

CHAPTER 100

Virginia Energy Assistance Program Weatherization Component

13 VAC 5-100-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context indicates otherwise:

“Capital-Intensive furnace or cooling efficiency modifications” means those major heating and cooling modifications which require a substantial amount of funds, including replacement and major repairs, but excluding such items as tune-ups, minor repairs, and filters.

“Department” means the Department of Housing and Community Development.

“DOE” means the U. S. Department of Energy.

“Dwelling Unit” means a house, including a stationary mobile home, an apartment, a condominium, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are living quarters in which the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure and which have either direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall or complete kitchen facilities for the exclusive use of the occupants. The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements.

“Household” means all persons living in the dwelling unit.

“Poverty Guidelines” means the Poverty Income Guidelines as established and published annually by the Department of Health and Human Services.

“Weatherization Improvements” means determining, completing, reporting and inspecting measures which are intended to enable or improve residential energy efficiency, and improve health and safety, and include, but are not limited to:

(1) Non-emergency heating system repairs, modifications or installations to include the fuel supply, the combustion exhaust system and the distribution systems;

(2) Non-emergency cooling efficiency modifications;

(3) Air sealing to include, but not limited to, sealing bypasses, chimney, plumbing and electrical chases, replacing missing or broken glass, missing windows, missing doors, sealing unused flues and fireplaces, sealing holes and ceilings and floors, sealing or dampering dryer vents, kitchen exhaust fans, window air conditioners, utility penetrations, providing a ground cover in crawlspaces;

(4) Attic, floor, mobile home bellyboard and sidewall insulation;

(5) Insulating, repairing and sealing ducts and heating pipes;

(6) Insulating, repairing and replacing domestic water heaters;

(7) Water flow reducers;

(8) Setback thermostats.

(9) Energy-related health and safety and indoor air quality measures such as carbon monoxide detectors, smoke detectors and passive or mechanical ventilation.

(10) Compact florescent bulbs.

13 VAC 5-100-20. Eligibility criteria; benefits.

A. The purpose of the of the weatherization assistance component is to improve or enhance the energy efficiency of the dwelling unit occupied by eligible households, improve the energy-related health and safety problems, and attempt to lessen dependency on the energy assistance program. The weatherization assistance component does not provide emergency assistance for energy or health and safety related problems.

B. Eligibility criteria is set out in this section.

1. Income limits. Maximum income limits shall be at or below 130% of the poverty guidelines.

In order to be eligible for weatherization assistance, a family's income must be at or below the maximum income limits.

2. A dwelling unit may be weatherized only after written permission of the owner is received.

C. Services will be provided through the Department's weatherization network.

D. The maximum average per dwelling unit benefit will be as provided for by DOE regulations (10CFR440.18). A different average may be used for units with capital-intensive furnace or cooling efficiency modifications as provided for by DOE regulations. The forms of assistance or weatherization improvements shall include, but not be limited to:

Heating system inspections, diagnostics, repairs, replacements, installations and modifications to include the fuel supply, the combustion exhaust and the distribution systems. Cooling efficiency modifications. Energy efficiency improvements to include air sealing, duct repair and insulation, attic insulation and venting, sidewall insulation, mobile home bellyboard repair and insulation, domestic water heater insulation, floor insulation, repair and replacement of broken and missing glass, windows and doors, setback thermostats and water flow reducers.