOLING ASSISTANCE?

8.4 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for CRISIS ASSISTANCE?

8.5 LIHEAP Component Administration.	**Heating**	**Cooling**	**Crisis**	**Weatherization**
8.5a Who determines client eligibility?	Local County Government Community Action Agencies Tribal Government	Local County Government Community Action Agencies Tribal Government	Local County Government Community Action Agencies Tribal Government	Local County Government Community Action Agencies
8.5b Who processes benefit payments to gas and electric vendors?	State Housing Agency	State Housing Agency	State Housing Agency	

8.5c who processes benefit payments to bulk fuel vendors?	State Housing Agency	State Housing Agency	State Housing Agency	
8.5d Who performs installation of weatherization measures?				Local County Government Community Action Agencies

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?

In selecting a local agency, preference is given to any CAA or other public nonprofit entity which has, or is currently administering, an effective program under any low-income energy assistance or weatherization program.

Program effectiveness is evaluated by considering the following factors including, but not necessarily limited to:

1) The extent to which the past or current program achieved or is achieving LIHEAP goals in a timely fashion;

2) Meeting the fiscal requirements established in regulations and state policies;

3) The quality of service delivered by the local agency;

4) The number of qualifications and experience of the staff members of the agency; and

5) The location and proximity to the vacant territory.

Local agencies responding to a formal request for proposals are required to attend a hearing conducted by LHC to present their proposal and answer questions.

8.7 How many local administering agencies do you use? 40

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 grantee requirements for LIHEAP -**
- ☐ **Agency is under criminal investigation**
- ☐ **Added agency**
- ☐ **Agency closed**
- ☐ **Other - 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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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.

Exceptions are allowed under circumstances when a new vendor or existing vendor is not set up to receive payment directly from LHC and/or refuses to accept a pledge on behalf of an eligible applicant. The Contractor may request reimbursement for the payment made to prevent a shut-off or disconnection. There are 89 out of 322 energy vendors that are not set up to receive payments directly from the LHC. Most of these are very small mom/pop vendors that refuse to sign a Vendor Agreement and provide other related documents. Applicants have minimal choice for utility vendors and must use the utility vendor in their location; therefore, LHC does not discriminate against an applicant whose vendor chooses not to sign. LHC is continuing to educate vendors in regards to the Vendor Agreement.

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

The Hancock Energy Software (HES) generates a Client Qualification Notification letter, which is provided to the client at the end of the application process.

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?

The Vendor Agreement contains a provision to assure the vendor will not discriminate, neither in costs or goods supplied nor the services provided, against the household on whose behalf benefit payments are made.

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?

The Vendor Agreement contains a provision to assure customers receiving assistance from the LIHEAP will not be treated adversely because of such assistance under applicable provision of State law and public regulatory requirements.

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.

Unregulated Energy Vendors are not included as LIHEAP energy providers.

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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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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

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

The LHC financial operations manual establishes the framework and procedures for budgeting, reporting, internal controls, cost allocation, and accountability as described in the costs principle applicable to the grant.

Contractors submit weekly electronic copies of the Request for Payment to LHC for their benefit payments based on eligible households and monthly Request for Payment to LHC for actual administrative, program, and client education expenditures.

LHC conducts monthly reconciliation of funds and expenditures with sub-recipients to ensure accuracy and reliability for data reporting.

All LIHEAP expenditures are tracked and monitored using the web-based software, Hancock Energy Software (HES) and MS Excel spreadsheets.

Audit Process

10.2. Is your LIHEAP program audited annually under the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A - 133?

(●) Yes ( ) No

10.3. Describe any audit findings rising to the level of material weakness or reportable condition cited in the A-133 audits, Grantee monitoring assessments, inspector general reviews, or other government agency reviews of the LIHEAP agency from the most recently audited fiscal year.

No Findings ☑

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.

- ☑ **Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit in compliance with Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133**
- ☐ **Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit (other than A-133)**
- ☑ **Local agencies/district offices' A-133 or other independent audits are reviewed by Grantee as part of compliance process.**
- ☑ **Grantee conducts fiscal and program monitoring of local agencies/district offices**

Compliance Monitoring

10.5. Describe the Grantee's strategies for monitoring compliance with the Grantee's and Federal LIHEAP policies and procedures: Select all that apply

Grantee employees:

- ☑ **Internal program review**
- ☑ **Departmental oversight**
- ☑ **Secondary review of invoices and payments**
- ☑ **Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:**

LHC utilizes the available reporting system of the Hancock Energy Software (HES) to monitor contractor's production and service delivery to timely ensure all contractors are maintaining service delivery in accordance with contractual obligations.

