DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)

Program Name: Low Income Home Energy Assistance
Grantee Name: North Carolina
Report Name: DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP) Revision # 2
Report Period: 10/01/2019 to 09/30/2020
Report Status: Saved (Revision #2)

Report Sections

1. Mandatory Grant Application SF-424
2. Section 1 - Program Components
3. Section 2 - HEATING ASSISTANCE
4. Section 3 - COOLING ASSISTANCE
5. Section 4 - CRISIS ASSISTANCE
6. Section 5 - WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE
7. Section 6 - Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)
8. Section 7 - Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4
9. Section 8 - Agency Designation,, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6
10. Section 9 - Energy Suppliers,, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7
11. Section 10 - Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10) - Assurance 10
12. Section 11 - Timely and Meaningful Public Participation,, 2605(b)(12) - Assurance 12, 2605(c)(2)
13. Section 12 - Fair Hearings,2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13
14. Section 13 - Reduction of home energy needs,2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16
15. Section 14 - Leveraging Incentive Program ,2607A
16. Section 15 - Training
17. Section 16 - Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b)
18. Section 17 - Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)
19. Section 18: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters
20. Section 19: Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements
21. Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying
22. Assurances
23. Plan Attachments
### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

**SF - 424 - MANDATORY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plan</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Explanation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. Date Received:</th>
<th>State Use Only:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Applicant Identifier:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4a. Federal Entity Identifier:</th>
<th>4b. Federal Award Identifier:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5. Date Received By State:</th>
<th>6. State Application Identifier:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### 7. APPLICANT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* a. Legal Name:</th>
<th>* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):</th>
<th>* c. Organizational DUNS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NC Dept. of Health and Human Services - Div. of Social Ser.</td>
<td>566023166 E6</td>
<td>809785363</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* d. Address:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Street 1:</td>
<td>ATTENTION: CONTROLLER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* City:</td>
<td>RALEIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* State:</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Country:</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Zip / Postal Code:</td>
<td>27699 -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* e. Organizational Unit:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department Name:</td>
<td>NC Dept. of Health and Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division Name:</td>
<td>Division of Social Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prefix:</td>
<td>First Name: Jerquitta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffixs:</td>
<td>Middle Name: H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Last Name: Hicks-Smallwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Affiliation:</td>
<td>Program Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Telephone Number:</td>
<td>* Fax Number:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(919) 527-6321</td>
<td>(919) 527-1265</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* g. TYPE OF APPLICANT:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A: State Government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>b. Additional Description:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* h. Name of Federal Agency:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* 8a. CFDA Numbers and Titles</th>
<th>CFDA Title:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93568</td>
<td>Low-Income Home Energy Assistance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**11. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project**

Low Income Energy Assistance Program - Heating, Crisis Assistance, Weatherization and Heating and Air Repair and Replacement

**12. Areas Affected by Funding:**

Statewide
13. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Applicant</th>
<th>b. Program/Project:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

14. FUNDING PERIOD:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Start Date:</th>
<th>b. End Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/01/2019</td>
<td>09/30/2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Federal ($)</th>
<th>b. Match ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. IS SUBMISSION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?

| a. This submission was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 |
| b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by State for review. |
| c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372. |

17. Is The Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt?

- [ ] YES
- [x] NO

Explanation:

18. By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

**I Agree

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

18a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

18b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

18c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)

18d. Email Address

18e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year)

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.
Section 1 - Program Components

Program Components, 2605(a), 2605(b)(1) - Assurance 1, 2605(c)(1)(C)

1.1 Check which components you will operate under the LIHEAP program.
(Note: You must provide information for each component designated here as requested elsewhere in this plan.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heating assistance</td>
<td>11/02/2020</td>
<td>03/31/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooling assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis assistance</td>
<td>10/01/2020</td>
<td>09/30/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weatherization assistance</td>
<td>10/01/2020</td>
<td>09/30/2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provide further explanation for the dates of operation, if necessary

An automated Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) payment will be issued in November 2020 to households using CARES Act funding. Automated payments will be based on heating source. Households will receive $300 for wood, $400 for gas and $500 for electric. Households must meet the follow criteria below to be eligible for the automated payment.

- Households with persons aged 60 or older or
- Households with disabled individuals receiving Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and
- Currently receiving FNS and
- Received 2019-2020 LIEAP year

A notice with prepopulated information from 2019-2020 LIEAP application will be sent to the household that meet the criteria listed above. The households will be instructed to update any changes and return to their local county department of social services. If changes are reported, the county agency will update the information in the NC FAST system to determine if the household is eligible for the 2020-2021 LIEAP payment. If no changes are reported, LIEAP year 2019-2020 information will be used to approve the application.

Estimated Funding Allocation, 2604(C), 2605(k)(1), 2605(b)(9), 2605(b)(16) - Assurances 9 and 16

1.2 Estimate what amount of available LIHEAP funds will be used for each component that you will operate: The total of all percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heating assistance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooling assistance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis assistance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weatherization assistance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 1.3 The funds reserved for winter crisis assistance that have not been expended by March 15 will be reprogrammed to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heating assistance</th>
<th>Cooling assistance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Crisis assistance**

Our crisis component is a year-round program that serves heating and cooling crisis needs. Funds not used for heating by March 15 will remain with the crisis component and can be used for cooling crisis needs. All funds not used by end of the state fiscal year are carried over into the next fiscal year in accordance with LIHEAP guidelines.

### Categorical Eligibility, 2605(b)(2)(A) - Assurance 2, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(8A) - Assurance 8

1.4 Do you consider households categorically eligible if one household member receives one of the following categories of benefits in the left column below?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Heating</th>
<th>Cooling</th>
<th>Crisis</th>
<th>Weatherization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TANF</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNAP</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Means-tested Veterans Programs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other(Specify) 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you answered "Yes" to question 1.4, you must complete the table below and answer questions 1.5 and 1.6.

### 1.5 Do you automatically enroll households without a direct annual application?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Heating</th>
<th>Cooling</th>
<th>Crisis</th>
<th>Weatherization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other(Specify) 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If Yes, explain:

### 1.6 How do you ensure there is no difference in the treatment of categorically eligible households from those not receiving other public assistance when determining eligibility and benefit amounts?

### SNAP Nominal Payments

1.7a Do you allocate LIHEAP funds toward a nominal payment for SNAP households?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you answered "Yes" to question 1.7a, you must provide a response to questions 1.7b, 1.7c, and 1.7d.

