

# Weatherization Assistance Program 2018 NASCSP Orientation

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 2018



#### **Overview**

- Role of the Grantee Program Manager
- Role of the DOE Project Officer
- Why the State Plan is so Important
- Application Package
  - Detailed Review
  - Common Mistakes that Prompt Rejecting Plans
- Answering Questions along the Way

# **Grantee Program Manager (PM) Responsibility**

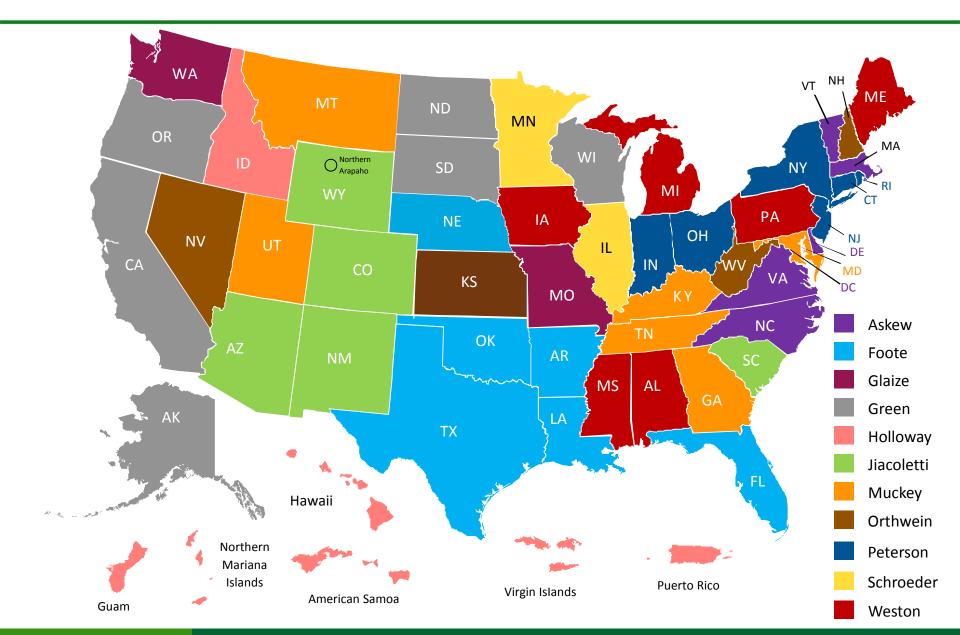
- The Grantee PM ensures that the annual Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) application is:
  - Complete and accurate.
  - Submitted on time.
  - Revised as requested by Department of Energy (DOE) staff.
- The Grantee PM is DOE's primary point of contact.

## **Project Officer (PO) Responsibility**

- PO reviews the Grantee's annual Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) application is:
  - Complete and accurate.
  - Meets all the objectives of the federal funding.
  - Revised as requested by Department of Energy (DOE) staff, including FAO/Contracting Officers.
- The PO is the Grantee's primary point of contact.



#### **WEATHERIZATION GRANTEE ASSIGNMENTS – JANUARY 2018**

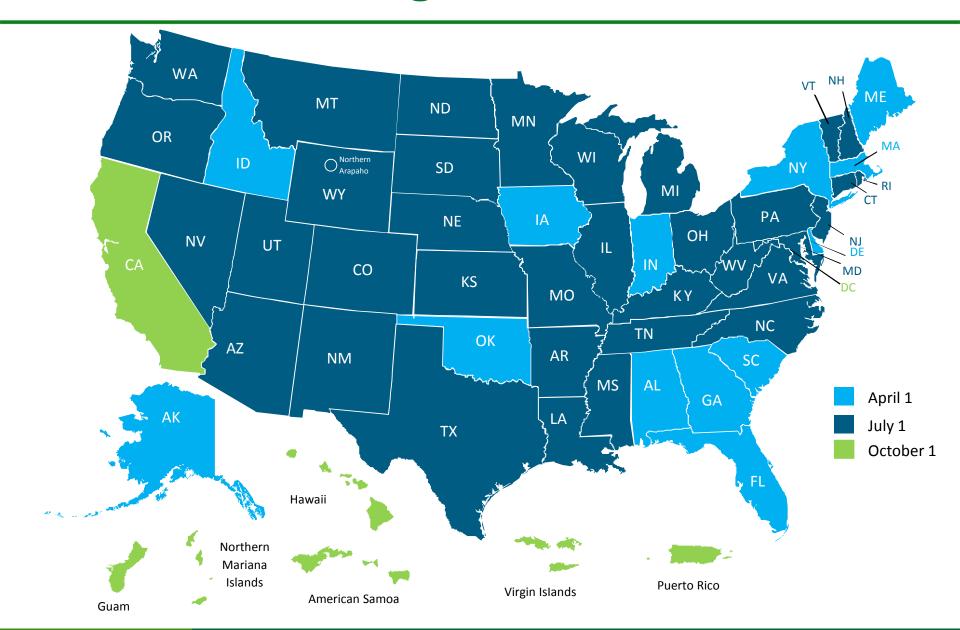


#### State Plan - Why all the Fuss?

- State Plan drives all other expectations.
- Binding contract between the federal government and the Grantee.
- DOE monitors the Grantee AGAINST what the Grantee said they would do in the State Plan!
  - How the funds will be spent.
  - What auditing tools will be used.
  - How Subgrantees will be monitored.
  - What results will be achieved.
  - AND MORE!

A well-defined State Plan translates to a well-defined approach to weatherizing homes and serving clients.

