

**BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs**

1. Program/Project Identification No. EE0007933		2. Program/Project Title Weatherization Assistance Program	
3. Name and Address State of Nebraska PO Box 98922 Lincoln, NE 685098922		4. Program/Project Start Date 07/01/2021	5. Completion Date 06/30/2022

**SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY**

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Federal Catalog No. (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. Federal	81.042	\$ 1,770,600.00		\$ 3,019,814.00		\$ 4,790,414.00
2. STATE			\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
3. STRIPPER			\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
4.						
5. TOTAL		\$ 1,770,600.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,019,814.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,790,414.00

**SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES**

6. Object Class Categories	Grant Program, Function or Activity				Total (5)
	(1) GRANTEE ADMINISTRA TION	(2) SUBGRANTE E ADMINISTRA	(3) GRANTEE T&TA	(4) SUBGRANTE E T&TA	
a. Personnel	\$ 157,318.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 228,893.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 386,211.00
b. Fringe Benefits	\$ 48,768.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 70,957.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 119,725.00
c. Travel	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 33,100.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 33,100.00
d. Equipment	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
e. Supplies	\$ 300.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,300.00
f. Contract	\$ 0.00	\$ 455,448.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 286,317.00	\$ 4,128,978.00
g. Construction	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
h. Other Direct Costs	\$ 20,100.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 98,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 118,100.00
i. Total Direct Charges	\$ 226,486.00	\$ 455,448.00	\$ 474,950.00	\$ 286,317.00	\$ 4,790,414.00
j. Indirect Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
k. Totals	\$ 226,486.00	\$ 455,448.00	\$ 474,950.00	\$ 286,317.00	\$ 4,790,414.00
7. Program Income	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

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SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY						
Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Federal Catalog No. (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. TOTAL		\$ 1,770,600.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,019,814.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,790,414.00

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES					
6. Object Class Categories	Grant Program, Function or Activity				Total (5)
	(1) PROGRAM OPERATIONS	(2) HEALTH AND SAFETY	(3) LIABILITY INSURANCE	(4) FINANCIAL AUDITS	
a. Personnel	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 386,211.00
b. Fringe Benefits	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 119,725.00
c. Travel	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 33,100.00
d. Equipment	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
e. Supplies	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,300.00
f. Contract	\$ 2,757,714.00	\$ 553,655.00	\$ 23,844.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 4,128,978.00
g. Construction	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
h. Other Direct Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 118,100.00
i. Total Direct Charges	\$ 2,757,714.00	\$ 553,655.00	\$ 23,844.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 4,790,414.00
j. Indirect Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
k. Totals	\$ 2,757,714.00	\$ 553,655.00	\$ 23,844.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 4,790,414.00
7. Program Income	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**WEATHERIZATION ANNUAL FILE WORKSHEET**

(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)

**IV.1 Subgrantees**

Subgrantee (City)	Planned Funds/Units
Blue Valley Community Action (Fairbury)	\$443,143.00 41
Central Nebraska Community Services (Loup City)	\$569,127.00 54
Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska (Kearney)	\$539,560.00 51
Community Action Program of Lancaster and Saunders Counties (Lincoln)	\$566,308.00 54
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha (Omaha)	\$799,054.00 82
Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (Pender)	\$567,488.00 53
Northwest Community Action Partnership (Chadron)	\$335,383.00 32
Southeast Nebraska Community Action Council (Humboldt)	\$268,915.00 24
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,088,978.00</b> <b>391</b>

**IV.2 WAP Production Schedule**

Planned units by quarter or category are no longer required, no information required for persons.	
Weatherization Plans	Units
Total Units (excluding reweatherized)	<input type="text" value="355"/> 355
Reweatherized Units	<input type="text" value="36"/> 36
Average Unit Costs, Units subject to DOE Project Rules	
VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT AVERAGE COST PER DWELLING UNIT (DOE RULES)	
A Total Vehicles & Equipment (\$5,000 or more) Budget	\$0.00
B Total Units Weatherized	355
C Total Units Reweatherized	36
D Total Dwelling Units to be Weatherized and Reweatherized (B + C)	391
E Average Vehicles & Equipment Acquisition Cost per Unit (A divided by D)	\$0.00
AVERAGE COST PER DWELLING UNIT (DOE RULES)	
F Total Funds for Program Operations	\$2,757,714.00
G Total Dwelling Units to be Weatherized and Reweatherized (from line D)	391
H Average Program Operations Costs per Unit (F divided by G)	\$7,052.98
I Average Vehicles & Equipment Acquisition Cost per Unit (from line E)	\$0.00
J Total Average Cost per Dwelling (H plus I)	\$7,052.98