### 1.7b Amount of Nominal Assistance: $0.00

### 1.7c Frequency of Assistance

- Once Per Year
- Once every five years
- Other - Describe:

### 1.7d How do you confirm that the household receiving a nominal payment has an energy cost or need?

Require verification of heating vendor

### Determination of Eligibility - Countable Income

1.8. In determining a household’s income eligibility for LIHEAP, do you use gross income or net income?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gross Income</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.9. Select all the applicable forms of countable income used to determine a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP

- **Wages**
- **Self-Employment Income**
- **Contract Income**
- **Payments from mortgage or Sales Contracts**
- **Unemployment insurance**
- **Strike Pay**
- **Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits**
  - Including MediCare deduction
  - Excluding MediCare deduction
- **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**
- **Retirement/pension benefits**
- **General Assistance benefits**
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits**
- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits**
- **Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) benefits**
- **Loans that need to be repaid**
- **Cash gifts**
- **Savings account balance**
- **One-time lump-sum payments, such as rebates/credits, winnings from lotteries, refund deposits, etc.**
- **Jury duty compensation**
- **Rental income**
- **Income from employment through Workforce Investment Act (WIA)**
- **Income from work study programs**
- **Alimony**
- **Child support**
- **Interest, dividends, or royalties**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal settlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance payments made directly to the insured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance payments made specifically for the repayment of a bill, debt, or estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Administration (VA) benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned income of a child under the age of 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance of retirement, pension, or annuity accounts where funds cannot be withdrawn without a penalty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax refunds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stipends from senior companion programs, such as VISTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds received by household for the care of a foster child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ameri-Corp Program payments for living allowances, earnings, and in-kind aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reimbursements (for mileage, gas, lodging, meals, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 2 - Heating Assistance

Eligibility, 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

2.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the heating component:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Household size</th>
<th>Eligibility Guideline</th>
<th>Eligibility Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>All Household Sizes</td>
<td>HHS Poverty Guidelines</td>
<td>130.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for HEATING ASSISTANCE?  
☐ Yes ☐ No

2.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each:

- Do you require an Assets test?  
  ☐ Yes ☐ No

- Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:
  - Renters?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Renters Living in subsidized housing?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Renters with utilities included in the rent?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No

- Do you give priority in eligibility to:
  - Elderly?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Disabled?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Young children?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Households with high energy burdens?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Other?  
    ☐ Yes ☐ No

Explanations of policies for each “yes” checked above:

Household members meet the resource requirement if the total household members’ countable resources are $2,250 or less as of the date of the application. Accept the household’s statement unless questionable. A resource is considered questionable when there is reason to believe that the reported value is incorrect. When determining the value of a checking or savings account, subtract any outstanding withdrawals and any funds remaining that were counted as income in the LIHEAP application. Asset verification is entered into our automated case management system North Carolina Families Accessing Services thru Technology (NCFAST). Allow the client ten (10) business days to provide verification of stated resources. Verification of resources should be requested using the Form 8185. Ineligible aliens’ assets shall be countable toward the household’s total $2,250. If the Household’s resources exceed $2,250, deny the application. NC does not pay rent assistance. Only households containing an elderly person age 60 and above or a disabled person receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) are eligible to potentially receive benefits from December 1st through December 31st or until funds are exhausted. Disabled persons are defined as receiving SSI, SSA, or VA disability. Benefits amounts are determined using household size and fuel type.

Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

2.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of heating assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.

We target the most vulnerable population for the heating program - only households containing an elderly person age 60 and above or a disabled person receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) are eligible to potentially receive benefits from December 1st through December 31st or until funds are exhausted. Disabled persons are defined as receiving SSI, SSA, or VA disability. All other households are potentially eligible from January 1st through March 31st.

2.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):

☐ Income
☐ Family (household) size
The benefit amount is based upon household size, income, fuel type and the household’s situation at the time of application; except for resources.

Provide a one-time supplemental heating payment for all approved applications at the end of the program year based on funds available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2020:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Benefit</th>
<th>Maximum Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., blankets, space heaters) and/or other forms of benefits? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
### Section 3 - Cooling Assistance

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605 (b)(2) - Assurance 2

3.1 Designate The income eligibility threshold used for the Cooling component:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household size</th>
<th>Eligibility Guideline</th>
<th>Eligibility Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Add</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for COOLING ASSISTANCE?  
- Yes  
- No

3.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.

Do you require an Assets test?  
- Yes  
- No

Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:  
- Renters?  
  - Yes  
  - No
- Renters Living in subsidized housing?  
  - Yes  
  - No
- Renters with utilities included in the rent?  
  - Yes  
  - No

Do you give priority in eligibility to:  
- Elderly?  
  - Yes  
  - No
- Disabled?  
  - Yes  
  - No
- Young children?  
  - Yes  
  - No
- Households with high energy burdens?  
  - Yes  
  - No
- Other?  
  - Yes  
  - No

Explanations of policies for each “yes” checked above:

3.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of cooling assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.

Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

3.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):

- Income
- Family (household) size
- Home energy cost or need:
  - Fuel type
  - Climate/region
  - Individual bill
  - Dwelling type
  - Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)
  - Energy need
  - Other - Describe:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Benefit</th>
<th>$0</th>
<th>Maximum Benefit</th>
<th>$0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

3.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for FY 2020:

3.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., fans, air conditioners) and/or other forms of benefits?  *

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

If yes, describe.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 4 - CRISIS ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92,02/95,03/96,12/98,11/01
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-0075
Expiration Date: 09/30/2020

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)
MODEL PLAN
SF - 424 - MANDATORY

Section 4: CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Eligibility - 2604(c), 2605(c)(1)(A)

4.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the crisis component

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Household size</th>
<th>Eligibility Guideline</th>
<th>Eligibility Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>All Household Sizes</td>
<td>HHS Poverty Guidelines</td>
<td>150.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2 Provide your LIHEAP program’s definition for determining a crisis.

The Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) assists individuals and families who are experiencing a heating or cooling related crisis. A household is in a crisis if it is currently experiencing or is in danger of experiencing a life-threatening or health-related emergency due to lack of heating/cooling, and sufficient, timely, and appropriate assistance is not available from any other source.

4.3 What constitutes a life-threatening crisis?

A crisis is considered life-threatening if a household has no heating/cooling source or has a past due or final notice for their primary heating or cooling service and the health or well-being of a household member would be in danger if the heating and cooling crisis is not alleviated. Each household should be evaluated on a case by case basis to determine if there is a heating or cooling crisis and whether it is life threatening or non-life threatening.

Crisis Requirement, 2604(c)

4.4 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households? 18 – 48 Hours

4.5 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households in life-threatening situations? 18 Hours

Crisis Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A)

4.6 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for CRISIS ASSISTANCE? [ ] Yes [ ] No

4.7 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each

Do you require an Assets test? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Do you give priority in eligibility to:

- Elderly? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- Disabled? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- Young Children? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- Households with high energy burdens? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- Other? [ ] Yes [ ] No

In Order to receive crisis assistance:

- Must the household have received a shut-off notice or have a near empty tank? [ ] Yes [ ] No

- Must the household have been shut off or have an empty tank? [ ] Yes [ ] No
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Must the household have exhausted their regular heating benefit?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must renters with heating costs included in their rent have received an eviction notice?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must heating/cooling be medically necessary?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must the household have non-working heating or cooling equipment?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you have additional / differing eligibility policies for:

- Renters?                                                               | Yes | No |
- Renters living in subsidized housing?                                   | Yes | No |
- Renters with utilities included in the rent?                           | Yes | No |

Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:

The Applicant must have a past due or final notice or no heat/cooling source. NC does not pay rent assistance. A crisis is considered life threatening if there is no heating or cooling source and non-life threatening if they are in danger of losing the heating and cooling source and the health or well being of a household member would be in danger if the heating or cooling crisis was not alleviated.

