



FFY 2027 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 FFY2027 LA LIHEAP Program

- Heating Assistance 11/15/2026 – 3/15/2027
- Cooling Assistance 4/1/2027 – 9/30/2027
- Crisis Assistance 10/1/2026 – 9/30/2027
- Weatherization Assistance 7/1/2027 – 6/30/2028

Allocation of FFY2027 Funding

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

- Heating Assistance 25.00%
- Cooling Assistance 45.50%
- Year-Round Crisis Assistance 14.00% (FFY2026 10%)
- Weatherization Assistance 3.00% (FFY2026 7%)
- **Program is focusing on DOE IJIA fund expenditure.*
- Administrative 10.00%
- Assurance 16 (Client Education) 2.50%

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
- 4 Sub-grantees serving 64 parishes for weatherization assistance

LIHEAP Heating and Cooling Benefit Matrix

- No Changes.



FFY2027 Plan Changes from FFY2026

- **Section 4.9** *Removed* “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.”

Updated with “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 tampering fees, insufficient fund fees, security deposits, past due amounts not included in the Disconnect Amount, or other utilities included in the bill (water, sewer, garbage, etc).

Applicants must have 30 days of previous usage documented at the service address.

Propane Applicants or Prepaid Applicants (aka Pay-As-You-Go) who have less than 7 days of usage remaining may present a written estimate, in lieu of a disconnect notice, from their vendor that includes the cost and number of propane gallons/natural gas/kilowatt-hours needed to provide 30 days of usage or the propane minimum delivery amount.”

- **Section 5.10** *Updated* the Average Cost per Unit (ACPU) from \$8,547 to \$8,813.
- **Section 8.8** *Changed answer* from “No” to “Yes” regarding changing any local administering agencies in the last year.
- **Section 8.9** *Added reason for local administering agency change:* “One local administering agency (Avoyelles) withdrew from administering services in the nearby parish of Pointe Coupee due to administrative burden. They continue to administer Avoyelles Parish. Grantee (LHC) is currently performing client intake in-house for Pointe Coupee. There were no responses to the first round



of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new Subgrantee. The RFP will be reissued in the coming fiscal year.”

- **Section 9.1** *Updated with* “There are only 7 out of 155 energy vendors that are not set up to receive payments directly from the LHC. LHC does not discriminate against an applicant whose vendor chooses not to sign due to utility vendors being determined based on location and not by applicant selection.”
- **Section 10.1** *Added* “and Standard Operating Procedures”
- **Section 10.6** *Removed* “Program activities are monitored both electronically and by conducting on-site visits annually.”

Updated with “Program activities are monitored electronically and by conducting annual risk assessments and tri-annual, on-site full-monitoring visits (unless needed more frequently based on the annual risk assessment).”

- **Section 10.7** *Changed wording for **Site Visits**:* “LHC, as the state grantee, conducts annual on-site compliance monitoring visits to all LIHEAP contractors.”

Updated with “LHC, as the state grantee, conducts tri-annual on-site compliance monitoring visits to all LIHEAP contractors. An annual risk assessment is performed on all subgrantees at the end of the grant period. Additional monitoring may be deemed necessary within the 3-year period based on the results of the risk assessment.”

- **Section 10.7** *Added wording for **Desk Reviews**:* “Client applications are sampled throughout the year.”
- **Section 10.8** *Changed from* “Annually” *to* “Tri-annually”

- **Sections 11.2 – 11.5** Updated entire sections based upon public participation, Policy Advisory Council, and public hearing comments. **IN PROCESS**

- **Section 13.3** *Updated* “Assurance 16 funds were used to purchase energy kits, which included LED bulbs, energy calendars, energy wheels, and coloring books for children. Sub-grantees also purchased laptop computers and related items 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’s software reported 64,351 unduplicated households benefitted from Assurance 16 funds this year. The LHC is currently working with sub-grantees to utilize FFY 2026 Client Education funds prior to the end of the 09/30/2027.”



Louisiana Housing Corporation

- **Section 13.6** *Updated* to 64,351.
- **Section 16.1** *Removed* "Louisiana completed the report internally for FFY2024, and it was accepted March 2025. In October 2025, LHC will begin requesting vendor data for FFY2025 and will continue to improve in data collection. LHC anticipates difficulties with utility data collection this year due to a major gas vendor sale that occurred between multiple gas utilities."

Updated with "Louisiana is still working to complete the FFY2025 report and has communicated difficulties to Apprise. Several major gas vendors in Louisiana sold their gas businesses to a new gas vendor. This caused gaps in the 12-month data available for a large number of Louisiana LIHEAP clients that utilize a gas utility. Louisiana has worked with the vendors for several months to obtain data. Due to a recent departure of the Grantee's lead LIHEAP data manager, LHC is working to request Apprise assistance with compilation of the data obtained.

In October 2026, LHC will begin requesting vendor data for FFY2026 and will continue to improve in data collection. LHC anticipates fewer difficulties with utility data collection this year due to the work that occurred over the past year and the account number changes with the new vendor. LHC anticipates still needing Apprise assistance this coming year to compile unduplicated data due to Grantee staffing."

- **Section 17.3** *Added* "Other – Describe: Citizens may provide a copy of their birth certificate, naturalization papers, or passport."

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