**IV.3 Energy Savings**

Method used to calculate savings: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WAP algorithm <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe below)		
Units	Savings Calculator (MBtus)	Energy Savings

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**WEATHERIZATION ANNUAL FILE WORKSHEET**

(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)

This Year Estimate	391	29.3	11456
Prior Year Estimate	355	29.3	10402
Prior Year Actual	94	29.3	2754

**Method used to calculate savings description:**

**IV.4 DOE-Funded Leveraging Activities**

None

**IV.5 Policy Advisory Council Members**

☐ Check if an existing state council or commission serves in this category and add name below

Community Action of Nebraska	Type of organization: Non-profit (not a financial institution) Contact Name: Ingrid Kirst, Interim Executive Director Phone: 4024713714 Email: <a href="mailto:director@canhelp.org">director@canhelp.org</a>
Lancaster County Extension Service	Type of organization: Local agency Contact Name: Karen Wobig, Extension Educator Phone: 4024417180 Email: <a href="mailto:kwobig2@unl.edu">kwobig2@unl.edu</a>
Nebraska Client Assistance Program	Type of organization: Unit of State Government Contact Name: Jerry Bryan, Program Specialist Phone: 4024713412 Email: <a href="mailto:jerry.bryan@nebraska.gov">jerry.bryan@nebraska.gov</a>
Nebraska Department of Economic Development	Type of organization: Unit of State Government Contact Name: Lynn Kohout, Economic Development Consultant Phone: 4024402599 Email: <a href="mailto:lynn.kohout@nebraska.gov">lynn.kohout@nebraska.gov</a>
Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services	Type of organization: Unit of State Government Contact Name: Matt Thomsen Phone: 4024179435 Email: <a href="mailto:Matt.Thomsen@nebraska.gov">Matt.Thomsen@nebraska.gov</a>
Nebraska Public Power District	Type of organization: Utility Contact Name: Steve Zach, Energy Efficiency Supervisor Phone: (402)563-5472 Email: <a href="mailto:sizach@nppd.com">sizach@nppd.com</a>
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Type of organization: Indian Tribe Contact Name: Misha Mazurkewycz, Environmental Manager Phone: 4024389222 Email: <a href="mailto:mmazurkewycz@poncatribes-ne.org">mmazurkewycz@poncatribes-ne.org</a>
Prairie Gold Homes	Type of organization: Non-profit (not a financial institution) Contact Name: Ken Inness, Production Manager Phone: (402)314-1147 Email: <a href="mailto:keninness@hotmail.com">keninness@hotmail.com</a>

**IV.6 State Plan Hearings (Note: attach notes and transcripts to the SF-424)**

Date Held Newspapers that publicized the hearings and the dates the notice ran

04/27/2021 A public hearing was held to receive public input on the PY2021 State Plan at 10:00 am Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. Notice of the meeting was published in the Omaha World Herald and posted on the Public Hearing section of the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy's website at <http://dee.ne.gov/Press.nsf/PNall.xsp/> on April 16, 2021. It was distributed via email to all WAP program managers and agency executive directors. There were ? (?) people who attended the Public Hearing and all attendees declared no comment when they were called to announce themselves and make comment during the hearing.

**IV.7 Miscellaneous**

**Nebraska PY2021 ACSI Action Plan**

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**WEATHERIZATION ANNUAL FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

Nebraska's ACSI survey identified two focus areas NDEE will be working to improve over the next PY2021 DOE grant period. The first action item the NDEE will focus on for improvement is communication. The Nebraska WAP conducts quarterly meetings with Subgrantees covering best practices and technical working group topics. These meetings help to open communication lines not only between the NDEE and Subgrantees but also between network Subgrantees to help establish strategies to the entire Nebraska WAP network more efficient and effective. The NDEE also holds virtual monthly progress meetings with each Subgrantee and meets via conference call or when there is an immediate concern that needs to be addressed. The development of these open communication opportunities has, and will continue to, provide a better communication between the state and the Subgrantees giving them more opportunities to communicate their issues and challenges and ensure that they are addressed.