Local Administering Agencies / District Offices:

- [x] **On - site evaluation**
- [x] **Annual program review**
- [x] **Monitoring through central database**
- [x] **Desk reviews**
- [x] **Client File Testing / Sampling**
- [ ] **Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:**

In the event of a natural disaster, statewide pandemic, or other emergency, LHC may adapt monitoring methods as a result of the event and the Agencies' resources. Those methods will be determined based on circumstances surrounding the event and the associated timelines.

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

Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) has adopted a systems approach to monitoring Contractors for compliance with applicable regulations and achievement of performance goals.

Program activities are monitored both electronically and by conducting on-site visits annually. The State mandated software is used to record application input and monitor Contractor's production, i.e., how many applications are taken in a given time frame; how many of those applications were Heating/Cooling applications; how many were Crisis applications; how many households were served; and how many priority members were included in those households. We are also able to monitor the rate of benefit delivery to the specific service area. This information is utilized, to not only monitor the rate of service delivery, but also the areas being served. Those areas can be identified within a service provider's geographical service area, needing extra attention and outreach.

During the on-site monitoring visits, the physical files are reviewed for documentation of various program mandated activities, such as:

(A) Written policies and procedures that prohibit discrimination in both service delivery and employment,

(B) Compliance with Minimum Wage laws,

(C) Written policies regarding grievance procedures for both applicants and employees,

(D) Written policies regarding providing services to eligible applicants on a first come, first served basis,

(E) Written policies that document adherence to written Program Guidelines approved by Louisiana Housing Corporation,

(F) Documentation of employee training on program guidelines,

(G) A review of various documents that demonstrate program outreach activities including newspaper ads, radio and/or television advertising, copies of any printed material distributed in the community to applicants and potential applicants, social media,

(H) A review of Client Education material distributed to applicants regarding energy conservation activities,

(I) A review of a random sample of applicant files to verify the collection of required support docoumentation from eligible applicants, including income, vulnerability of the client for the cost of the energy bill, confirmation of residence at the service address indicated on the bill, copies of Social Security Cards or other government documents that contain social security numbers for each member of the household being served,

(J) Written policies and procedures to detect, minimize, and eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse.

Eligibility and benefit determination is handled through the web-based computerized application system adopted by the LHC. The program is designed to calculate benefit based on parameters that are entered at the state level and that are unalterable at the service provider level. Benefit calculations are based on income levels for each household, the number of eligible household members, and the identification of priority members of the household, i.e., persons over 60 years of age, persons disabled, or persons under the age of 6. The benefit calculation is totally, automated requiring only data input from the agency provider. Eligibility is also determined by the same system utilizing social security numbers of applicants and flagging those applicants or household members that may have received a benefit within the prohibited timeframe. Applicants may currently apply for non-crisis benefits once in the heating season and once in the cooling season, and if necessary, applicants may also apply for a crisis benefit once in a twelve month period.

10.7. Describe how you select local agencies for monitoring reviews.

Site Visits:

LHC, as the state grantee, conducts annual on-site compliance monitoring visits to all LIHEAP contractors.

Desk Reviews:

LHC staff conducts ongoing desk monitoring of agency reports, budget tracking and statistical reports, and rate of expenditures.

10.8. How often is each local agency monitored ? All Contractors are monitored at least once annually.
10.9. What is the combined error rate for eligibility determinations? OPTIONAL
10.10. What is the combined error rate for benefit determinations? OPTIONAL
10.11. How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans for eligibility and/or benefit determination issues? 7
10.12. How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans for financial accounting or administrative issues? 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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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.

- [ ] Tribal Council meeting(s)
- [x] Public Hearing(s)
- [x] Draft Plan posted to website and available for comment
- [x] Hard copy of plan is available for public view and comment
- [ ] Comments from applicants are recorded
- [x] Request for comments on draft Plan is advertised
- [x] Stakeholder consultation meeting(s)
- [ ] Comments are solicited during outreach activities
- [ ] Other - Describe:

11.2 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of this participation?

*Increased the benefits within the Heating/Cooling Benefit Matrix and Crisis Caps.