# **Weatherization Program Start Dates**



#### **WAP Grant Application Submission**

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) grant application submission is an extensive process requiring numerous materials to document process and procedures, such as:

- Staffing
- Budgeting
- Health & Safety (H&S) Plan
- Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA) Plan
- Monitoring Plan
- Field Guides and Program Operational Manuals (i.e. financial, policies and procedures)

With these requirements, it is critical to engage your Weatherization Network to review the annual grant application plan components and discuss required program updates PRIOR to starting your plan development.

# **Importance of Planning**

Grantees must have all key program materials updated and prepared prior to developing their Annual Grant Application Package to ensure pre-review and submission processes result in timely approvals for grant awards.

#### Early planning and preparation assures:

- reduced negotiated changes.
- development of an acceptable application package more efficiently.
- funding is available at the start of the program year, providing a positive impact on both production and expenditures for your grant.
- flexibility to manage unforeseen changes in the Program and reduce the burden of the impact of the change (i.e. budget modifications).

## **Lack of Planning**

#### Lack of planning and early preparation can result in:

- Delays in submitting grant application plans due to missing required elements (public hearing transcripts, etc.).
- Extended application review & multiple revisions.
- Delays in receiving approval and funds.

# 2018 Program Year

For this program year, Weatherization did not institute any major program changes or requirements for Grantees.

The majority of revisions are 'housekeeping' changes to ensure the Grantees have the most accurate list of resources and materials to develop their annual Weatherization Assistance Program plans.

# **GUIDANCE REVISIONS FOR 2018**

#### **Section 2.0 – Program Priorities and Initiatives**

#### Page 2-3:

#### 2.1 Addition of American Consumer Satisfaction Index

3. During the consultation with Subgrantees, a key component of the planning process for the 2018 State Plan, DOE expects Grantees to develop an action plan to enhance program management and implement process and quality improvements at the Subgrantee level.

The 2018 State Plan should include a discussion of the steps to be taken to implement the improvements developed by Grantees in conjunction with their Subgrantees.

#### 2.2 Addition of Expenditures/Carryover

#### Section 3.1 - FY2018 Appropriated Weatherization Funding

Page 7:

3.3.1 The Adjusted **Average Cost Per Dwelling Unit** (**ACPU**) was adjusted to reflect 2.2% percentage increase in the CPI for the previous 12 month period (October 2016-September 2017).

The ACPU is revised annually with the 12 month average or 3%, whichever is less.

#### **Section 4.1: Multi-Year Grant Awards**

Page 10:

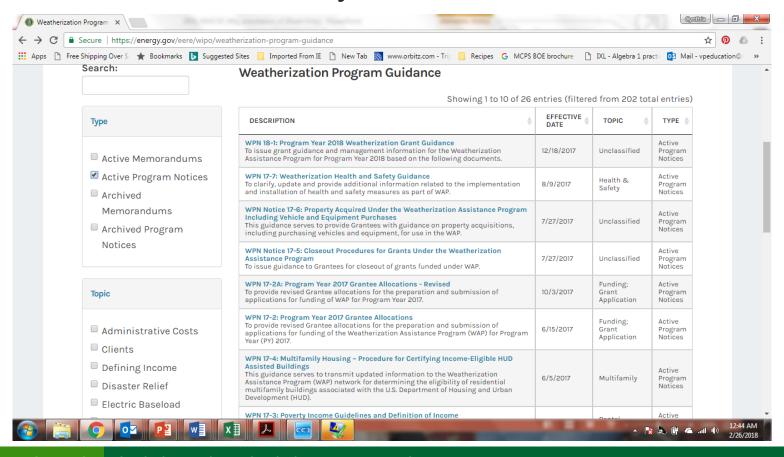
#### **Text Revised to:**

All Grantees need to make an effort to effectively utilize the entire DOE allocation in the year it is awarded. DOE will review recent reporting results to assess proposed carryover funding from previous years when applications are submitted.

#### 5.0 Weatherization Program Notices

#### Page 11:

Table in the guidance is updated annually. Plus, the website allows searches by active or archived docs.

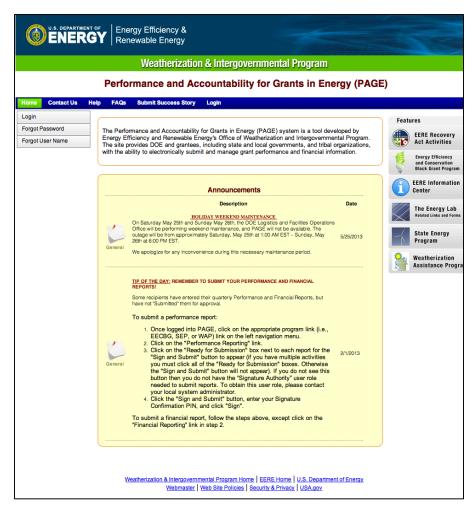


# APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS REVISIONS FOR 2018

#### **PAGE Electronic Application**

The application process is fully electronic.

Applications must be submitted on the Performance and Accountability for Grants in Energy (PAGE) website at <a href="https://www.page.energy.gov/">https://www.page.energy.gov/</a>.

