

Weatherization Readiness Fund Plan

The Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity plans to use the Weatherization Readiness Fund to address deferral conditions on a case-by-case basis. Weatherization Readiness Funds are specifically targeted to reduce the frequency of deferred homes that require other services, outside the scope of weatherization, before the weatherization services can commence. IHWAP and all Subgrantees must follow WPN 22-6. Units receiving WRF must result in a DOE completion. WRF funds are specific to the annual appropriation funding and must be expended on units weatherized within the formula PY2022 grant by the WAP Subgrantees identified in the State Plan application. Weatherization Readiness funding cannot be combined with DOE BIL funding. The following deferral conditions may be considered to be addressed with the Weatherization Readiness Fund:

- The building structure (such as the roofing structure) or its mechanical systems, including electrical and plumbing, are in such a state of disrepair that conditions cannot be resolved in a cost-effective manner.
- The house has sewage or other sanitary problems that would further endanger the client and weatherization installers if weatherization measures were installed.
- Electrical, heating, plumbing, or other equipment has been "red tagged" by local or state building officials or utilities.
- Moisture or site drainage problems are so severe they cannot be resolved under existing allowable health and safety measures or with minor repairs.
- Severe Mold and Moisture problems are so severe they cannot be resolved under existing health and safety measures and with minor repairs. Severe Mold is defined as an aggregate of 10 square feet.
- Pest Infestation may be cause for deferral if the pests cannot be removed and pose a health and safety risk to the workers.
- Any other health or safety condition present or created by, exacerbated by, and cannot be corrected by the delivery of IHWAP funded services.

Given the above deferral conditions the following measures will be allowed using the Weatherization Readiness Fund:

Roof

- Minor repair of roof for leak (patch work, replace ridge cap or ridge vent)
- Re-shingling of roof because of several/major leaks
- Re-shingling of roof due to condition of roof (severe degradation of shingles, poor condition of sheathing)
- Elastomeric roof coating (mobile home)
- EPDM rubber roofing (mobile home or site built home with flat roof)

Note 1: All roof work must be completed by a licensed roofer and must have at least a 5-year workmanship warranty and have a 30-year shingle warranty

Note 2: If roof replacement is needed and if there are two layers of shingles on home, the layers must be torn off prior to installation of new shingles

Other Structural Repairs

- Foundation Repair (address sinking foundation, foundation cracks, buckled walls, address sagging floors, settling foundation, waterproofing)
- Foundation water drainage (sump pit, sump pump, etc.)

- Replacing unstable flooring
- Wall repair
- Ceiling repair
- Improve porch and step stability
- Repair/Replace window to assure one in each bedroom can open

Mold & Moisture

- Mold remediation (also address source of moisture)

Electrical

- Replace knob & tube wiring when it prohibits effective insulation coverage, or it is deemed unsafe
- Upgrade electric service/panels

Plumbing & Sanitation

- Repair/replace plumbing where there are leaks
- Repair/replace/auger sewer lines
- Repair dry floor drains if sewer gas detected
- Repair/replace water lines
- Septic services (does not include new septic tank installation)

Bulk Water

- Gutter repair/replacement/addition
- Replace nonrepairable windows and doors where bulk water is entering
- Exterior grading to alleviate flooding in basements/crawlspace
- Repair/Replace exterior cladding to eliminate water from entering the walls
- Replace fascia and/or soffit (rotted out, termite damage)

Other

- Items not included on this can be proposed to OCA

The maximum amount of Weatherization Readiness Funds that can be used at a home to address these deferral conditions is \$20,000. The funds will be distributed to the subgrantees based on the same formula for determining allocation for the regular DOE program funds.

Subgrantees must submit a waiver to the Office of Community Assistance to request the use of the Weatherization Readiness funds at a weatherization job. The waiver must provide a detailed description of the deferral issue that needs to be addressed at the home, provide photo documentation to support the need for the readiness funds, and provide an estimate of the cost of the improvement.

Applications are already prioritized prior to identifying deferral issues. In terms of the Weatherization Readiness Funds deferral issues will be addressed as they occur. OCA also has a substantial pot of State funds that can be used to address deferral issues, so further prioritization should not be needed.

Measures and associated cost will be tracked in the WeatherWorks system.

Weatherization readiness projects will be monitored as part of OCA's Quality Assurance monitoring of homes .

Due to the late notice from the Department of Energy, we will continue to enhance our plan for the Weatherization Readiness Funds. We will communicate with the DOE Project Officers regarding any future enhancements being considered for these funds.