Public Hearings, 2605(a)(2) - For States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Only

11.3 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	08/28/2020	Web-Based (via Global Meet) at 10:00AM CST

11.4. How many parties commented on your plan at the hearing(s)?

11.5 Summarize the comments you received at the hearing(s).

11.6 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of the comments received at the public hearing(s)?

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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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

12.1 How many fair hearings did the grantee have in the prior Federal fiscal year? None

12.2 How many of those fair hearings resulted in the initial decision being reversed? N/A

12.3 Describe any policy and/or procedural changes made in the last Federal fiscal year as a result of fair hearings?

N/A

12.4 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are denied.

In accordance with Section 2605 (b) (13) of Public Law 97-35, applicants are advised of their appeal right at the time of application.

During the application process, the rights to an appeal and fair hearing and the Civil Rights statements are written and described on the back of the service application form. The LIHEAP workers are required to read this section to the applicant, before the applicant signs to request a hearing. A copy of the form is provided to the applicant to mail to LHC to request a fair hearing within 30 days after the decision. LHC will review the request and respond in writing to the request for review. In the event the applicant is still dissatisfied, LHC will retain an Administrative Law Judge to preside at the hearing and follow applicable laws to render a decision.

12.5 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

Ineligible applicants are informed in writing, at the time of application, of their rights to an appeal and fair hearing, prior to signing the form.

The written request with an explanation of the issue on back of the service application form under Right to Appeal and Fair Hearing should be mailed to the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC), 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. If assistance is required, the contractor may assist the applicant, if requested, to prepare a written request. The request must be received by LHC within 30 days of the decision or postmarked within 30 days.

12.6 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are not acted on in a timely manner.

In accordance with section 2605 (b) (13) of Public Law, 9735, applicants ae provided information regarding a fair hearing when assistance is denied or is not acted upon with reasonable promptness. Applicants are informed in writing and orally at the time of application of his/her right to a fair hearing and the method by which a hearing may be requested.

12.7 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

A "LIHEAP Application Required Documents Form" is completed, signed and dated by the applicant and the Agency representative, at the time of application. The form includes a checklist and information regarding the status of the application.

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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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?

Energy education is provided to eligible and ineligible households. Local agencies are required to develop active, paticipatory energy conservation education activities. They are also encouraged to use educational activities that can be carried out while the applicant is waiting for intake. Services can include counseling, assistance with negotiations with energy vendors, outreach, referrals to the Weatherization Assistance Program, and energy efficiency education materials.

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

A percentage is set in the State Plan and the amount is obligated upon receipt of the grant award.

13.3 Describe the impact of such activities on the number of households served in the previous Federal fiscal year.

Assurance 16 funds were used to purchase energy kits, which included LED bulbs, energy calendars, energy wheels, and coloring books for children. Sub-grantees aslo purchased latptop computers, modems, scanners, televisions with built in DVD players, and portable printers to deliver educational videos and serve clients in rural areas who are unable to travel to an office. LED night lights, weather stripping tape, advertisement spots and materials were also purchased to educate the public about the LIHEAP program including personnel time. LHC is estimating 46,395 households will benefit from Assurance 16 funds based on preliminary numbers received from Subgrantees this year. The LHC is currently working with sub-grantees to utilize FY 2020 Client Education funds prior to the end of the 09/30/2021.

13.4 Describe the level ofdirect benefitsprovided to those households in the previous Federal fiscal year.

Assurance 16 funds were used to purchase energy kits, which included LED bulbs, energy calendars, energy wheels, and coloring books for children.

13.5 How many households applied for these services? N/A

13.6 How many households received these services? 46395

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

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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 of45 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.

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.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

Section 15: Training

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

a. Grantee Staff:

- [x] **Formal training on grantee policies and procedures**

How often?

- [ ] **Annually**
- [ ] **Biannually**
- [x] **As needed**
- [ ] **Other - Describe:**

- [x] **Employees are provided with policy manual**
- [x] **Other-Describe:**

LHC is a member of NEADA and participates in NEADA Conferences as well as Annual DHHS LIHEAP Meetings.

b. Local Agencies:

- [x] **Formal training conference**

How often?

- [x] **Annually**
- [ ] **Biannually**
- [ ] **As needed**
- [ ] **Other - Describe:**

- [x] **On-site training**

How often?

