

Iowa Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program 2009 Fact Sheet

Purpose

The Weatherization Assistance Program is a low-income energy efficiency program administered by the Department of Energy (DOE). Its purpose is to make the homes of low-income clients more energy efficient, thereby reducing the households' energy bills. The program also improves the health and safety of low-income homes. The energy efficiency and health and safety work is done using the most advanced technologies and testing protocols available in the housing industry. States administer the program in accordance with DOE rules and regulations.

Eligibility

A household is eligible for assistance under the Iowa Weatherization Program if the household is receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Family Investment Program (FIP) Assistance, regardless of income or, the household's annual income is at, or below 200% of the poverty level, as established by the Office of Management and Budget.

<u>Funding</u>		<u>Household Characteristics</u>	
Department of Energy - ARRA	\$80,834,411	Elderly	33%
Department of Energy - Regular	\$8,578,634	Disabled	44%
LiHEAP – Wx	\$10,170,381	Young Children	18%
Utilities	\$4,851,740	Renters	12%
Total	\$104,435,166		

Energy Savings

The annual savings per home, based on homes weatherized in the 2007 contract year, is \$394.

The savings-to-investment ratio is 1.8. For every \$1.00 spent on the homes, \$1.80 is saved in energy costs over the life of the measures.

Top Ten Measures in CY '07 **First-Year Program, Client Bill Savings and Installation Rates**

Measure	Average Savings	Percentage Homes Receiving
Heating System Replacement	\$164	51%
Wall Insulation	\$130	61%
Unfinished Attic Insulation	\$94	38%
Open Blown Ceiling Insulation	\$81	83%
Refrigerator Exchange	\$58	37%
Water Heater Replacement	\$41	36%
Lighting	\$31	89%
Foundation/Crawlspace Insulation	\$31	40%
Infiltration Reduction	\$24	99%
Water Heater Other Measures	\$16	84%

Number of Homes Weatherized

Fiscal Year 2008: 2,006 homes Fiscal Years 1980 – 2008: 124,797 homes

The estimated unmet need is 165,206 homes (per analysis done by Fisher, Sheehan & Colton in 1996 and adjusted for homes completed since then).

Health & Safety Measures

- Inspect all combustion appliances and repair or replace unsafe furnaces (56% of homes) and water heaters (34% of homes)
- Install carbon monoxide or smoke detectors in certain situations (CO alarms installed in 42% of homes)
- Conduct a health and safety assessment of the home and provide information on risks of lead-based paint, and mitigate moisture problems

Other Non-Energy Program Benefits

These non-energy benefits include improved client health and safety conditions, reduced air pollution (reduces carbon dioxide emissions by an average of one ton per home), and retention of affordable low-income housing.