

FFY22 Proposed Energy Assistance Program (EAP) policy changes

1. Calculate primary heat benefit based on household total energy cost rather than on estimated heating cost.
2. Maximum household income increased from 50% of state median income to 60% of state median income.
3. Households with past due energy bills are eligible for crisis benefits.
4. Maximum crisis benefit increased from \$600 to \$1200.
5. Transfer 15% of EAP award to the Weatherization Assistance Program.
6. Allow the Weatherization Assistance Program greater flexibility to use the transferred funds. Goal: to serve eligible households more equitably, to serve more eligible households overall, and to serve all households to the extent possible for meaningful and lasting impact on the household's energy use, bills, and overall health and safety. Some examples:
 - Allow up to \$7500 per household unit for removal of asbestos-laden vermiculite insulation
 - Allow up to \$2000 per household unit to address bulk mold/moisture
 - Modify savings-to-investment (SIR) threshold from 1.0 to 0.75
 - Eliminate the Department of Energy average cost per unit limit
 - Increase the health and safety average to \$3500 per household unit
 - Remove energy modeling requirement for LED light bulbs
 - Allow energy conservation heating plant replacements in standalone events
 - Allow energy conservation water heater replacements in standalone events
 - Allow cookstove replacement
 - Allow repair or replacement of existing cooling systems
 - Allow installation of cold-climate air source heat pumps
 - Allow installation of solar electric systems