The next area of focus where the NDEE scored low on, but still improved by 10 points is partnerships. Since the release of the survey the NDEE has worked to with our Weatherization Assistance Program network to identify potential partners that possibly have not been considered. NDEE will continue to work with the utility service industry to create partnerships that will benefit our joint customers similar to our work with the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) to collaborate and use their programs to enhance the Weatherization Assistance Programs in their service territory. This is a key partnerships in working towards leveraging funds from other utility companies to improve the energy efficiency in homes and provide additional funding to support energy efficiency projects that the Weatherization Assistance Program is unable to do if a measure does not SIR or if it is a deferral that needs some type of repair done prior to using the Weatherization Assistance Program. Nebraska is unique in the fact that we have not been able to access utility funds like some other states have done because Nebraska is a Public owned electric utility state, which up to recently has not been a resource for leveraging funds. NDEE will continue to seek out partnerships to improve the WAP.

**Recipient Business Officer:**

Dave Wesely  
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(402) 471-3350

**Recipient Principal Investigator:**

Aaron Miller  
Aaron.Miller@nebraska.gov  
(402) 471-2817

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

This worksheet should be completed as specified in Section III of the Weatherization Assistance Program Application Package.

**V.1 Eligibility**

**V.1.1 Approach to Determining Client Eligibility**

Provide a description of the definition of income used to determine eligibility

Definition of Income Used to Determine Eligibility (Client Eligibility)

In accordance with USDOE Weatherization Program Notice 21-3, effective as of February 10, 2021, Low income will mean that income in relation to family size, which: (1) is at or below 200 percent of the poverty level determined in accordance with criteria established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, or (2) is the basis on which cash assistance payments have been paid at any time during the preceding twelve months under Titles IV and XVI of the Social Security Act, or (3) is the basis on which energy assistance payments have been paid under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program of 1981 (LIHEAP), provided that such basis is at least 200 percent of the poverty level determined in accordance with the criteria established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

- Subgrantees are reminded that the supporting documentation for applicants applying for weatherization that may be on a waiting list or for other reasons must have their eligibility documentation updated at least annually.

Describe what household eligibility basis will be used in the Program

All dwelling units certified as eligible for services shall be occupied by an income-eligible household family unit with income at or below 200 percent of the poverty level, or "which contains a member who has received cash assistance payments under Title IV or XVI of the Social Security Act or applicable State or local law during the twelve month period preceding the determination of eligibility for weatherization assistance," or which contains a member which has received energy assistance payments under the LIHEAP during the twelve month period preceding the determination of eligibility for weatherization assistance.

Describe the process for ensuring qualified aliens are eligible for weatherization benefits

Subgrantees must request documentation from WAP applicants and verify eligibility status through the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program. Such documentation can be provided to Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) staff for eligibility verification.

The SAVE Program is a web-based service that helps federal, state and local benefit-issuing agencies, institutions, and licensing agencies determine the immigration status of benefit applicants so only those entitled to benefits receive them.

USDOE has directed grantees to guidance provided by Health and Human Services (HHS) under LIHEAP. This guidance can be found by going to <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/immigration/restrictions-sum.shtml>. NDEE is registered for the SAVE Program to verify qualified alien status of Weatherization Program applicants for sub-grantees. Sub-grantees submit the required information to the NDEE who completes the verification process. The verification documentation is required as part of the Subgrantee Client Files.

**V.1.2 Approach to Determining Building Eligibility**

Procedures to determine that units weatherized have eligibility documentation

Subgrantees are required to keep documentation in each client file for review during Program Compliance and Onsite Project monitoring visits by NDEE WAP staff. A minimum of 20 client files will be reviewed at each Subgrantee during Program Compliance monitoring to assess compliance with this requirement.

Describe Reweathering compliance

Subgrantees are required to retain records of all dwellings that received Federal funds including LIHEAP, HUD, or USDA "weatherization" activities. Dwellings

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

may be reweatherized if 15 years have passed since the completion of original services and quality control inspection. Nebraska has been advised that additional implementation guidance of the new reweatherization policy is forthcoming. Nebraska will ensure compliance with any additional DOE guidance.