- [x] **Annually**
- [ ] **Biannually**
- [x] **As needed**
- [ ] **Other - Describe:**

- [x] **Employees are provided with policy manual**
- [x] **Other - Describe**

LHC participates in the annual conference held by the Association of Community Action Partnerships of Louisiana (ACAP). T&TA is provided daily via telephone calls, conference calls and webinars. Annual onsite T&TA is also provided during the annual monitoring visits. Periodically, as needed, we will provide training in-house for new employees and others from the Community Action Agencies.

c. Vendors

- [x] **Formal training conference**

How often?

- [x] **Annually**
- [ ] **Biannually**

- [ ] **As needed**
- [ ] **Other - Describe:**
- [x] **Policies communicated through vendor agreements**
- [ ] **Policies are outlined in a vendor manual**
- [x] **Other - Describe:**

LHC holds bi-annual meetings with major utility vendors.

15.2 Does your training program address fraud reporting and prevention?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

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.

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MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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 performance measures. Include timeframes and plans for meeting these requirements and what you believe will be accomplished in the coming federal fiscal year.

LHC has worked with APPRISE, our HES software Developer, and LHC Technical Support department to collect the required performance data. LHC sent the vendor received data to APPRISE for assistance in determining the necessary calculations in March 2020. There is still some trouble converting and matching the data received from the vendors. This past year, LHC also had trouble collecting data from one of the largest electricity vendors due to software changes implemented in April 2019. LHC finalized the FY19 Performance Data in June 2020, with the help of Apprise. Due to software delays and COVID-19, LHC had to postpone the full release of the Hancock LIHEAP Cloud software which has promised improvement to Performance Measure tracking. This software will be released with the FY2021 Grant. In October 2020, we will begin requesting vendor data for FY2020 and anticipate continued improvement in data collection as we have increased Subgrantee training.

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.

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LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

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.

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

  Posters, include information, as a part of advertising campaigns.

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

- [x] **Printed outreach materials**
- [x] **Addressed on LIHEAP application**
- [x] **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	[x]	Required	[ ]	Required	[ ]	Required
	[ ]	Requested	[x]	Requested	[x]	Requested
Social Security Number (Without actual Card)	[ ]	Required	[x]	Required	[x]	Required
	[ ]	Requested	[ ]	Requested	[ ]	Requested
Government-issued identification card	[x]	Required	[ ]	Required	[ ]	Required

(i.e.: driver's license, state ID, Tribal ID, passport, etc.)	☐	Requested	☑	Requested	☐	Requested

	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	Copy of Medicaid or Medicare card, documentation from U.S. Department of immigration and naturalization and/or INS temporary work permit.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑

b. Describe any exceptions to the above policies.

A photocopy of the original Social Security Card is required for the Applicant only. Exceptions are made for any Applicant 60 years of age or older or Applicants with disabilities. Applicants who meet these exceptions (elderly and/or disabled) may substitute the photocopy of the original card with any federal or state government agency generated document containing the name, SSN, and other identifying information of the individual.

All other household members must provide a SSN by either the original Social Security card or with any federal or state government agency generated document containing the name, SSN, and other identifying information of the individual. Exceptions are made for any child born within the previous twelve months of application for which the SSA has not issued a SSN yet.

17.3 Identification Verification

Describe what methods are used to verify the authenticity of identification documents provided by clients or household members. Select all that apply

- ☑ **Verify SSNs with Social Security Administration**
- ☐ **Match SSNs with death records from Social Security Administration or state agency**
- ☐ **Match SSNs with state eligibility/case management system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)**
- ☐ **Match with state Department of Labor system**
- ☐ **Match with state and/or federal corrections system**
- ☐ **Match with state child support system**
- ☐ **Verification using private software (e.g., The Work Number)**
- ☐ **In-person certification by staff (for tribal grantees only)**
- ☐ **Match SSN/Tribal ID number with tribal database or enrollment records (for tribal grantees only)**
- ☑ **Other - Describe:**

Verified SSN with the Social Security Administration means that either an original Social Security Card is used or an original document issued by a federal or state government agency which contains the name, SSN, and other identifying information of the individual and was verified by that federal or state government agency's means (i.e. SSA data match, Social Security card) was used.

Applicants are required to provide original Social Security cards. Exceptions are made for any Applicant 60 years of age or older or Applicants with disabilities. Applicants who meet these exceptions (elderly and/or disabled) may substitute the original card with any federal or state government agency generated document containing the name, SSN, and other identifying information of the individual.