Determination of Benefits

4.8 How do you handle crisis situations?

- **Separate component**
- **Fast Track**
- **Other** - Describe:

  1. Time Frame For Authorizing Assistance For Households With a Disconnect Notice. Authorize benefits to avoid disconnection; however, all applications must be processed within 48 hours (2 business days) of application. This includes households with a future disconnect date. This does not mean issuance of benefits, but you must authorize eligibility to alleviate the crisis. These deadlines apply even if another agency is taking the application. 2. Time Frame For Authorizing Assistance For Households Without A Heating or Cooling Source. Authorize benefits within 18 hours of application. This does not mean issuance of benefits, but you must authorize eligibility to alleviate the crisis. These deadlines apply even if another agency is taking the application. Once eligibility is determined, a pledge is made on the household's utility account with the vendor.

4.9 If you have a separate component, how do you determine crisis assistance benefits?

- **Amount to resolve the crisis.**
- **Other** - Describe:

Crisis Requirements, 2604(c)

4.10 Do you accept applications for energy crisis assistance at sites that are geographically accessible to all households in the area to be served?

- Yes
- No

Many counties have multiple offices within their counties.

4.11 Do you provide individuals who are physically disabled the means to:

- Submit applications for crisis benefits without leaving their homes?
- Travel to the sites at which applications for crisis assistance are accepted?

- Yes
- No

If you answered "No" to both options in question 4.11, please explain alternative means of intake to those who are homebound or physically disabled?

Applicants will be able to apply for the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) and Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) online using our ePASS system effective January 1, 2021. NC allows telephone interviews.

North Carolina has been granted the flexibility by Administration of Children and Families (ACF) to allow telephonic signatures for Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) and Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) applications. Telephonic signatures are a verbal attestation accepted by the caseworker from the applicant to verify the correctness of the information listed on the application. Telephonic signatures will be documented in the notes section of the CIP or LIEAP application in the NC FAST system. North Carolina's LIHEAP policy manual will be updated to reflect telephonic signature flexibility.
4.12 Indicate the maximum benefit for each type of crisis assistance offered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Crisis</th>
<th>Maximum Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter Crisis</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Crisis</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year-round Crisis</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.13 Do you provide in-kind (e.g. blankets, space heaters, fans) and/or other forms of benefits?

- Yes
- No

If yes, Describe

In-kind services such as blankets, space heaters, and warm clothing.

4.14 Do you provide for equipment repair or replacement using crisis funds?

- Yes
- No

If you answered "Yes" to question 4.14, you must complete question 4.15.

4.15 Check appropriate boxes below to indicate type(s) of assistance provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance Provided</th>
<th>Winter Crisis</th>
<th>Summer Crisis</th>
<th>Year-round Crisis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heating system repair</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating system replacement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooling system repair</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooling system replacement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood stove purchase</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pellet stove purchase</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar panel(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility poles / gas line hook-ups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Specify):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.16 Do any of the utility vendors you work with enforce a moratorium on shut offs?

- Yes
- No

If you responded "Yes" to question 4.16, you must respond to question 4.17.

4.17 Describe the terms of the moratorium and any special dispensation received by LIHEAP clients during or after the moratorium period.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 5: WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

5.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the Weatherization component

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Eligibility Guideline</th>
<th>Eligibility Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>All Household Sizes</td>
<td>HHS Poverty Guidelines</td>
<td>200.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2 Do you enter into an interagency agreement to have another government agency administer a WEATHERIZATION component?  
- Yes
- No

5.3 If yes, name the agency.  
- NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

5.4 Is there a separate monitoring protocol for weatherization?  
- Yes
- No

WEATHERIZATION - Types of Rules

5.5 Under what rules do you administer LIHEAP weatherization? (Check only one.)

- Entirely under LIHEAP (not DOE) rules
- Entirely under DOE WAP (not LIHEAP) rules
- Mostly under LIHEAP rules with the following DOE WAP rule(s) where LIHEAP and WAP rules differ (Check all that apply):
  - Income Threshold
  - Weatherization of entire multi-family housing structure is permitted if at least 66% of units (50% in 2- & 4-unit buildings) are eligible units or will become eligible within 180 days
  - Weatherize shelters temporarily housing primarily low income persons (excluding nursing homes, prisons, and similar institutional care facilities).
  - Other - Describe: LIHEAP and DOE income is now the same.

Eligibility, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5

5.6 Do you require an assets test?  
- Yes
- No

5.7 Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:

- Renters
  - Yes
  - No
- Renters living in subsidized housing?  
  - Yes
  - No

5.8 Do you give priority in eligibility to:

- Elderly?  
  - Yes
  - No
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disabled?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young Children?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House holds with high energy burdens?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you selected "Yes" for any of the options in questions 5.6, 5.7, or 5.8, you must provide further explanation of these policies in the text field below.

5.7: Written permission is received from landlords to complete work on rented units.

**Benefit Levels**

5.9 Do you have a maximum LIHEAP weatherization benefit/expenditure per household? Yes No

5.10 If yes, what is the maximum? $7,400

**Types of Assistance, 2605(c)(1), (B) & (D)**

5.11 What LIHEAP weatherization measures do you provide? (Check all categories that apply.)

- [ ] Weatherization needs assessments/audits
- [ ] Energy related roof repair
- [ ] Caulking and insulation
- [ ] Major appliance Repairs
- [ ] Storm windows
- [ ] Major appliance replacement
- [ ] Furnace/heating system modifications/ repairs
- [ ] Windows/sliding glass doors
- [ ] Furnace replacement
- [ ] Doors
- [ ] Cooling system modifications/ repairs
- [ ] Water Heater
- [ ] Water conservation measures
- [ ] Cooling system replacement
- [ ] Compact fluorescent light bulbs
- [ ] Other - Describe: attic floor installation, duct sealing, community solar, general heat waste reduction LED bulbs and Spray foam.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
## Section 6: Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)

### 6.1 Select all outreach activities that you conduct that are designed to assure that eligible households are made aware of all LIHEAP assistance available:

- [x] Place posters/flyers in local and county social service offices, offices of aging, Social Security offices, VA, etc.
- [x] Publish articles in local newspapers or broadcast media announcements.
- [ ] Include inserts in energy vendor billings to inform individuals of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance.
- [ ] Mass mailing(s) to prior-year LIHEAP recipients.
- [x] Inform low income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.
- [x] Execute interagency agreements with other low-income program offices to perform outreach to target groups.

#### Other (specify):

- The NC Division of Social Services partners with the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) to provide outreach to aging and disabled adults regarding our heating assistance component.
- Energy Programs Focus Group was started to look at root causes of issues regarding energy.
- NC has the capability to send text messages to previous Heating applicants that choose to participate in text options with Energy program updates.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
7.1 Describe how you will ensure that the LIHEAP program is coordinated with other programs available to low-income households (TANF, SSI, WAP, etc.).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Joint application for multiple programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intake referrals to/from other programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>One - stop intake centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>Other - Describe:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Varies by implementing agencies, case workers are provided eligibility criteria of all programs. Following an assessment, clients will be referred as needed.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 8: Agency Designation, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6 (Required for state grantees and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico)

8.1 How would you categorize the primary responsibility of your State agency?

- Administration Agency
- Commerce Agency
- Community Services Agency
- Energy / Environment Agency
- Housing Agency
- Welfare Agency
- Other - Describe:

Alternate Outreach and Intake, 2605(b)(15) - Assurance 15

If you selected "Welfare Agency" in question 8.1, you must complete questions 8.2, 8.3, and 8.4, as applicable.