If a previously weatherized dwelling unit has been damaged by fire, flood, natural catastrophic weather or environmental occurrence, weatherization crews may return to a unit reported as a completion without regard to date of weatherization. 10 CFR 440.18(f)(2)(ii). Local authorities must deem the dwelling unit(s) salvageable as well as habitable and if the damage to the materials is not covered by insurance or other form of compensation. The use of USDOE WAP funds is limited to eligible weatherization activities and the purchase and delivery of weatherization materials (WPN 16-7). No more than ten (10) percent of a Subgrantee's USDOE completions may be reweatherized without prior approval from the Department of Environment and Energy.

Addresses of completed weatherized units and dates they were completed are tracked by Subgrantees through the NDEE database system. Each agency references new applications to that database to comply with re-weatherization regulations in 10 CFR 440.18(f)(2)(iii) Allowable expenditures. The Department of Environment and Energy also uses a database to track WAP clients and retains client BCJO files for completed units for ten years. The database is used to cross-reference submitted completed units to already completed units. Subgrantees are also responsible to let the Department of Environment and Energy know when a unit is a re-weatherized unit.

Describe what structures are eligible for weatherization

Eligible housing types include owner and renter-occupied single-family homes, manufactured (mobile) homes, and multifamily buildings.

Historic Preservation

On November 6, 2020, the NDEE extended the Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the Nebraska State Historical Preservation Office (NSHPO) and the USDOE until December 31, 2030. Properties funded under the WAP are considered "undertakings" subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f (NHPA) and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800, and include rehabilitation, energy efficiency, retrofits, renewables, and weatherization (undertakings). SHPO contact information is available at the following link: <http://www.ncshpo.org/shpodirectory.shtml> click on the State of Nebraska to find the Nebraska SHPO contact information.

Section 110(k) of the NHPA applies to USDOE funded activities. Recipients shall avoid taking any action that results in an adverse effect to historic properties pending compliance with Section 106.

Dwellings that may be weatherized include:

1. Framed Homes
  - a. Single family owner-occupied
  - b. Single family rental
  - c. Multi-family dwellings
2. Manufactured Homes
  - a. Owner-occupied
  - b. Renter-occupied

Describe how Rental Units/Multifamily Buildings will be addressed

References to the specific eligibility of multifamily buildings is addressed in the regulations, 10 CFR 440.22(b)(2). Additional USDOE guidance can be found in USDOE Weatherization Program Notice 16-5.

Rental units may be weatherized when occupied by an eligible client; and

- The Subgrantee has written permission from the owner or his agent. Such written permission shall be permanently maintained in the file of the client whose unit is weatherized.
- The benefits of weatherization assistance will accrue primarily to low-income tenants.

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

- Not less than 66 percent (50 percent for duplexes and four-unit buildings) of the dwelling units in the building are occupied by eligible clients or will become occupied by eligible clients within 180 days under a Federal, State, or local program for rehabilitating the building or making similar improvements to the building.
- The Subgrantee must obtain and place in the client file a signed agreement from the landlord (or authorized agent of the landlord) that states that for a minimum of 12 months after weatherization work has been completed on a dwelling, the tenants in that dwelling will not be subjected to rent increases because of the increased value of dwelling units due solely to weatherization assistance provided under this part.
- No undue or excessive enhancement shall occur to the value of the dwelling units.
- In the event of a dispute between the tenant and property owner regarding the issues listed above, the Subgrantee will attempt to resolve the dispute; if that fails, the tenant will be referred to legal aid by the Subgrantee.
- In the case of a vacant rental dwelling, weatherization assistance may be provided if there is assurance that a low-income household will inhabit the dwelling within 180 days of the date the weatherization service was completed.
- Subgrantee has provided copies of the signed Landlord Agreements to the tenants and ensure that documentation is placed in the Subgrantee Client File.

The Nebraska WAP does not file liens or enforce restrictions.

Under 10 CFR 440.18(f)(1): No grant funds awarded under this part shall be used for any of the following purposes; To weatherize a dwelling unit which is designated for acquisition or clearance by a Federal, State or local program within 12 months from the date weatherization of the dwelling unit would be scheduled to be completed.

Multi-family Buildings

The total amount of funds that can be invested in a multi-family project is determined as follows: Multiply the total number of income-eligible units in the multi-family building by the current statewide average cost per unit. The total is the maximum amount of USDOE funding available to weatherize the building. All units in the building can be served and all units should be reported to USDOE. Sub-grantees must submit multi-family projects greater than 24 units to the Department of Environment and Energy for review and approval before work begins and costs are incurred. The Department of Environment and Energy reviews the proposed project and submits to the USDOE Program Office as per the Multi-Family Review Protocol.