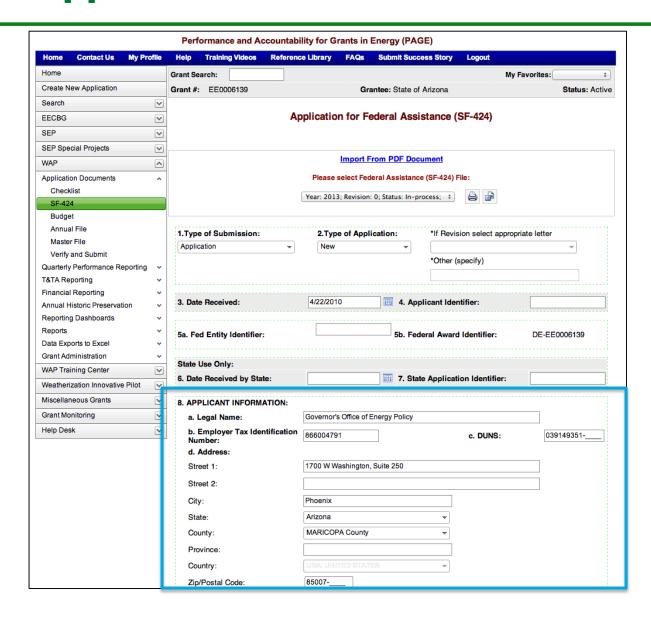


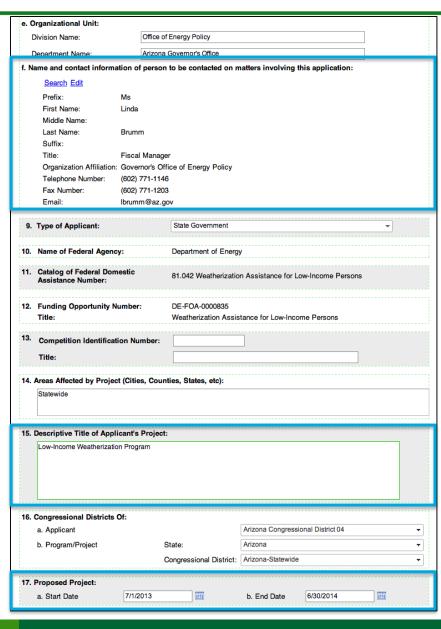
The homepage of the Performance and Accountability for Grants in Energy (PAGE).

#### **Starting Your Application**

Grantees generally copy the prior year application into the upcoming year and make incremental changes as opposed to starting from scratch.

		Department of E		_	
	WEATHERIZATIO	ON ASSISTANCE /MASTER FILE		P)	
	(Grant Number:	State:	Program Year:	)	
This worksheet s	should be completed as specified in Se	ection III of the We	atherization Assistan	ce Program Application Pa	ickage.
.1 Eligiblility					
1.1.1 Approach to Determining C Provide a description of the definition	Thent Engitehty on of income used to determine eligibi	lity			
Tovice a description of the demina	on or meonic used to determine engion	<u></u>			
Describe what household Eligibility	v hasis will be used in the Program				
Describe with nonection England	ouss war oc used at the Frogram				
Describe the process for ensuring q	ualified aliens are eligible for weatheri	zation benefits			
.1.2 Approach to Determining E	Building Eligibility				
Procedures to determine that units v	والمستناء والمتالية والمستاد والمستناء				
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	weatherized have englounly documents	ation			
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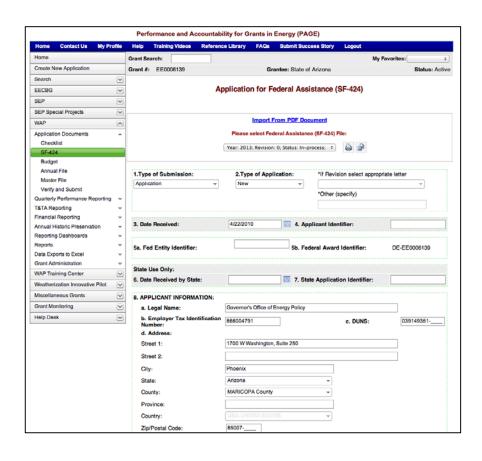
18. Estimated Funding (\$):		
a. Federal	\$ 316,540.00	
b. Applicant	\$ 0.00	
c. State	\$ 0.00	
d. Local	\$ 0.00	
e. Other	\$ 0.00	
f. Program Income	\$ 0.00	
g. TOTAL	\$ 316,540.00	
review on	s made available to the State utility to E.O. 12372 but has not been	ive Order 12372 Process?: Inder the Executive Order 12372 Process for In selected by the State for review.
C. Program is not cove	#Ied by E.O. 12372.	
20. Is the Applicant Delinquent  Yes  No	On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yo	es", provide explanation.):
statements herein are true, c and agree to comply with any	complete and accurate to the be y resulting terms if I accept an	ontained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the set of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent dministrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)
**The list of certifications and as or agency specific instructions.	surances, or an internet site wh	nere you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement
Authorized Representative:		
Search Edit		
Prefix:	Ms	
First Name: L	_eisa	
Middle Name:	3	
Last Name: E	Brug	
Suffix:		
Title: E	Energy Office Director	
Telephone Number: (	602) 771-1244	
Fax: (	602) 771-1203	
Email: II	brug@az.gov	

Applicants are required to attach all supporting documents to the SF-424 form.