8.2 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for HEATING ASSISTANCE?

North Carolina is county administered and state supervised. The portion of the program that includes Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) & Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) are administered by the local departments of social services. The Weatherization portion of the program is administered by Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Each county has a unique setup depending on the needs of the county. Some counties have regional centers in their county while others contract with community action agencies to take the heating assistance (LIEAP) applications.

Forms are mailed to applicants as requested.

300.05 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR WAIVING THE OFFICE INTERVIEW

1. The household lives in a rural location and does not have transportation; or
2. The household member is unable to come to the agency for reasons such as, but not limited to
disability or incapacitated, illness, caring for a household member, prolonged severe weather, employment hours or training schedule which conflicts with the agency hours.

1. Complete the application interview.

2. Allow applicant ten (10) business days to return the application and required verifications. Record the pending date on the DSS-8185. This is the only request sent to the applicant.

3. Mail application form (DSS-8178) and DSS-8185 to the applicant.

NOTE: Applications are not considered complete unless all questions have been answered and documented and has been signed. Do not key an unsigned application into the data entry system. Applications mailed after the conclusion of a telephone interview must be signed by the applicant or authorized representative. Applications not returned or returned not signed are not complete applications. Notify the applicant, verbally or in writing, that his application is incomplete and will not be processed. Document your verbal contact or file a copy of the letter in the case record. Agencies may complete interviews by telephone for all households upon request for both CIP and LIEAP.

North Carolina has been granted the flexibility by Administration of Children and Families (ACF) to allow telephonic signatures for Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) and Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) applications. Telephonic signatures are a verbal attestation accepted by the caseworker from the applicant to verify the correctness of the information listed on the application. Telephonic signatures will be documented in the notes section of the CIP or LIEAP application in the NC FAST system. North Carolina’s LIHEAP policy manual will be updated to reflect telephonic signature flexibility.

8.3 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for COOLING ASSISTANCE?

n/a

8.4 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for CRISIS ASSISTANCE?

North Carolina is county administered and state supervised. The portion of the program that includes Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) & Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) are administered by the local departments of social services. The Weatherization portion of the program is administered by Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Each county has a unique setup depending on the needs of the county. There are some regional offices outside of the main local department of social services.

400.03 APPLICATION REQUIREMENT/ Acceptance of Application

1. The applicant or the authorized representative must apply for CIP in the county in which the household resides and the applicant must be a resident of North Carolina. If an applicant comes in to apply and states they are moving to another county but is required to have the utilities connected before they are able to physically move, the current county should verify the new address via a lease or statement from the landlord and take and process the applicant’s application.

2. When you receive a request for assistance by mail or telephone and a crisis is indicated, follow up within one workday to schedule an interview. If the request is made by an individual who would have difficulty coming to a local county agency or outpost office, obtain the information for the application by telephone. Situations in which an applicant or household member is unable to come into the agency are defined as, but not limited to: a. The household lives in a rural location and does not have transportation; or

a. The household lives in a rural location and does not have transportation; or

b. The applicant or household member is disabled or incapacitated, has an illness, caring for a household member, prolonged severe weather, or employment hours or training schedule which conflicts with the agency hours.

If a life-threatening situation exists, a home visit to obtain the required information may be necessary if the information cannot be obtained by some other means.

Application Procedure for Telephone Interviews

a. Complete the application interview over the telephone.

b. Mail the DSS-8178, Energy Programs Application to the applicant. Do not key an application in NC FAST until the signed DSS-8178 is returned. The county is responsible for keeping a record of applications being mailed.

• Applications mailed after the conclusion of a telephone interview must be returned and signed by the applicant or authorized representative.

• Applications not returned or returned not signed are incomplete.
• If an incomplete application is received, notify the applicant, verbally or in writing, that the application is incomplete and will not be processed.

• Document all verbal contact or file a copy of the letter in the case record.

• Do not key an unsigned application in NC FAST

c. The date of application is the date the signed application is received in the agency.

d. Authorize benefits within 18 to 48 hours of receiving a signed application

8.5 LIHEAP Component Administration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Heating</th>
<th>Cooling</th>
<th>Crisis</th>
<th>Weatherization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.5a Who determines client eligibility?</td>
<td>Local County Government</td>
<td>Non-Applicable</td>
<td>Local County Government</td>
<td>Community Action Agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5b Who processes benefit payments to gas and electric vendors?</td>
<td>Local County Government</td>
<td>Non-Applicable</td>
<td>Local County Government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5c Who processes benefit payments to bulk fuel vendors?</td>
<td>Local County Government</td>
<td>Non-Applicable</td>
<td>Local County Government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5d Who performs installation of weatherization measures?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Action Agencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If any of your LIHEAP components are not centrally-administered by a state agency, you must complete questions 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, and, if applicable, 8.9.

8.6 What is your process for selecting local administering agencies?

NC WAP ensures that all areas of the State have a Subgrantee assigned to provide weatherization services to the eligible population. The majority of Subgrantees provide services in multiple counties that generally conform to the traditional service areas of the selected community action agency or other nonprofit or public organization designated to provide services. Currently, there are 20 sub-grantees for Weatherization. Of those 20, two are county gov’t, one is a COG and one is non-profit. The remaining 16 are community action groups. Weatherization services will continue to be provided in each area by existing Subgrantees from year to year based on the successful performance of the Subgrantee on the previous year's contract. The public is provided an opportunity to comment on the performance of an existing Subgrantee's service level during the public comment period held prior to the annual public hearing and during the public hearing. A list of proposed Subgrantees along with the areas that they will serve, projected funding amounts and units to be completed is a part of the annual State Plan. Pursuant to 10 CFR 440.14(c)(6)(ii) a funding allocation formula has been devised to distribute funds throughout the state. Fifty-one percent of the annual allocation of funds made available to North Carolina for weatherization services by the US Department of Energy are allocated to Subgrantees based on the number of low-income persons in their service area compared to the total number of low-income families in all areas served in the State. The number of low-income persons in the service area is based on the most recently completed Census count. The remaining amount is allocated to Subgrantees based on the number of units produced by the Subgrantee in the previous year. This number will be reset when the number of people in poverty is revised during the Census. The grantee reserves the right to re-allocate unused or underused funds from an underperforming Subgrantee to another subcontractor currently under contract.