Describe the deferral Process

There are conditions and situations under which a Subgrantee must not or may choose not to weatherize an otherwise eligible dwelling unit. Information for making this determination may become evident during either the eligibility process or during the initial inspection process. The Nebraska WAP Deferral policy is part of the Health & Safety plan found in the Nebraska Weatherization Field Guide and Installation Standards, Section 2 Health & Safety.

**V.1.3 Definition of Children**

Definition of children (below age): **6**

**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.

Low-income members of Indian tribes will receive benefits equivalent to the assistance provided to other low-income persons within Nebraska.

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

Current service areas are predominantly based upon the historic boundaries of the state CAP agencies. This was done for two reasons. First, Nebraska Subgrantee CAP agencies in general, operate within boundaries that best serve the clients they serve through multiple assistance programs. Second, this approach enables CAPs to use existing outreach structures to recruit eligible clients. However, the State reserves the right to re-designate weatherization service areas during a program year should production of homes or service to eligible clients become deficient in any given service area for the WAP.

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy reserves the right to operate, on a temporary basis, the Weatherization Program in the territory of any

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

defunded Subgrantee. This will be done to ensure continued service to an area during the search for a new Subgrantee.

Formula to calculate Subgrantees allocation

Weighted average based on population.

{Population (C)}

{200% of Poverty (C)}

{Poverty(C)}

{Elderly(C)}

0.1 X {Population (S)} + 0.2 X {200% of Poverty (S)} + 0.3 X {Poverty (S)} + 0.4 X {Elderly (S)}

C = County      S= State

Subgrantees under the WAP were required to notify the NDEE by January 15, 2021 of their interest in continuing as a service provider for the program year beginning July 1 of that year. At the time of submitting Subgrantee letter of intents to provide weatherization service in their specific counties, they will also submit any changes to: Articles of Incorporation, Mission Statement, key agency personnel, Board of Directors and representation, organizational chart, and proposed staffing levels. The application must also address:

- The organization's experience, performance and training in weatherization or housing renovation activities;
- The organization's experience in assisting low income persons in the area to be served; and
- The organization's capacity to undertake a timely and effective weatherization program.

For PY2021 Subgrantees notification of intent will be the written notification to serve the counties they submitted in their most recent Request for Proposal (RFP) for applications. At the time of the submission of the letter of intent, they will also provide any changes that were submitted in the RFP applications that would apply to PY2021.

### V.3 Priorities

Eligible clients will receive weatherization assistance in Nebraska according to the following priorities:

1. Persons over 60 years of age;
2. Persons with disabilities;
3. Families with children under 6 years old;
4. High residential energy users; and
5. Households with a high-energy burden.

Subgrantees must serve clients according to date of application submission, by priority, and by county. As a rule, within an individual county, a lower priority client should never be served prior to a higher priority client unless the higher priority client was not available during the available time period. Subgrantees must document irregularities in the selection of clients when a high priority client is not available.

As defined in 10 CFR 440, the term Persons with Disabilities means any individual (1) who is a handicapped individual as defined in section 7(6) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (2) who is under a disability as defined in section 1614(a)(3)(A) or 223(d)(1) of the Social Security Act or in section 102(7) of the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act, or (3) who is receiving benefits under chapter 11 or 15 of title 38, U.S.C.

As defined in 10 CFR 440.3, high residential energy user means a low-income household whose residential energy expenditures exceed the median level of residential expenditures for all low-income households in the state.

As defined in 10 CFR 440.3 household with a high-energy burden means a low-income household whose residential energy burden (residential expenditures divided by the annual income of that household times one hundred (100) percent exceeds the median level of energy burden for all low-income households in the state.