#### SF 424 - Key Concerns

#### **Standard Form 424**



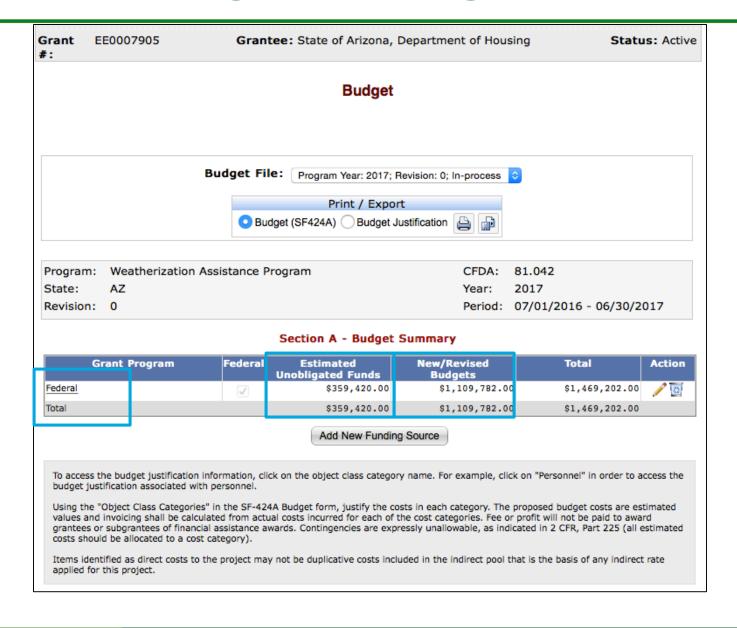
#### **Items that Prompt Rejecting Plans**

- When county (box 8d) or congressional districts (box 16) is left blank.
- When dates (box 17) have not been updated to the forthcoming program year.
- When federal funding amount (box 18a) does not match WPN XX-2 funding amount.
- When required attachments (listed in the table on page 6 of the application package) are not included.

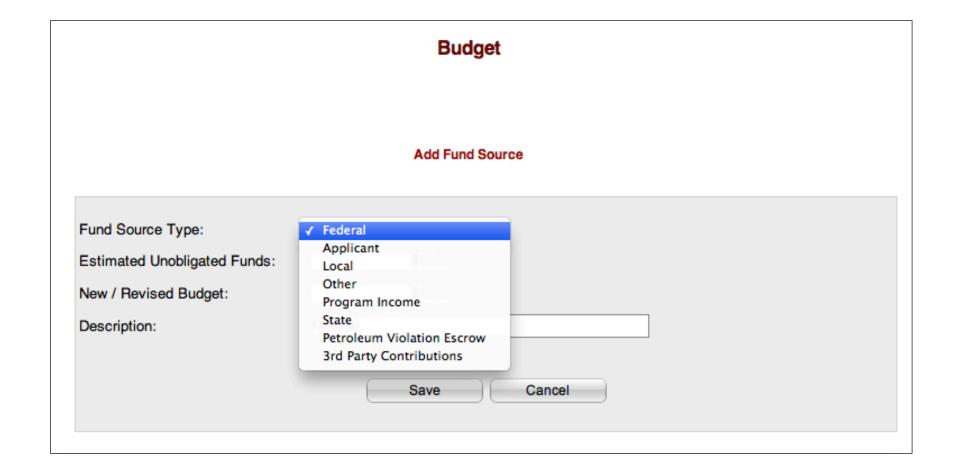
## **PY18 Application Tips - PAGE**

- If you completed and were approved for a partial obligation of funds in PY 2017, you can request the initial budget submitted for PY2017, Revision 0, be copied over into your PY2018 in-process plan. This is the same initial budget for the 2017 award and was also planned to WPN 16-2a.
- To make the request to copy over Revision 0 to your inprocess State Plan for 2018, please email the request to: <a href="mailto:Page-Hotline@ee.doe.gov">Page-Hotline@ee.doe.gov</a>. Be sure to include your award number in your email to the Hotline.

## SF-424A Budget – Funding Sources



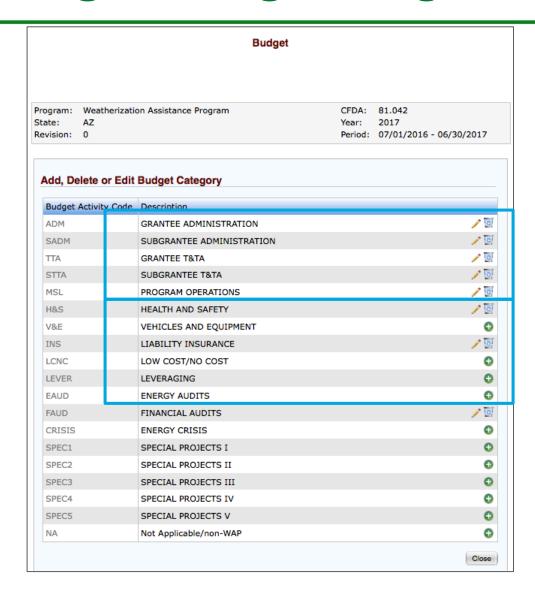
# **SF-424A Budget – Funding Sources**



# SF-424A Budget – Add Budget Column

		Edit Budget Columns			
Object Class	GRANTEE ADMINISTRATION	SUBGRANTEE ADMINISTRATION	GRANTEE T&TA	SUBGRANTEE T&TA	PROGRAM OPERATIONS
	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	Edit	<u>Edit</u>	Edit
Personnel	\$26,656.00	\$0.00	\$53,188.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Benefits	\$10,396.00	\$0.00	\$20,743.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel	\$7,725.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contract	\$0.00	\$103,103.00	\$45,000.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.00
Construction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$10,711.00	\$0.00	\$3,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$55,488.00	\$103,103.00	\$122,031.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.00
Indirect	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Object Class Total	\$55,488.00	\$103,103.00	\$122,031.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.00

#### SF424A Budget – Budget Categories



## **III.2 Budget Categories – Section B**

Page 22:

**Indirect Costs:** Updated text to clarify:

"a rate proposal and an explanation why there is not a federally-approved rate agreement must be included with the application. If DOE determines it will be the Grantee's cognizant Agency for an Indirect rate agreement, the rate agreement will be finalized during award negotiations."