8.7 How many local administering agencies do you use? 20

8.8 Have you changed any local administering agencies in the last year?

☐ Yes
☐ No

8.9 If so, why?

☐ Agency was in noncompliance with grantee requirements for LIHEAP -

☐ Agency is under criminal investigation

☐ Added agency

☐ Agency closed

☐ Other - describe

Salisbury Rowan Community Action ended Weatherization work in 2017 due to staffing issues; funds were not mismanaged.
was no fraud involved. After Salisbury-Rowan Community Action ended LIHEAP and DOE Weatherization work in 2017, another agency served Rowan County for the rest of the fiscal year. DOE and Weatherization services continued with other agencies servicing the territory through 6/30/18. This reduced services until the area was bidded out and Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc (YVEDDI) won the bid and began servicing the territory on 7/1/18. YVEDDI is now the LIHEAP subgrantee for Rowan County. YVEDDI is located at 533 N. Carolina Ave. Hwy 601 N./Po Box 309, Boonville, NC 27011. Salisbury Rowan was defunded in January 2017 with no further funding from Weatherization and a closeout of all program materials and equipment.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 9: Energy Suppliers, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7

9.1 Do you make payments directly to home energy suppliers?

Heating  ☑ Yes  ☐ No

Cooling  ☐ Yes  ☑ No

Crisis  ☑ Yes  ☐ No

Are there exceptions?  ☑ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, Describe.

All vendors who agree to accept LIHEAP and CIP as payment of energy service must enter into an agreement with the county department of social services to accept it as payment in order to continue or provide heating or cooling service to the recipient household. This agreement meets all assurances requirements of Section 2605(7).

9.2 How do you notify the client of the amount of assistance paid?

The State requires that the applicant for CIP and for LIHEAP be notified of the application and the amount of payment paid on his behalf to the vendor if approved. This is done via an automated form DSS-8107 for approvals and denials. If the application is approved or denied during the actual interview the Notification of Assistance is given to the client at that time. If the application is not approved or denied at the interview the notice is mailed to the client at the time of the disposition of the application.

9.3 How do you assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment?

Once eligibility has been determined, an applicant is provided a system-generated Approval/Denial Notice (DSS-8107). If eligibility is approved, payment is submitted to the utility provider for the household. See attached Vendor Agreement

9.4 How do you assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of their receipt of LIHEAP assistance?

North Carolina uses the Energy Provider Agreement (DSS-8163) to ensure vendors do not treat recipients adversely. This contract ensures funds paid on behalf of the recipient are properly applied to the recipients’ account to alleviate a heating or cooling emergency. The Energy Provider Agreement meets all assurances in Section 2605(7).

9.5 Do you make payments contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households?

☑ Yes  ☐ No

If so, describe the measures unregulated vendors may take.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 10: Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10)

10.1. How do you ensure good fiscal accounting and tracking of LIHEAP funds?

North Carolina's Division of Social Services operates under a county administered and state supervised system. The county DSS determine eligibility for client participation in the heating and crisis components of LIHEAP. Both state and county administrative costs of direct case work are charged directly to the appropriate program and supervisory, and overhead costs are allocated in accordance with the cost allocation plan approved by the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Cost Allocation. NC DHHS fiscal/budget Division tracks in-house and sub grantee and administrative costs. Indirect costs are handled through cognizant agencies prior to the final indirect cost rate being developed. Expenditures on all components of the LIHEAP are recorded in the NC Div. of Social Services' accounting records by Fund, Cost Center and line item. Documentation for county expenditures (administrative costs, crisis and heating assistance) are maintained by the county finance officers. Documentation of State office expenditures are maintained by the NC Div. of Social Services accounting office. Applications for the crisis and heating component are taken by Dept. of Social Services personnel and additional State and local governmental entities or community-based organizations. The applications are processed by the county and are retained by the county. Local state monitoring is conducted to track the LIHEAP funds used and the number of households that received assistance with LIHEAP funds.

Audit Process

10.2. Is your LIHEAP program audited annually under the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A - 133?

- Yes  
- No

10.3. Describe any audit findings rising to the level of material weakness or reportable condition cited in the A-133 audits, Grantee monitoring assessments, inspector general reviews, or other government agency reviews of the LIHEAP agency from the most recently audited fiscal year.

No Findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Finding</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Brief Summary</th>
<th>Resolved?</th>
<th>Action Taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>reporting</td>
<td>Inaccurate Household Information Reported.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>procedure/policy changes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10.4. Audits of Local Administering Agencies

What types of annual audit requirements do you have in place for local administering agencies/district offices? Select all that apply.

- Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit in compliance with Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133
- Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit (other than A-133)
- Local agencies/district offices' A-133 or other independent audits are reviewed by Grantee as part of compliance process.
- Grantee conducts fiscal and program monitoring of local agencies/district offices

Compliance Monitoring

10.5. Describe the Grantee's strategies for monitoring compliance with the Grantee's and Federal LIHEAP policies and procedures: Select all that apply

Grantee employees:

- Internal program review
- Departmental oversight
Secondary review of invoices and payments

Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:

Local Administering Agencies / District Offices:

- On-site evaluation
- Annual program review
- Monitoring through central database
- Desk reviews
- Client File Testing / Sampling

Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:

10.6 Explain, or attach a copy of your local agency monitoring schedule and protocol.

LIHEAP follows the same monitoring schedule as the SNAP program:
- Small counties: every 3 years
- Medium counties: every 2 years
- Large counties: every year

10.7 Describe how you select local agencies for monitoring reviews.

**Site Visits:**

LIHEAP follows the same monitoring schedule as the SNAP program:
- Small counties: every 3 years
- Medium counties: every 2 years
- Large counties: every year

**Desk Reviews:**

Desk reviews are conducted through monitoring of the Statewide Energy database and our automated system North Carolina Families Accessing Services thru Technology (NCFAST) which was implemented for all 100 counties July 1, 2017.

10.8 How often is each local agency monitored?

Annually

10.9 What is the combined error rate for eligibility determinations? OPTIONAL

10.10 What is the combined error rate for benefit determinations? OPTIONAL

10.11 How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans for eligibility and/or benefit determination issues? 16

10.12 How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans for financial accounting or administrative issues? 0

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 11: Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, 2605(b)(12), 2605(C)(2)

11.1 How did you obtain input from the public in the development of your LIHEAP plan? Select all that apply.

- [ ] Tribal Council meeting(s)
- [x] Public Hearing(s)
- [x] Draft Plan posted to website and available for comment
- [x] Hard copy of plan is available for public view and comment
- [x] Comments from applicants are recorded
- [x] Request for comments on draft Plan is advertised
- [ ] Stakeholder consultation meeting(s)
- [ ] Comments are solicited during outreach activities
- [ ] Other - Describe:

LIHEAP Block Grant proposed plan was available for viewing at the state office, in all 100 implementing agencies/local DSS and partner agencies for public display and comment. The plan was also posted on the DHHS website under public notices.

11.2 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of this participation?

DHHS will consider using social media messages to go out via our twitter account to invite the public to our public hearings.

Establishment of a Focus Group to figure out ways to reach those who are the hardest to reach within the state.

11.3 List the date and location(s) that you held public hearing(s) on the proposed use and distribution of your LIHEAP funds?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>08/12/2019</td>
<td>Public Hearing - NC DHHS/Div. of Social Services office, Dorothea Dix Campus, 820 S. Boylan Ave., McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>03/19/2019</td>
<td>Public Hearing for Weatherization program - Weatherization Office, 217 W. Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27603</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11.4 How many parties commented on your plan at the hearing(s)? 10

11.5 Summarize the comments you received at the hearing(s).

There were no public comments received at the state offices during the hearing however, our local department of social services sent in 6 comments received in their offices.