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

**V.4 Climatic Conditions**

Total heating degree-days in Nebraska range from a high of 7151 in the northcentral region of the State to a low of 5844 in Southeast region of Nebraska. The average heating degree-days have been supplied by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Site-specific weather data is used in application of the NEAT audit. The average heating degree-days for each Subgrantee are set out below:

Blue Valley Community Action	6,056
Central Nebraska Community Services	7,151
Northeast NE Community Action Partnership	6,643
Community Action Partnership of Lancaster & Saunders Counties	6,056
Community Action Partnership of Mid Nebraska	6,686
Northwest Community Action Partnership	6,775
Southeast NE Community Action Partnership	5,844
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha	6506

**V.5 Type of Weatherization Work to Be Done**

**V.5.1 Technical Guides and Materials**

In Program Year 2021, the Nebraska WAP network will utilize the 2018 Retrofitting Nebraska: Standard Work Specifications for Single Family Homes and Manufactured Homes along with the Installation Standards for Single Family and Manufactured Homes that were issued to Subgrantees in May of 2018. NDEE informed Subgrantees at that time of the expectations for work quality and adherence to the Field Guide and Installation Standards. NDEE implemented the Nebraska Field Guide and Installation Standards after approval by the Department of Energy in Program Year 2018 and will be in effect for five (5) years as Nebraska's technical guides. The Nebraska Field Guide and Installation Standards manual aligns with the USDOE Standard Work Specifications and are the work quality standards that will meet the technical requirements for the WAP outlined in USDOE WPN 15-4, Section 2 and 10 CFR 440.

Each Subgrantee, by signing their Financial Aid Agreement with NDEE, agrees they understand the expectations of the Nebraska Field Guide and Installation Standards, USDOE WPN 15-4, energy audit procedures and 10 CFR 440 including Appendix A. By signing this agreement Subgrantees will also be acknowledging that they will include these expectations within their contract agreements.

The approved Nebraska Field Guide and Installation Standards are available on the Department of Environment and Energy Weatherization website for Subgrantees to provide downloadable Installation Standards to crews and contract vendors. For in-network WAP Directors, Managers or Certified Quality Control Inspectors employees the Department of Environment and Energy provides the Field Guides and Installation Standards in pdf and e-pub format for either iPads or Tablet Readers. All contract vendors must provide their own electronic reader to download the Field Guides & Installation Standards.

Subgrantees must provide a mechanism through their contractual agreements verifying that vendors understand and agree to the terms and usage of the Field Guides and Installation Standards and all USDOE installation requirements.

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

Field guide types approval dates

Single-Family: 4/22/2019
Manufactured Housing: 4/22/2019
Multi-Family:

**V.5.2 Energy Audit Procedures**

Audit Procedures and Dates Most Recently Approved by DOE

Audit Procedure: Single-Family
Audit Name: NEAT
Approval Date: 6/2/2021

Audit Procedure: Manufactured Housing
Audit Name: MHEA
Approval Date: 6/2/2021

Audit Procedure: Multi-Family
Audit Name: Other (specify)
NEAT Audit (For small multi-family buildings of 5-24 individually heated and cooled units) - approved by DOE 6/2/2016
Approval Date:

Comments

**Approval of Energy Audit Procedures**

On March 31, 2021, NDEE received USDOE conditional approval, effective June 2, 2021, of its audit procedures for site built and for certain small multifamily buildings using the NEAT and for manufactured homes using the MHEA. Both audit tools are already USDOE approved to calculate savings-to-investment (SIR) ratios. NDEE followed the latest WPN 19-4 guidance to comply with 10 CFR 440 for re-approval.

**Single Family – National Energy Audit (NEAT)**

The National Energy Audit (NEAT) has been adopted by the Nebraska weatherization program. The U.S. Department of Energy's most recent approved Nebraska's Audit procedures with added User Defined measures was on March 31, 2021. Site-specific audits must be run on all single-family frame homes for all homes weatherized with Nebraska WAP funds.

**Manufactured Housing - Mobile Home Energy Audit (MHEA)**

Nebraska has chosen to utilize the Manufactured Home Energy Audit (MHEA). Site-specific audits must be completed on all mobile homes weatherized with Nebraska WAP funds. The MHEA Audit was approved with User Defined Measures by USDOE on March 31, 2021.

**Multi-family Energy Audits**

Multi-family buildings represent less than 20 percent of the housing stock in Nebraska. The U.S. Department of Energy has indicated that they will rely on the MulTEA, EA-QUIP, REM audit software, HEAT, eQUEST and TREAT audits for these larger, multi-family buildings.

When considering weatherization of a multi-family building of greater than 5 units, Subgrantees must consult the NDEE for Energy Audit and technical assistance before performing weatherization work so that required information can be submitted for USDOE review and approval of these types of weatherization projects.

