

# Memorandum

DATE: **September 8, 2023**

CARRIE  
SMITH

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CARRIE SMITH  
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WAP Memorandum 114

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: **Carrie Smith, Readiness and Retrofit Program Manager, Weatherization Assistance Program**

SUBJECT: **Updates to WAP Optional Regional Priority Lists**

TO: **Weatherization Assistance Program Grantees**

INTENDED

AUDIENCE: **Grantee Program Managers, Grantee Technical Managers, Subgrantee Program Directors, Subgrantee Technical Managers, Weatherization Training Centers**

## Background

In 2022 the Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program (DOE WAP) sponsored the development and issuance of regional priority lists (PL) for the three most common housing types weatherized by the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP); Site-Built Single-Family Housing, Manufactured Housing, and Low-Rise Multifamily Housing. These lists cover all regions of the continental United States and provided a streamlined approach to the energy audit process. DOE provided the PL along with resources to assist Grantee in the site collection of necessary data via [Weatherization Program Notice \(WPN\) 22-8](#).

## Updates

This memorandum provides notice to WAP Grantees that DOE has provided updated PL and resources for all regions and housing types that reflect the following updates.

*Optional heating and cooling equipment measures:* The original PL released via WPN 22-8 included the minimum values for heating and cooling system installation using the then-current designations of Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating (SEER), Energy Efficiency Rating (EER), and Heating Season Performance Factor (HSPF). Updated efficiency testing protocols developed by DOE went into effect in January 2023. These updated protocols transitioned efficiency ratings to new designations of SEER2, EER2, and HSPF2. The transition to XXXX2 values has changed the minimum efficiency ratings of EnergyStar and in turn the minimum values required by DOE WAP.

Grantees should note that some energy modeling software does not utilize the new rating systems and that any project utilizing the hybrid audit approach for HVAC equipment may need to have additional guidance created for the implementation of these new values. Users of Weatherization Assistant on the Web (WAweb) should note that WAweb already utilizes these updated metrics, and no additional guidance is necessary.

*Programmable thermostats:* The PL includes a clarification that programmable thermostats are a required part of the optional HVAC installations. The Standard Work Specifications (SWS) already requires that newly

installed thermostats be programmable, but this was not clear to some implementors of the PL; therefore, DOE inserted clarifying language in the PL to address this item.

*Additional clarifying language:* DOE updated wording around foundation insulation measures and manufactured housing attic insulation that clarifies, but does not change, the efficiency values.

## **Conclusion**

This update to the regional PL and the associated forms is effective immediately for all new projects audited after October 1, 2023. Grantees must update all associated measure lists and forms to reflect these updates prior to this date. DOE intends to provide a comprehensive update of the regional PL in the future and will provide the WAP network with additional changes via Program memorandum when that occurs.

The DOE-sponsored regional PLs provide comprehensive weatherization options to most eligible dwellings and Grantees should consider whether adoption of these PLs would benefit their clients.

If you have questions regarding the information in this Memorandum, please contact your DOE Project Officer.