The following are a summary of comments received:

- Program should include a cooling component
- More options when it comes to weatherization of homes
Increase funding of program each year
Use the funds to pay down loans or other entities for resident's bills
Extend coverage of program to patients of OIC Pharmacy that have life threatening ailments
Other comments included thanking the program for all it does

11.6 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of the comments received at the public hearing(s)?

None at this time but, the cooling component suggestion will be taken into consideration at a later time.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 12: Fair Hearings, 2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13

12.1 How many fair hearings did the grantee have in the prior Federal fiscal year? 6

12.2 How many of those fair hearings resulted in the initial decision being reversed? 0

12.3 Describe any policy and/or procedural changes made in the last Federal fiscal year as a result of fair hearings?

None

12.4 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are denied.

Households that apply for crisis or heating assistance are explained their rights at the time of application. NC issues notices for both approved and denied cases for CIP and LIEAP. The notice includes fair hearing and rights. The household has the right to an appeal when: a. It is denied the right to apply for benefits; or b. Benefits are denied; or c. A decision is not made on the application in a timely manner; or d. The payment is less than the household believes it should be. Households have 60 calendar days from the date on the approval/denial notice to request a hearing. The hearing can be requested orally or in writing. The household has a right to request a State hearing only after a local appeal hearing has been held, and the decision has been rendered. The household must request a State appeal within five calendar days from the date of the local hearing decision. The State hearing officer will have 15 calendar days to render a decision. If the household is not satisfied with the final decision following the State hearing, it may, within 30 calendar days of receipt of the decision, file a petition for a judicial review in superior court.

12.5 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

Households that apply for crisis or heating assistance are explained their rights at the time of application. The fair hearing rights are also included on both the approval and denial notices that are provided to the client on the day of application.

12.6 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are not acted on in a timely manner.

Households that apply for crisis or heating assistance are explained their rights at the time of application. The fair hearing rights are also included on both the approval and denial notices that are provided to the client on the day of application.

12.7 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

Households that apply for crisis or heating assistance are explained their rights at the time of application. The fair hearing rights are also included on both the approval and denial notices that are provided to the client on the day of application.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 13: Reduction of home energy needs, 2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16

13.1 Describe how you use LIHEAP funds to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and thereby the need for energy assistance?

n/a

13.2 How do you ensure that you don't use more than 5% of your LIHEAP funds for these activities?

n/a

13.3 Describe the impact of such activities on the number of households served in the previous Federal fiscal year.

n/a

13.4 Describe the level of direct benefits provided to those households in the previous Federal fiscal year.

n/a

13.5 How many households applied for these services? 0

13.6 How many households received these services? 0

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
**Section 14: Leveraging Incentive Program, 2607(A)**

1. Do you plan to submit an application for the leveraging incentive program?  
- Yes  
- No

2. Describe instructions to any third parties and/or local agencies for submitting LIHEAP leveraging resource information and retaining records.

   The State, non-profit agencies, and local county department of social services receive in-kind contributions and money from fuel funds, city and county governments, private citizens and corporations. Non-profit agencies and county Dept. of Social Services sign guarantees of deposits for utilities. A utility company has a rate reduction program for SSI recipients. The funds received, deposit guarantees and rate reduction programs assist persons with energy expenses who meet the federal LIHEAP eligibility guidelines. All programs, except the rate reduction program, are considered prior to, or in conjunction with, the use of LIHEAP crisis funds. Many of the agencies disbursing the funds administer the above programs and the Crisis Program under LIHEAP. Other agencies coordinate with the agencies that administer the Crisis Program under LIHEAP before disbursing funds. There is no duplication of benefits.

3. For each type of resource and/or benefit to be leveraged in the upcoming year that will meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 96.87(d)(2)(iii), describe the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>What is the type of resource or benefit?</th>
<th>What is the source(s) of the resource?</th>
<th>How will the resource be integrated and coordinated with LIHEAP?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Heating/Cooling Assistance</td>
<td>Progress Energy's Energy Neighbor program. Funds are 100% from monies contributed by Progress Energy customers and employees and from corporate donations.</td>
<td>These benefits are considered prior to, or in conjunction with, the use of LIHEAP crisis funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Heating/Cooling Assistance</td>
<td>Wake Electric Co. Round-up. Funds are 100% from monies contributed by Wake Electric Membership Corporation (WEMC) customers and employees.</td>
<td>These benefits are considered prior to, or in conjunction with, the use of LIHEAP crisis funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heating/Cooling Assistance</td>
<td>Haywood Electric Co. Helping Each Member Cope. Funded 100% from monies contributed by Haywood Electric Membership Corporation customers and employees.</td>
<td>These benefits are considered prior to, or in conjunction with, the use of LIHEAP crisis funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Heating Assistance</td>
<td>Piedmont Natural Gas Companies Share the Warmth. funded 100% from monies contributed by Piedmont Natural Gas (PNG) customers and employees, as well as corporate donations</td>
<td>These benefits are considered prior to, or in conjunction with, the use of LIHEAP crisis funds.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
## Section 15: Training

15.1 Describe the training you provide for each of the following groups:

### a. Grantee Staff:

- **Formal training on grantee policies and procedures**
  - How often?
    - ☑️ Annually
    - ☑️ Biannually
    - ☑️ As needed
    - □ Other - Describe: Employees are provided with policy manual
    - □ Other - Describe:

### b. Local Agencies:

- **Formal training conference**
  - How often?
    - ☑️ Annually
    - ☑️ Biannually
    - ☑️ As needed
    - □ Other - Describe: On-site training
    - □ Other - Describe:

### c. Vendors

- □ Formal training conference
  - How often?
    - □ Annually
    - □ Biannually
    - □ As needed
    - □ Other - Describe: Employees are provided with policy manual
    - □ Other - Describe:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Other - Describe:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Policies communicated through vendor agreements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Policies are outlined in a vendor manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other - Describe:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15.2 Does your training program address fraud reporting and prevention?
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 16: Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b) - Required for States Only

16.1 Describe your progress toward meeting the data collection and reporting requirements of the four required LIHEAP performance measures. Include timeframes and plans for meeting these requirements and what you believe will be accomplished in the coming federal fiscal year.

NC Energy Programs Application is currently on target to capture the data needed for the required performance measures data. Continuous work has been done to ensure improvements are being made in this area.

- Vendor Agreement are reviewed to ensure areas have been updated to strengthen the partnership between the local department of social service and the vendors.
- Top Vendors in each category have been identified for reporting purposes.

NC will collect main heating fuel information from all households assisted in FY 2020 by gathering this information as part of the application process and NC will pull the information for reporting from the NC FAST system. Subgrantees are required to collect information regarding the main heating source at application. The NC FAST system requires that this information is entered.

To obtain expenditure data for all LIHEAP bill payment assistance households, NC identify the top providers and send them a list of all clients ask for the vendors to return the last 12 months of bill data. NC has had this protocol in place for several years.