**Savings to Investment Ratio**

A SIR of 1.0 or greater means that the expected energy savings from installing the measure is equal to or greater than the initial cost of installation.

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

When an individual Measure SIR is not reached in multi-family (3 units and larger) building owners are allowed to buy-down DOE approved NEAT/MHEA Candidate Measures for Building Envelope and/or Baseload Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs) measures that don't achieve an individual SIR of 1 or greater as a stand-alone measure. However, in order for the measure(s) to qualify for a buy-down, the package of measures, **including the full cost of the Measure, which is to be bought down**, must have a Cumulative SIR (CSIR) of 1 or greater. **Note: Funding may not be solicited from an income-eligible homeowner. Homeowners may not contribute funds to pay the difference for a measure with an SIR of less than 1.0.**

**Opting Out or Skipping Cost-effective Weatherization Measures**

Opting out, skipping or "leapfrogging" of Measures that have been determined by the Energy Audit to be cost-effective is not allowed. Completion of all measures with an SIR of 1.0 or greater is required and all energy-savings measures must be considered and ranked in order of descending SIR. **The higher the SIR, the higher the priority.** Higher-ranking measures may not be skipped in order to complete a measure with a lower SIR. In other words, measures may not be skipped and/or clients cannot 'opt' out of a measure.

**V.5.3 Final Inspection**

Each Subgrantee is required to perform a final quality control inspection on the weatherized home completed by a Building Performance Institute, Inc. (BPI) Certified Quality Control Inspector before reporting it to the NDEE as a completed home and requesting reimbursement as required in USDOE Federal Regulations 10 CFR 440.16(g). The Quality Control Inspector must certify that work has been completed in accordance with the priority determined by the energy audit procedures required by 10 CFR 440.21.

In PY2021 Subgrantees will be required to meet USDOE WPN 15-4 Quality Work Plan requirements and to meet Quality Control Inspector (QCI) Certification requirements. In PY2021 QCI work must meet or exceed standards specified in the Nebraska Standard Work Specification Field Guide and Installation Standards. Documentation is required to be kept in each client file as evidence that a final inspection has been performed by a Certified QCI. NDEE Program Monitors review client files as part of the Subgrantee monitoring to ensure compliance with this requirement. When a unit has received a QCI by the Subgrantee agency and has been monitored by a NDEE Field Conservation Technical staff, both QCI inspection forms will be included in the client file or building file.

Subgrantee agencies operating with a combined Energy Auditor and QCI will be involved in a higher quality assurance review by NDEE above ten (10) percent of all completed units. Subgrantees operating with separate Energy Auditors and QCIs will have at least five (5) percent of all completed units reviewed. Subgrantees using one person to perform both the Energy Audit and the QCI are not allowed to utilize that person to perform weatherization work on a dwelling. Subgrantees using one person as Energy Auditor and one person as QCI can allow the Energy Auditor to perform weatherization work on a dwelling, while the QCI is not allowed to perform any weatherization work on a dwelling.

Any Subgrantees utilizing an independent privately contracted QCI will provide documentation of certification of the QCI performing the inspections on completed units and include all QCI inspection forms within the client or building files.

**V.6 Weatherization Analysis of Effectiveness**

The State of Nebraska is committed to providing the citizens of Nebraska with an effective weatherization program that provides quality and cost-effective services. Annually since 2015 NDEE has completed a study detailing the actual energy savings and cost effectiveness of weatherization work completed in Nebraska. The study uses a pre- and post-consumption analysis of randomly selected homes proportionately selected based on population demographics in each Subgrantee region. The results of that study and its methodology continue to be used to provide program feedback regarding the effectiveness of specific weatherization measures, and to assist in identifying training needs or training effectiveness based on energy savings and reduction of energy burden to low-income households.

During the application process the Subgrantees secure a signed Client Consumption Release Form which authorizes the Subgrantees to obtain the consumption records for each household for a 12-month period prior to weatherization (pre-consumption) and for a 12-month period after weatherization (post-consumption). The 30-year normalized client pre- and post-consumption data, based on fuel type, is used to calculate the percentage of energy consumption savings achieved.

