

## FY 2022 Louisiana Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Model Plan

The mission of the Louisiana Housing Corporation is to ensure that every Louisiana resident is granted an opportunity to obtain safe, affordable, energy efficient housing.

The goal of the Louisiana Housing Corporation Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is to reduce the national and state consumption of fossil fuels and imported oil and assist eligible low income families reduce their residential heating and cooling energy costs.

### Components of the FY2021 LA LIHEAP Program

- Heating Assistance 11/15/2021 – 3/15/2022
- Cooling Assistance 4/1/2022 – 9/30/2022
- Crisis Assistance 10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022
- Weatherization Assistance 7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023

### Allocation of FY2021 Funding

The percentages of funds used to operate each of the components are:

- Heating Assistance 25.00%
- Cooling Assistance 37.50%
- Crisis Assistance 10.00%
- Weatherization Assistance 15.00%
- Administrative 10.00%
- Assurance 16 (Client Education) 2.50%

*\*No changes proposed from FY2021*

### Eligibility and Monitoring

- Program will use 60% of the State's median income to determine eligibility
- Clients are eligible once for each of the 4 components.
- 39 Sub-grantees serving 64 parishes for utility assistance
- 6 Sub-grantees serving 64 parishes for weatherization assistance

## LIHEAP Heating and Cooling Benefit Matrix

- No changes proposed.

### FY2022 Plan Changes from FY2021

- **Section 4.9** Expanded how Louisiana determines crisis assistance benefits by adding “In the event of unforeseen circumstances (i.e. public health emergencies, natural disaster, etc.), LHC reserves the right to allow past due balances to be included in the crisis assistance benefit payment. This right will be implemented by LA LIHEAP Notice and with a defined period only.”
- **Section 6.1** Added “Registered with Aunt Bertha and Unite Us Louisiana for referrals by healthcare, State, and other organizations.”
- **Section 7.1** Added “Participate in the Aunt Bertha and Unite Us Louisiana referral systems.”
- **Section 8.5a** Removed “Tribal Government”. The Clifton Choctaw Tribe has opted to no longer be a direct subrecipient.
- **Section 8.7** Changed from 40 to 39
- **Section 8.8** Changed from No to Yes - Have you changed any local administering agencies in the last year?
- **Section 8.9** Added a reason why: “A Tribal Government opted to forgo their direct subrecipient allocation due to internal administrative issues. Funds were redirected to the Community Action Agency administering the rest of the parish. Tribal members are being serviced by the Community Action Agency in the parish.”
- **Section 9.1** “There are 22 out of 195 energy vendors that are not set up to receive payments directly from the LHC.” Changed from 89 out of 322. Removed words “mom/pop” from “small vendors”. (LHC consolidated energy vendor duplications in the software this past year which is the reason for the lower numbers).
- **Section 10.8** Added “In 2020/2021, LHC hired a 3rd party consultant via RFP to perform Subgrantee full assessments and subsequent training to ensure programmatic changes over the last 3 years have been adopted and to assess where LHC can provide additional resources. LHC will begin monitoring internally again in 2022.”
- **Section 10.11** Updated to be 8
- **Section 10.12** Updated to be 3
- **Sections 11.1 – 11.6** Updated entire sections based upon public participation, Policy Advisory Council, and public hearing comments.

- **Section 13.3** Updated – “LHC is estimating 36,500 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 2021 Client Education funds prior to the end of the 09/30/2022.” Removed “modems” from activities in the previous Federal fiscal year.
- **Section 13.6** Updated to 36,500
- **Section 15.1.c** Removed Vendor “Formal Training Conference” “Annually”. (Past participation levels were extremely low.)
- **Section 16.1** Updated – “LHC has worked with APPRISE, our HES software Developer, and LHC Technical Support department to collect the required performance data. LHC analyzed and determined the necessary calculations 100% internally this year. There is still some trouble converting and matching the data received from the vendors. LHC finalized the FY20 Performance Data in June 2021. In November 2020 (FFY 2021), LHC released the full version of the Hancock LIHEAP Cloud software which has promised improvement to Performance Measure tracking. In October 2021, we will begin requesting vendor data for FY2021 and anticipate continued improvement in data collection as we have increased Subgrantee training.”
- **Section 17.8** Added “Payments to utilities and invoices from utilities are reviewed for accuracy”

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