# SF-424A Budget - Completing the Budget

Edit Budget Columns							
Object Class	GRANTEE ADMINISTRATION	SUBGRANTEE ADMINISTRATION	GRANTEE T&TA	SUBGRANTEE T&TA	PROGRAM OPERATIONS		
	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>		
Personnel	\$26,656.00	\$0.00	\$53,188.00	\$0.00	\$0.0		
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Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0		
Contract	\$0.00	\$103,103.00	\$45,000.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.0		
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Indirect	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0		
Object Class Total	\$55,488.00	\$103,103.00	\$122,031.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.0		

## **III.2 Budget Categories - Section B**

Page 20:

**Fringe**: Clarified some of the language to discuss if there is not a current, federally-approved rate agreement.

## SF-424A Budget – Completing the Budget

#### Section B - Budget Categories

Edit Budget Columns

Object Class	GRANTEE ADMINISTRATION	SUBGRANTEE ADMINISTRATION	GRANTEE T&TA	SUBGRANTEE T&TA	PROGRAM OPERATIONS
	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>
Personnel	\$26,656.00	\$0.00	\$53,188.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Benefits</u>	\$10,396.00	\$0.00	\$20,743.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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Contract	\$0.00	\$103,103.00	\$45,000.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.00
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Indirect	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Object Class Total	\$55,488.00	\$103,103.00	\$122,031.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.00

#### SF-424A Budget – Object Classes (Lines in Budget)

Caction B	- Budget	Categories

Edit Budget Columns

Object Class	GRANTEE ADMINISTRATION		GRANTEE T&TA	SUBGRANTEE T&TA	PROGRAM OPERATIONS
	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>	<u>Edit</u>
<u>Personnel</u>	\$26,656.00	\$0.00	\$53,188.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Benefits	\$10,396.00	\$0.00	\$20,743.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contract	\$0.00	\$103,103.00	\$45,000.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.00
Construction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$10,711.00	\$0.00	\$3,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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Indirect	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Object Class Total	\$55,488.00	\$103,103.00	\$122,031.00	\$102,031.00	\$920,410.00

# **III.3 Budget Justification**

#### Page 19:

Added text to announce an update to PAGE to help manage developing budgets.

"To address feedback received from Grantees, DOE enhanced the PAGE system to provide an "Auto Calculate" option that will adjust the multipliers for each entry to achieve whole dollar values for Personnel, Fringe and Indirect Costs categories."

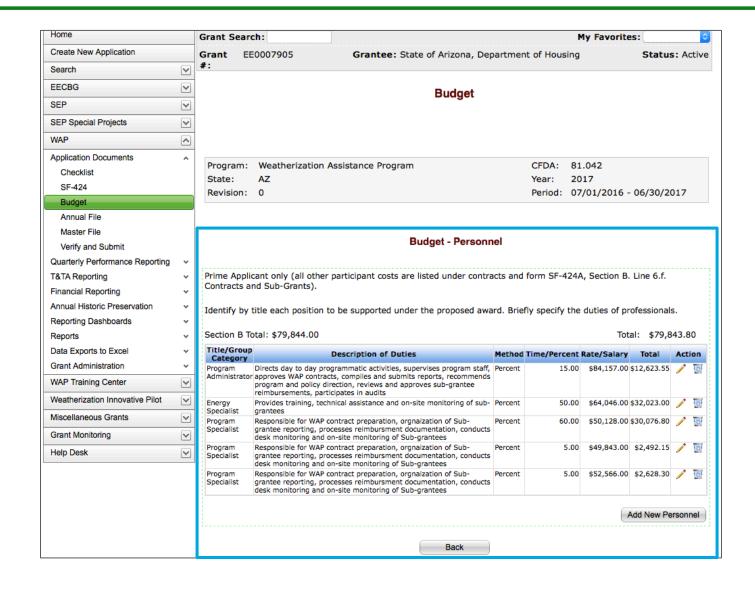
## **Budget Justification**

An in-depth discussion in the Application Instructions explains the Object Class categories (lines in budget):

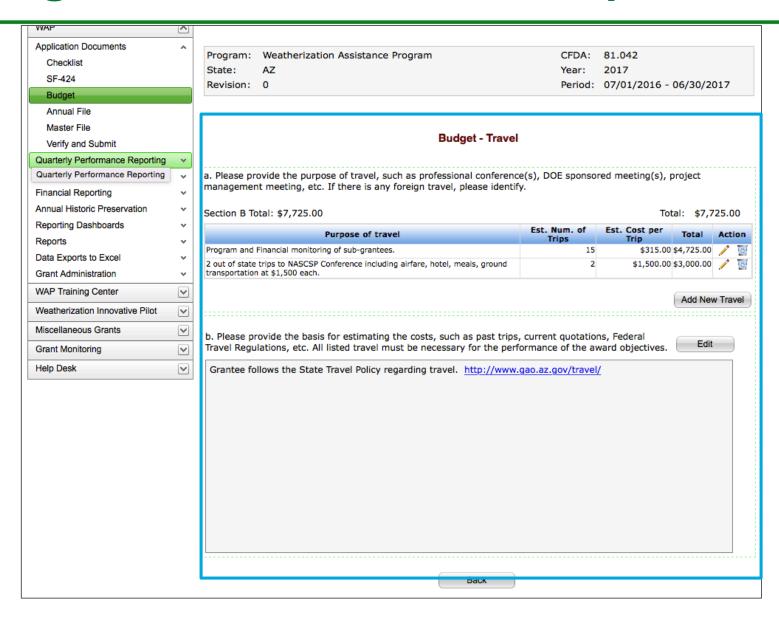
- Personnel
- Fringe benefits
- Travel
- Equipment
- Supplies