For the period of July 2018 to June 2019, consumption on 99 homes was evaluated and the data showed an average savings for natural gas at 12.06 percent and an average savings for electricity at 6.54 percent. In comparison to the USDOE National Evaluation results:

- 2008 – 18 percent for gas, and 7 percent for electricity average annual energy savings

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

- 2010 – 16 percent for gas, and 8 percent for electricity average annual energy savings

The PY 2018 State of Nebraska analysis shows the annual energy savings for electricity remains comparable to the National Evaluation results for 2008 and 2010 and the annual energy savings for gas, although lower than the National Evaluation results, it has increased over the results shown for PY 2016 & PY 2017.

Nebraska is in the process of collecting and reviewing data for July 2019 to June 2020 to continue to evaluate the annual energy savings of Subgrantees weatherization work and to work with our state database developers to automate the evaluation program. These activities will continue to assist the Department of Environment and Energy in evaluating program effectiveness as well as help in identifying technical training needs or the effectiveness of training during that period.

Other Analysis of Effectiveness

The effectiveness of Subgrantee weatherization is also assessed through program technical monitoring activities and the requirement that all dwelling units weatherized in the program have an energy audit completed to measure energy effectiveness and minimum savings to investment ratio of 1.0 or better.

Inconsistencies noted through program monitoring result in actions that increase training and monitoring requirements in an effort to put a Subgrantee on the path to continued improvement.

This year NDEE intends to work with program Subgrantees to establish and begin implementation of core competency requirements for all program personnel at both the state and Subgrantee level. Trainings will be targeted to provide personnel skills, knowledge and ability to perform weatherization program activities effectively.

NDEE will expand monitoring activities of Subgrantees to include the percentage and types of efficiencies/improvement actions required as a result of on-site inspection activities.

## V.7 Health and Safety

The average per dwelling expenditure of financial assistance provided under WAP for labor, weatherization materials, and related matters may not exceed \$7,776 statewide in Program Year 2021 (starting July 1, 2021), as per the U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Program Notice 21-1. Historically, Nebraska has not limited H&S investment to a per-unit cost, but it has allocated between 15-20 percent of its annual allocations to cover H&S-related expenditures. In PY2021, a per dwelling unit limit for Health and Safety expenditures of \$1,500 has been established, based on historical data. Units may exceed the \$1,500 limit if approved in advance by the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) on a case-by-case basis.

Please see the USDOE approved Nebraska Weatherization Field Guide and Installation Standards, Section 2 for Nebraska's WAP Health and Safety plan for Single Family Homes and Manufactured Homes. (*Links to be posted on the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy website.*

(<https://neo.ne.gov/programs/wx/wx-sws-2018/wx-retrofitting-2019.html#fg2>)

***The Nebraska PY2021 Health and Safety Plan is a separate attachment to this document.***

## V.8 Program Management

### V.8.1 Overview and Organization

The weatherization program is administered by NDEE, a code agency of the State of Nebraska Executive Branch. The Department of Environment and Energy is the Grantee agency for the state of Nebraska for USDOE Formula Grant funding and is a Subawardee of the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services on USDHHS LIHEAP funding for the weatherization assistance portion of that state funding. The Department of Environment and Energy is the administrator of these two funds that are passed-through to seven (7) Community Action Agencies and one (1) non-profit agency in Nebraska. The seven (7) Community Action Agencies and one (1) non-profit agency accept applications, prioritize clients based on priority level and perform the weatherization work on dwellings.

### V.8.2 Administrative Expenditure Limits

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)**  
**STATE PLAN/MASTER FILE WORKSHEET**

**(Grant Number: EE0007933, State: NE, Program Year: 2021)**

10 CFR §440.18(e) permits Subgrantees receiving less than \$350,000 in federally appropriated Low Income WAP funds to receive up to an additional 5% share of administrative funds. The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy will use this provision in the 2021 Program Year.

**V.8.3 Monitoring Activities**

*The Nebraska PY2021 Training and Technical Assistance Approach and Monitoring Activities Plan is a separate attachment to this document.*

**V.8.4 Training and Technical Assistance Approach and Activities**

*The Nebraska PY2021 Training and Technical Assistance Approach and Monitoring Activities Plan is a separate attachment to this document.*

Percent of overall trainings

Comprehensive Trainings:

Specific Trainings:

Breakdown of T&TA training budget

Percent of budget allocated to Auditor/QCI trainings:

Percent of budget allocated to Crew/Installer trainings:

Percent of budget allocated to Management/Financial trainings:

**V.9 Energy Crisis and Disaster Plan**

Nebraska will not use any grant funds for energy crisis relief during the 2021 Program Year.