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Section 17: Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)

17.1 Fraud Reporting Mechanisms

a. Describe all mechanisms available to the public for reporting cases of suspected waste, fraud, and abuse. Select all that apply.

- [ ] Online Fraud Reporting
- [ ] Dedicated Fraud Reporting Hotline
- [ ] Report directly to local agency/district office or Grantee office
- [ ] Report to State Inspector General or Attorney General
- [ ] Forms and procedures in place for local agencies/district offices and vendors to report fraud, waste, and abuse
- [ ] Other - Describe:

b. Describe strategies in place for advertising the above-referenced resources. Select all that apply

- [ ] Printed outreach materials
- [ ] Addressed on LIHEAP application
- [ ] Website
- [ ] Other - Describe:

17.2 Identification Documentation Requirements

a. Indicate which of the following forms of identification are required or requested to be collected from LIHEAP applicants or their household members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Identification Collected</th>
<th>Applicant Only</th>
<th>All Adults in Household</th>
<th>All Household Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Card is</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>photocopied and retained</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Requested</td>
<td>Requested</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Number (Without</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>actual Card)</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Requested</td>
<td>Requested</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government-issued identification</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>card (i.e.: driver’s license,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state ID, Tribal ID, passport,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>etc.)</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Requested</td>
<td>Requested</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 34 of 52
b. Describe any exceptions to the above policies.

17.3 Identification Verification

Describe what methods are used to verify the authenticity of identification documents provided by clients or household members. Select all that apply.

- Verify SSNs with Social Security Administration
- Match SSNs with death records from Social Security Administration or state agency
- Match SSNs with state eligibility/case management system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)
- Match with state Department of Labor system
- Match with state and/or federal corrections system
- Match with state child support system
- Verification using private software (e.g., The Work Number)
- In-person certification by staff (for tribal grantees only)
- Match SSN/Tribal ID number with tribal database or enrollment records (for tribal grantees only)
- Other - Describe:

17.4 Citizenship/Legal Residency Verification

What are your procedures for ensuring that household members are U.S. citizens or aliens who are qualified to receive LIHEAP benefits? Select all that apply.

- Clients sign an attestation of citizenship or legal residency
- Client's submission of Social Security cards is accepted as proof of legal residency
- Noncitizens must provide documentation of immigration status
- Citizens must provide a copy of their birth certificate, naturalization papers, or passport
- Noncitizens are verified through the SAVE system
- Tribal members are verified through Tribal enrollment records/Tribal ID card
- Other - Describe:
  
  U. S. citizenship - client's statement is accepted unless questionable.

17.5. Income Verification

What methods does your agency utilize to verify household income? Select all that apply.

- Require documentation of income for all adult household members
  - Pay stubs
  - Social Security award letters
  - Bank statements
  - Tax statements
  - Zero-income statements
  - Unemployment Insurance letters
  - Other - Describe:
    - Computer data matches:
      - Income information matched against state computer system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)
Proof of unemployment benefits verified with state Department of Labor

Social Security income verified with SSA

Utilize state directory of new hires

Other - Describe:

17.6. Protection of Privacy and Confidentiality

Describe the financial and operating controls in place to protect client information against improper use or disclosure. Select all that apply.

- Policy in place prohibiting release of information without written consent
- Grantee LIHEAP database includes privacy/confidentiality safeguards
- Employee training on confidentiality for:
  - Grantee employees
  - Local agencies/district offices
- Employees must sign confidentiality agreement
  - Grantee employees
  - Local agencies/district offices
- Physical files are stored in a secure location

Other - Describe:

17.7. Verifying the Authenticity

What policies are in place for verifying vendor authenticity? Select all that apply.

- All vendors must register with the State/Tribe.
- All vendors must supply a valid SSN or TIN/W-9 form
- Vendors are verified through energy bills provided by the household
- Grantee and/or local agencies/district offices perform physical monitoring of vendors

Other - Describe and note any exceptions to policies above:

17.8. Benefits Policy - Gas and Electric Utilities

What policies are in place to protect against fraud when making benefit payments to gas and electric utilities on behalf of clients? Select all that apply.

- Applicants required to submit proof of physical residency
- Applicants must submit current utility bill
- Data exchange with utilities that verifies:
  - Account ownership
  - Consumption
  - Balances
  - Payment history
- Account is properly credited with benefit

Other - Describe:

- Centralized computer system/database tracks payments to all utilities
- Centralized computer system automatically generates benefit level
- Separation of duties between intake and payment approval
- Payments coordinated among other energy assistance programs to avoid duplication of payments
- Payments to utilities and invoices from utilities are reviewed for accuracy
- Computer databases are periodically reviewed to verify accuracy and timeliness of payments made to utilities
- Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
Procedures are in place to require prompt refunds from utilities in cases of account closure

Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism

Other - Describe:

### 17.9. Benefits Policy - Bulk Fuel Vendors

What procedures are in place for averting fraud and improper payments when dealing with bulk fuel suppliers of heating oil, propane, wood, and other bulk fuel vendors? Select all that apply.

- [x] Vendors are checked against an approved vendors list
- [ ] Centralized computer system/database is used to track payments to all vendors
- [x] Clients are relied on for reports of non-delivery or partial delivery
- [x] Two-party checks are issued naming client and vendor
- [ ] Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
- [ ] Vendors are only paid once they provide a delivery receipt signed by the client
- [ ] Conduct monitoring of bulk fuel vendors
- [x] Bulk fuel vendors are required to submit reports to the Grantee
- [ ] Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
- [ ] Other - Describe:

### 17.10. Investigations and Prosecutions

Describe the Grantee's procedures for investigating and prosecuting reports of fraud, and any sanctions placed on clients/staff/vendors found to have committed fraud. Select all that apply.

- [ ] Refer to state Inspector General
- [ ] Refer to local prosecutor or state Attorney General
- [ ] Refer to US DHHS Inspector General (including referral to OIG hotline)
- [x] Local agencies/district offices or Grantee conduct investigation of fraud complaints from public
- [ ] Grantee attempts collection of improper payments. If so, describe the recoupment process
- [ ] Clients found to have committed fraud are banned from LIHEAP assistance. For how long is a household banned?
- [ ] Contracts with local agencies require that employees found to have committed fraud are reprimanded and/or terminated
- [x] Vendors found to have committed fraud may no longer participate in LIHEAP
- [ ] Other - Describe:

If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.
Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.

3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

4. The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

5. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

6. The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

7. The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction,"
provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

(2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an
Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion—Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, if the proposed covered transaction is entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction,” without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require
establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility an Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

☑ By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.
This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988: 45 CFR Part 76, Subpart, F. Sections 76.630(c) and (d)(2) and 76.645(a)(1) and (b) provide that a Federal agency may designate a central receipt point for STATE-WIDE AND STATE AGENCY-WIDE certifications, and for notification of criminal drug convictions. For the Department of Health and Human Services, the central pint is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Instructions for Certification)

1. By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the agency, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.

3. For grantees other than individuals, Alternate I applies.

4. For grantees who are individuals, Alternate II applies.

5. Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.

6. Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio studios).

7. If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of
the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph five).

8. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

**Controlled substance** means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

**Conviction** means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

**Criminal drug statute** means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

**Employee** means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including: (i) All direct charge employees; (ii) All indirect charge employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and, (iii) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Alternate I. (Grantees Other Than Individuals)
The grantee certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
(b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about --
   (1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
   (2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
   (3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance
programs; and
(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations
occurring in the workplace;

c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of
the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);
(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a
condition of employment under the grant, the employee will --
(1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
(2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a
criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days
after such conviction;
(e) Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice
under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of
such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including
position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the
convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a
central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification
number(s) of each affected grant;
(f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice
under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted - (1)
Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including
termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as
amended; or
(2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance
or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local
health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through
implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

(B) The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the
performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)

820 S. Boylan Ave
* Address Line 1

2420 Mail Service Center
Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Raleigh* City NC* State 27699-2420* Zip Code

Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

Alternate II. (Grantees Who Are Individuals)

(a) The grantee certifies that, as a condition of the grant, he or she will not engage
in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a
controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant;
(b) If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, he or she will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to every grant officer or other designee, unless the Federal agency designates a central point for the receipt of such notices. When notice is made to such a central point, it shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

[55 FR 21690, 21702, May 25, 1990]

☑ By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.
The submitter of this application certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or
entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

☑️ By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.
(1) use the funds available under this title to--

(A) conduct outreach activities and provide assistance to low income households in meeting their home energy costs, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, consistent with paragraph (5);

(B) intervene in energy crisis situations;

(C) provide low-cost residential weatherization and other cost-effective energy-related home repair; and

(D) plan, develop, and administer the State's program under this title including leveraging programs, and the State agrees not to use such funds for any purposes other than those specified in this title;

(2) make payments under this title only with respect to--

(A) households in which one or more individuals are receiving--

(i) assistance under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act;

(ii) supplemental security income payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act;

(iii) food stamps under the Food Stamp Act of 1977; or

(iv) payments under section 415, 521, 541, or 542 of title 38, United States Code, or under section 306 of the Veterans' and Survivors' Pension Improvement Act of 1978; or

(B) households with incomes which do not exceed the greater of--

(i) an amount equal to 150 percent of the poverty level for such State; or

(ii) an amount equal to 60 percent of the State median income;

(except that a State may not exclude a household from eligibility in a fiscal year solely on the basis of household income if such income is less than 110 percent of the poverty level for such State, but the State may give priority to those households with the highest home energy costs or needs in relation to household income.

(3) conduct outreach activities designed to assure that eligible households, especially households with elderly individuals or disabled individuals, or both, and households with high home energy burdens, are made aware of the assistance available under this title, and any similar energy-related assistance available under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant
program) or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which
were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date
of the enactment of this Act;

(4) coordinate its activities under this title with similar and related programs
administered by the Federal Government and such State, particularly low-income
energy-related programs under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community
services block grant program), under the supplemental security income
program, under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, under title XX of the
Social Security Act, under the low-income weatherization assistance program
under title IV of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, or under any other
provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the
Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(5) provide, in a timely manner, that the highest level of assistance will be
furnished to those households which have the lowest incomes and the highest
energy costs or needs in relation to income, taking into account family size,
except that the State may not differentiate in implementing this section between
the households described in clauses 2(A) and 2(B) of this subsection;

(6) to the extent it is necessary to designate local administrative agencies in
order to carry out the purposes of this title, to give special consideration, in the
designation of such agencies, to any local public or private nonprofit agency
which was receiving Federal funds under any low-income energy assistance
program or weatherization program under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964
or any other provision of law on the day before the date of the enactment of this
Act, except that -

    (A) the State shall, before giving such special consideration, determine that the
agency involved meets program and fiscal requirements established by the State;
and

    (B) if there is no such agency because of any change in the assistance
furnished to programs for economically disadvantaged persons, then the State
shall give special consideration in the designation of local administrative agencies
to any successor agency which is operated in substantially the same manner as
the predecessor agency which did receive funds for the fiscal year preceding the
fiscal year for which the determination is made;

(7) if the State chooses to pay home energy suppliers directly, establish
procedures to --

    (A) notify each participating household of the amount of assistance paid on its
behalf;

    (B) assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in
the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home
energy and the amount of the payment made by the State under this title;

    (C) assure that the home energy supplier will provide assurances that any
agreement entered into with a home energy supplier under this paragraph will
contain provisions to assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of such assistance under applicable provisions of State law or public regulatory requirements; and

(D) ensure that the provision of vendor payments remains at the option of the State in consultation with local grantees and may be contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households, including providing for agreements between suppliers and individuals eligible for benefits under this Act that seek to reduce home energy costs, minimize the risks of home energy crisis, and encourage regular payments by individuals receiving financial assistance for home energy costs;

(8) provide assurances that,

(A) the State will not exclude households described in clause (2)(B) of this subsection from receiving home energy assistance benefits under clause (2), and

(B) the State will treat owners and renters equitably under the program assisted under this title;

(9) provide that--

(A) the State may use for planning and administering the use of funds under this title an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the funds payable to such State under this title for a fiscal year; and

(B) the State will pay from non-Federal sources the remaining costs of planning and administering the program assisted under this title and will not use Federal funds for such remaining cost (except for the costs of the activities described in paragraph (16));

(10) provide that such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures will be established as may be necessary to assure the proper disbursal of and accounting for Federal funds paid to the State under this title, including procedures for monitoring the assistance provided under this title, and provide that the State will comply with the provisions of chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the "Single Audit Act");

(11) permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 2608;

(12) provide for timely and meaningful public participation in the development of the plan described in subsection (c);

(13) provide an opportunity for a fair administrative hearing to individuals whose claims for assistance under the plan described in subsection (c) are denied or are not acted upon with reasonable promptness; and

(14) cooperate with the Secretary with respect to data collecting and reporting under section 2610.
(15) * beginning in fiscal year 1992, provide, in addition to such services as may be offered by State Departments of Public Welfare at the local level, outreach and intake functions for crisis situations and heating and cooling assistance that is administered by additional State and local governmental entities or community-based organizations (such as community action agencies, area agencies on aging and not-for-profit neighborhood-based organizations), and in States where such organizations do not administer functions as of September 30, 1991, preference in awarding grants or contracts for intake services shall be provided to those agencies that administer the low-income weatherization or energy crisis intervention programs.

* This assurance is applicable only to States, and to territories whose annual regular LIHEAP allotments exceed $200,000. Neither territories with annual allotments of $200,000 or less nor Indian tribes/tribal organizations are subject to Assurance 15.

(16) use up to 5 percent of such funds, at its option, to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and thereby the need for energy assistance, including needs assessments, counseling, and assistance with energy vendors, and report to the Secretary concerning the impact of such activities on the number of households served, the level of direct benefits provided to those households, and the number of households that remain unserved.
# Plan Attachments

## PLAN ATTACHMENTS

The following documents must be attached to this application:

- Delegation Letter is required if someone other than the Governor or Chairman Certified this Report.

- Heating component benefit matrix, if applicable

- Cooling component benefit matrix, if applicable

- Minutes, notes, or transcripts of public hearing(s).