- Contractual
- Construction
- Other direct costs
- Indirect costs

## **Budget Justification – PAGE Example**



## **Budget Justification – PAGE Example**

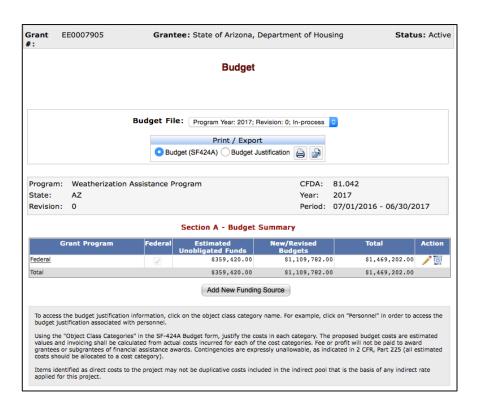


# **Carryover Explanation**

- The Grantee must include an explanation of any estimated carryover, broken down by the budget categories.
- Grantees must allocate as the funds are currently budgeted.
- The carryover explanation shall be provided in a separate spreadsheet or other document attached to the SF-424 Application in PAGE.

# SF 424 – Key Concerns

#### Standard Form 424 A: Budget



#### **Items that Prompt Rejecting Plans**

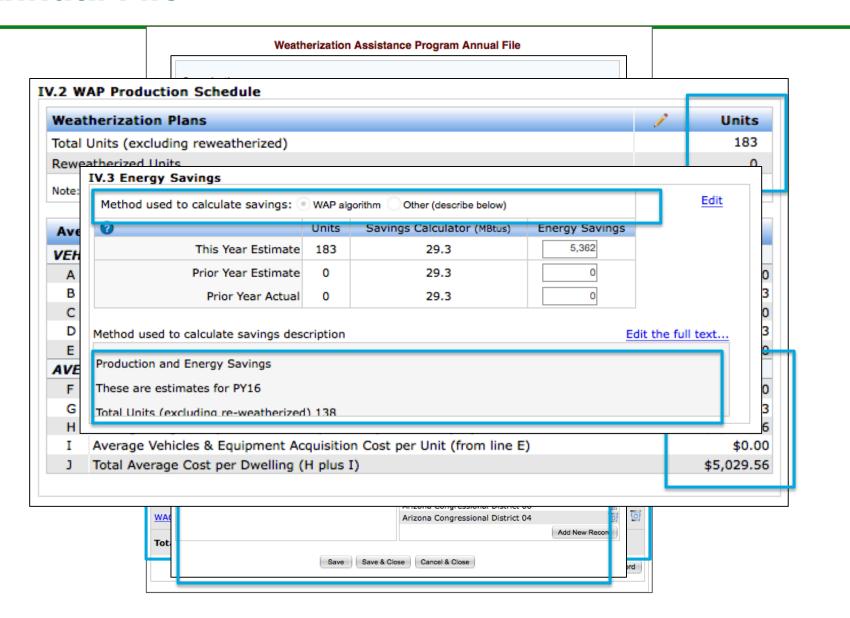
- When section A total does not equal section B total!
- When budgets are not rounded to whole dollar, as required.
- When appropriate comments are not included in budget/detail pages.
- When Grantee changes budget numbers after PO initial review.

# SF 424 - Key Concerns

### **Items that Prompt Rejecting Plans**

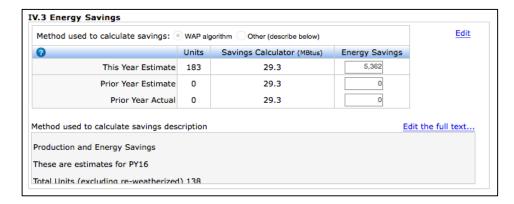
- FRINGE rates do not match or make sense with the supporting information/detail provided.
- INDIRECT COSTS Rate is not current and a newer one can be found on the state website.
- OTHER ODCs are budgeted but it is clear they should be under other object class budget categories (e.g., contractual, equipment).