All other Household members without a SSN verified with the Social Security Administration cannot be included on the LIHEAP application. Exceptions are made for any child born within the previous twelve months of application for which the SSA has not issued a SSN yet.

17.4. Citizenship/Legal Residency Verification

What are your procedures for ensuring that household members are U.S. citizens or aliens who are qualified to receive LIHEAP benefits? Select all that apply.

- ☐ **Clients sign an attestation of citizenship or legal residency**
- ☑ **Client's submission of Social Security cards is accepted as proof of legal residency**
- ☑ **Noncitizens must provide documentation of immigration status**
- ☐ **Citizens must provide a copy of their birth certificate, naturalization papers, or passport**
- ☐ **Noncitizens are verified through the SAVE system**
- ☐ **Tribal members are verified through Tribal enrollment records/Tribal ID card**
- ☑ **Other - Describe:**

Client's submission of an original document issued by a federal or state government agency with contains the name, SSN, or other identifying information of the individual and was verified by that federal or state government agency's means (i.e. SSA data match, Social

Security card) is accepted as proof of legal residency.

17.5. Income Verification

What methods does your agency utilize to verify household income? Select all that apply.

- [x] **Require documentation of income for all adult household members**
  - [x] **Pay stubs**
  - [x] **Social Security award letters**
  - [x] **Bank statements**
  - [x] **Tax statements**
  - [x] **Zero-income statements**
  - [x] **Unemployment Insurance letters**
  - [x] **Other - Describe:**

    Food Stamp (SNAP) certification letter or printout dated with 30 days of application date for verification of Social Security benefits.
- [ ] **Computer data matches:**
  - [ ] **Income information matched against state computer system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)**
  - [ ] **Proof of unemployment benefits verified with state Department of Labor**
  - [ ] **Social Security income verified with SSA**
  - [ ] **Utilize state directory of new hires**
  - [ ] **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.

- [x] **Policy in place prohibiting release of information without written consent**
- [x] **Grantee LIHEAP database includes privacy/confidentiality safeguards**
- [x] **Employee training on confidentiality for:**
  - [x] **Grantee employees**
  - [x] **Local agencies/district offices**
- [ ] **Employees must sign confidentiality agreement**
  - [ ] **Grantee employees**
  - [ ] **Local agencies/district offices**
- [x] **Physical files are stored in a secure location**
- [x] **Other - Describe:**

  Beginning in FY2019, LHC requires all users of the LIHEAP Hancock software to sign a Rules of Behavior form which covers confidentiality and security of client information annually.

17.7. Verifying the Authenticity

What policies are in place for verifying vendor authenticity? Select all that apply.

- [x] **All vendors must register with the State/Tribe.**
- [x] **All vendors must supply a valid SSN or TIN/W-9 form**
- [x] **Vendors are verified through energy bills provided by the household**
- [ ] **Grantee and/or local agencies/district offices perform physical monitoring of vendors**
- [ ] **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.

- [x] Applicants required to submit proof of physical residency
- [x] Applicants must submit current utility bill
- [x] Data exchange with utilities that verifies:
  - [ ] Account ownership
  - [ ] Consumption
  - [x] Balances
  - [x] Payment history
  - [ ] Account is properly credited with benefit
  - [ ] Other - Describe:
- [x] Centralized computer system/database tracks payments to all utilities
- [x] Centralized computer system automatically generates benefit level
- [x] Separation of duties between intake and payment approval
- [ ] Payments coordinated among other energy assistance programs to avoid duplication of payments
- [ ] Payments to utilities and invoices from utilities are reviewed for accuracy
- [x] Computer databases are periodically reviewed to verify accuracy and timeliness of payments made to utilities
- [ ] Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
- [ ] Procedures are in place to require prompt refunds from utilities in cases of account closure
- [x] Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
- [ ] 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.

- [x] Vendors are checked against an approved vendors list
- [x] Centralized computer system/database is used to track payments to all vendors
- [ ] Clients are relied on for reports of non-delivery or partial delivery
- [ ] Two-party checks are issued naming client and vendor
- [ ] Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
- [x] Vendors are only paid once they provide a delivery receipt signed by the client
- [ ] Conduct monitoring of bulk fuel vendors
- [ ] Bulk fuel vendors are required to submit reports to the Grantee
- [x] Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
- [ ] Other - Describe:

17.10. Investigations and Prosecutions

Describe the Grantee's procedures for investigating and prosecuting reports of fraud, and any sanctions placed on clients/staff/vendors found to have committed fraud. Select all that apply.