## **Annual File**



## **Annual File – Key Concerns**

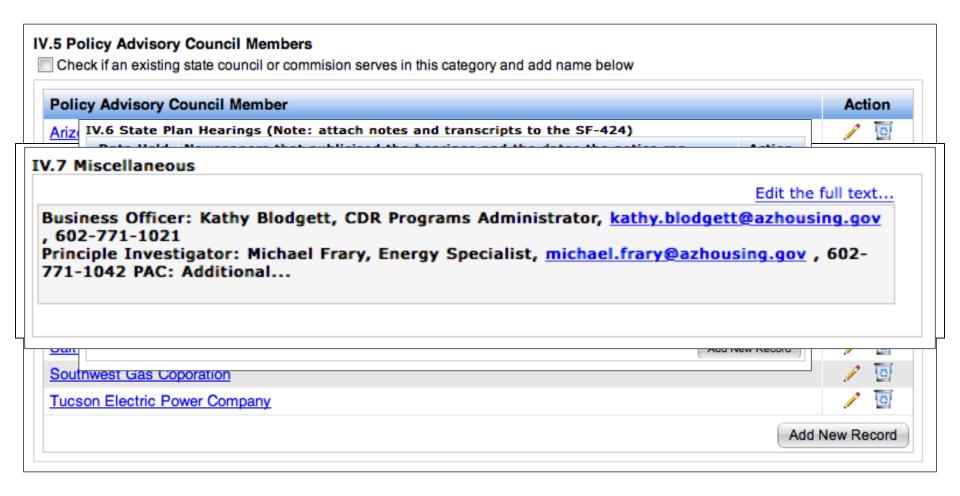
#### **IV.3 Energy Savings**



#### **Items that Prompt Rejecting Plans**

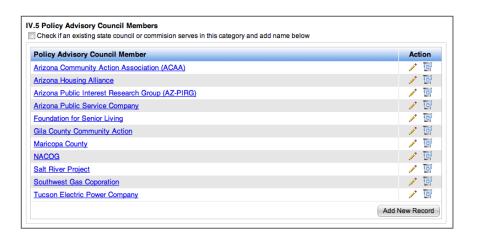
- When information provided in the narrative box was not updated for the current program year.
  - Strive to leave box blank (if using WAP algorithm) OR
  - Use timeless language that does not require annual updating
- When units used in calculation do not match production schedule.

## **Annual File - Continued**



## **Annual File - Key Concerns**

#### **IV.5 Policy Advisory Council**



#### **Items that Prompt Rejecting Plans**

- When, for several years running, the PAC is inactive or has unfilled positions.
  - DOE recognizes "things happen" so if it is a first year of an inactive PAC, DOE can "live with it" but, if this is recurring, there is need for intervention.
- PAC meeting notes indicating WAP plan is not attached to the SF-424.

# **Public Hearing Process**







## **Public Hearing Process**

## **The Grantee Program Manager:**

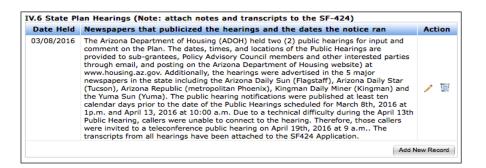
- Typically presides over the public hearing. (Each state is different and some states may have an administrative law judge presiding.)
- Outlines the Grantee Plan and notes any changes from the previous year.
- Opens the public hearing to questions and responds to them.

## **IV.7 Hearings and Transcripts**

The submission of a transcript of the Grantee's public hearing is **now required** and not voluntary.

## **Annual File - Key Concerns**

#### IV.6 Public Hearings



#### **Items that Prompt Rejecting Plans**

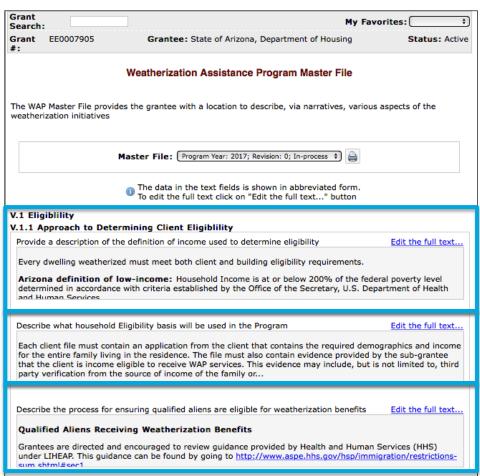
- Grantee did not allow 10 days notice of hearing.
- Plan changed so substantially since the public hearing, DOE deems it necessary to have another hearing.
- Transcript/Notes are not provided.
  - At times, transcripts are not available in time to include with the SF-424. Work with POs to get FAO started on review and transcript can be later added to the SF-424.

## **Master File - Eligibility**

The following slides include the required information for the Master File section:

### V.1 Eligibility

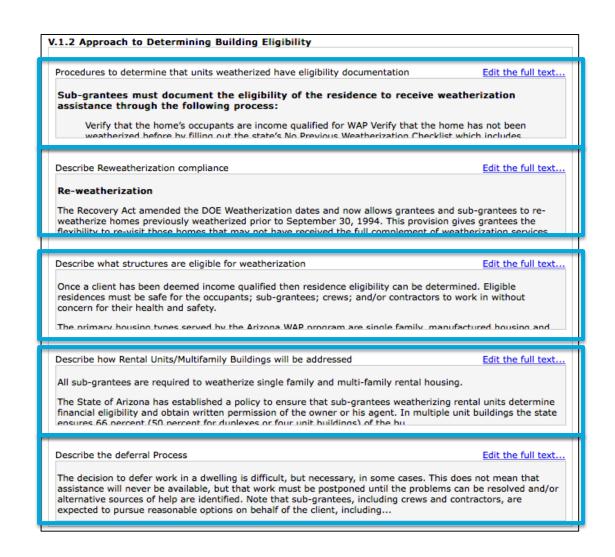
- V.1.1 Client Eligibility.
  - Household Eligibility.
  - Qualified Aliens.



## **Master File – Building Eligibility**

# V.1.2 Determining Building Eligibility

- Eligibility documentation.
- Reweatherization.
- Eligible structures.
- Rental Units & Multifamily Buildings
- Deferrals



## **Master File – Children and Tribal Organizations**

#### V.1.3 Definition of Children

## V.1.4 Approach to Tribal Organizations

V.1.3 Definition of Children  Definition of children (below age): 18 Save	
V.1.4 Approach to Tribal Organizations	
Recommend tribal organization(s) be treated as local applicant?	
If YES, Recommendation. If NO, Statement that assistance to low-income tribe members and other low-income persons is equal.	Edit the full text
As members of a sovereign Tribal nation, Tribal members are entitled to those services afford of that Tribal nation. In Arizona, weatherization services are provided through Tribal agence Navajo Nation and the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona who contract directly with the U.S. Do and the utility providers. Agencies should consult with those two enti	ies such as the

## **Master File – Areas to be Served & Service Delivery**

#### V.2 Selection of Areas to Be Served

#### V.3 Priorities for Service Delivery

#### V.2 Selection of Areas to Be Served

Edit the full text...

Arizona utilizes 10 local Weatherization agencies to fully implement the State Plan and provide services to the eligible population of Arizona, excluding the Tribal Nations. Project service areas are historical in nature, originating many years ago at the time of community action agency establishment in Arizona. Service area boundaries are typically drawn along county lines or tribal land boundar...

#### V.3 Priorities for Service Delivery

Edit the full text...

Sub-grantees shall give priority to clients based on the list of priorities established in the Arizona State Plan which includes the following:

- Elderly
- Handicanned

## **Master File - Climate Conditions**

#### V.4 Climatic Conditions

#### V.4 Climatic Conditions

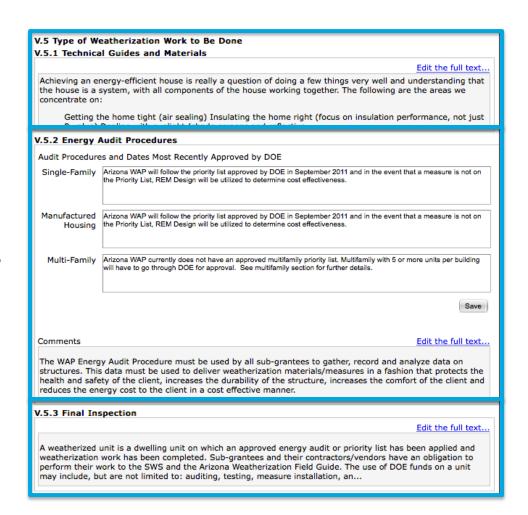
Edit the full text...

The climate conditions for Arizona range from low dry arid desert to mountain/alpine cold. The summer months of the desert from June through September will bring a dry heat ranging from 90–120 °F (32–49 °C), with occasional high temperatures exceeding 125 °F (52 °C). The winter months of the plateau and High Mountain/alpine range of the state experience extremely cold temperatures from cold air s...

## Master File - Weatherization Work to be Done

# V.5 Weatherization Work to be Done

- V.5.1 Technical Guides and Materials
  - Field Guides.
  - Procedures manuals.
- V.5.2 Energy Audit Procedures
- V.5.3 Final Inspection



## **Master File – Weatherization Analysis**

#### **V.6 Weatherization Analysis of Effectiveness**

This is not monitoring!

#### V.6 Weatherization Analysis of Effectiveness

Edit the full text...

Grantee has a process to track energy savings by using utility usage analysis which compares completed measure cost in a home to annual savings of utility usage. This is done by comparing the energy usage of randomly picked weatherized home utility usage at least 18 months prior and after weatherization work was completed. The before usage and after usage is subtracted to obtain the actual energy...

# **Health & Safety Guidance Update**

Updated the Health & Safety Guidance from WPN 11-6 to WPN 17-7 in the following sections:

III.2 Budget Categories (Page 10) Within Table 2:

Health & Safety (Page 16)

V.7 Health and Safety (H&S)

## **Master File – Weatherization Analysis**

#### V.7 Health & Safety

#### V.7 Health and Safety

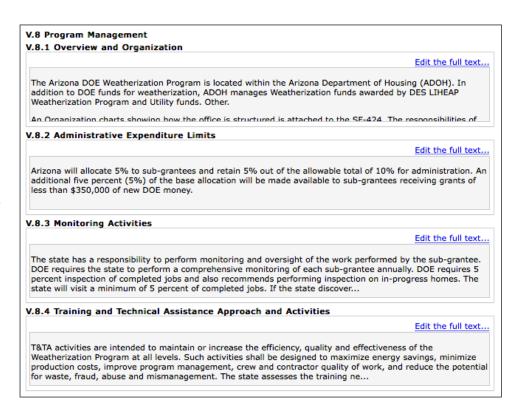
Edit the full text...

Please see the Arizona Department of Housing Weatherization Health and Safety Plan that has been uploaded as an attachment to the SF424

## **Master File - Program Management**

#### V.8 Program Management

- Overview & Organization
- Administrative Expenditure limits
- Monitoring
- Training & Technical Assistance



# **PY18 Application Tips and Reminders**

## II. Application for Federal Assistance – SF 424

The following sentence and web link were revised:

The list of certifications and assurances for Field 21 can be found on the DOE Financial Assistance Forms Page at:

https://energy.gov/management/downloads/certifications-and-assurances-use-sf-424

# **PY18 Tips – Funding Language**

- Include language in State Plan and in Public Hearing clearly explaining how final allocations will adjust planning numbers to eliminate need for an additional public hearing once FY18 is final.
  - DOE's aim is to minimize burden on Grantees.
- Have PO review State Plan sections "early and often" to expedite review.
- Craft Subgrantee agreements that mirror DOE's language regarding incremental funding and the necessity to adjust based on FY18 final budget.

## **Application Submission Process Reminders**

- Try and be prompt when responding to DOE's comments on your application package. Delays will only delay receiving your funding!
- Complete SF424 form in full don't forget to check all applicable boxes!
- Don't forget to attached all required documents and materials to the SF424.
- Make sure the 424A Budget Sections totals match in PAGE.
- Make sure the fringe rates match in PAGE.
- Double check any indirect cost rate agreements are current.

# **Summary**

- A Program Manager should capturing feedback throughout the year for possible changes and refinements. Start developing the annual application as soon as possible after the release of the grant guidance. This affords the most time to complete the application by the target approval date.
- The Grantee PM is usually responsible for the application and drives the process.
- Any questions the PM has related to the Application should be directed to the appropriate DOE Project Officer.