- [x] Refer to state Inspector General
- [ ] Refer to local prosecutor or state Attorney General
- [x] Refer to US DHHS Inspector General (including referral to OIG hotline)
- [x] Local agencies/district offices or Grantee conduct investigation of fraud complaints from public
- [x] Grantee attempts collection of improper payments. If so, describe the recoupment process

Overpayment or an ineligible payment made as a result of an error by the contractor shall be corrected immediately by notfying LHC of the error. The overpayment must be absorbed by the contractor. The contractor may appeal the cost of the overpayment or ineligible payment to the LHC.

Underpayment made as a result of an error by the contractor shall be corrected immediately by notifying LHC of the error. But if the payment was already made to the energy vendor, then the contractor has to pay the remaining costs.

Applicants who have received an overpayment or ineligible payment as a result of their failure to provide accurate or correct information, whether intentional or non-intentional, shall have the overpayment reversed on their energy accounts through the energy vendor.

When a contractor identifies an overpayment or ineligible payment due to applicant error, the contractor shall notify and provide support documentation to LHC. LHC will give the applicant an opportunity to dispute the finding prior to reversing the benefit through the energy vendor.
The applicant shall be advised of his or her right to appeal the reversing decision to LHC.

- [x] **Clients found to have committed fraud are banned from LIHEAP assistance. For how long is a household banned?** a minimum of 1 year
- [x] **Contracts with local agencies require that employees found to have committed fraud are reprimanded and/or terminated**
- [ ] **Vendors found to have committed fraud may no longer participate in LIHEAP**
- [ ] **Other - 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 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.BrBbr.

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 grantee 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 grantee 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 grantees other than individuals, Alternate I applies.

4. For grantees who are individuals, Alternate II applies.

5. Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee 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 grantee's 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 grantee 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. Grantees' 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 grantee 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 grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).**

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Alternate I. (Grantees Other Than Individuals)
The grantee 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 grantee's 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 grantee's 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 grantee 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 (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)

2415 Quail Drive * Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
Baton Rouge * City	LA * State	70808 * Zip Code

Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

Alternate II. (Grantees Who Are Individuals)

(a) The grantee 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

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
(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 grantees 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.

Plan Attachments

PLAN ATTACHMENTS
The following documents must be attached to this application
• **Delegation Letter is required if someone other than the Governor or Chairman Certified this Report.**
• **Heating component benefit matrix, if applicable**
• **Cooling component benefit matrix, if applicable**
• **Minutes, notes, or transcripts of public hearing(s).**

FY2021 Heating and Cooling - Benefit Matrix

Energy Burden Percent	Household Size	Benefit Amount
25% and Greater	1	650.00
25% and Greater	2	650.00
25% and Greater	3	650.00
25% and Greater	4	700.00
25% and Greater	5	700.00
25% and Greater	6	700.00
25% and Greater	7	700.00
25% and Greater	8 or More	700.00
18% to 24.9%	1	500.00
18% to 24.9 %	2	500.00
18% to 24.9%	3	500.00
18% to 24.9%	4	550.00
18% to 24.9%	5	550.00
18% to 24.9%	6	550.00
18% to 24.9%	7	550.00
18% to 24.9%	8 or More	550.00
10% to 17.9%	1	350.00
10% to 17.9%	2	350.00
10% to 17.9%	3	350.00
10% to 17.9%	4	400.00
10% to 17.9%	5	400.00
10% to 17.9%	6	400.00
10% to 17.9%	7	400.00
10% to 17.9%	8 or More	400.00
9.9% and Less	1	200.00
9.9% and Less	2	200.00
9.9% and Les	3	200.00
9.9% and Less	4	250.00
9.9% and Less	5	250.00
9.9% and Less	6	250.00
9.9% and Less	7	250.00
9.9% and Less	8 or More	250.00

Additional Payment to Targeted Priority Groups

Those household that contain one or more members of the targeted priority groups shall receive an additional payment of $100.00. Targeted priority groups are:

- Persons 60 years or older
- Persons who are disabled
- Persons five years of age and younger

Regardless of the number of priority members in one household, the household is eligible for **only <u>one</u>** additional **$100** payment per household. ***The maximum benefit will not exceed $800.00***