



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM NOTICE 09-5
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 18, 2009

SUBJECT: 2009 POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES AND DEFINITION OF INCOME

PURPOSE: To provide States with the 2009 Poverty Income Guidelines and Definition of Income for use in the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program (Weatherization).

SCOPE: The provisions of this guidance apply to all grantees applying for financial assistance under the Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended, authorizes the Department of Energy to administer the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program. All grant awards made under this program shall comply with applicable law including regulations contained in 10 CFR Part 440 (issued February 1, 2002), the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, the American Recovery and Investment Act of 2009 and other procedures applicable to this regulation as DOE may, from time to-time, prescribe for the administration of financial assistance.

PROCEDURES: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-005, signed by the President on February 17, 2009, raised the DOE Weatherization eligibility criterion by striking "150 percent" in both places it appears in Section 412(7) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6862(7)) and inserting "200 percent." The annual revision of the poverty income guidelines was published in the Federal Register/Volume 74, Number 14/Friday, January 23, 2009, on pages 4200-4201. Attached is a table displaying the revised guidelines showing income eligibility limits at 200 percent of poverty. Guideline tables for Alaska and Hawaii are also included. These guidelines are effective as of January 23, 2009, and apply to both farm and non-farm families. States should distribute these tables immediately to their subgrantees for their use. Additionally, this notice provides grantees with a definition of income for use in the Weatherization Program. This definition is unchanged from the previous year's guidance. Clarifications on income and eligibility issues are discussed in the Program Year 2009 Weatherization Grant Guidance, in section 5.9, Determining Eligibility Levels and Defining Income, of WPN 09-1B.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. P. Sperling".

Gilbert P. Sperling
Program Manager
Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

**2009 POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES
CONTIGUOUS U.S. GRANTEES
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 23, 2009**

INCOME LEVELS

Size of Family Unit	Threshold	200%
1.....	\$10,830	\$21,660
2.....	14,570	29,140
3.....	18,310	36,620
4.....	22,050	44,100
5.....	25,790	51,580
6.....	29,530	59,060
7.....	33,270	66,540
8.....	37,010	74,020
Each additional member add	3,740	7,480

**2009 POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES
ALASKA
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 23, 2009**

Size of Family Unit	Threshold	200%
1.....	\$13,530	\$27,060
2.....	18,210	\$36,420
3.....	22,890	\$45,780
4.....	27,570	\$55,140
5.....	32,250	\$64,500
6.....	36,930	\$73,860
7.....	41,610	\$83,220
8.....	46,290	\$92,580
Each additional member add	4,680	\$9,360

**2009 POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES
HAWAII
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 23, 2009**

Size of Family Unit	Threshold	200%
1.....	\$12,460	\$24,920
2.....	16,760	33,520
3.....	21,060	42,120
4.....	25,360	50,720
5.....	29,660	59,320
6.....	33,960	67,920
7.....	38,260	76,520
8.....	42,560	85,120
Each additional member add	4,300	8,600

DEFINITION OF INCOME

Refers to total annual cash receipts before taxes from all sources, with the exceptions noted below. Income data for a part of a year may be annualized in order to determine eligibility--for example, by multiplying by four the amount of income received during the most recent three months. The method of calculation is to be determined by the Grantee. Grantees should have a consistent policy covering its subgrantees on re-certification of applicants whose eligibility may have changed due to the length of time that may have expired awaiting weatherization services.

INCOME INCLUDES: money, wages and salaries before any deductions; net receipts from non-farm or farm self-employment (receipts from a person's own business or from an owned or rented farm after deductions for business or farm expenses). **INCOME ALSO INCLUDES** regular payments from social security, railroad retirement, unemployment compensation, strike benefits from union funds, worker's compensation, veteran's payments, training stipends, alimony, and military family allotments; private pensions, government employee pensions (including military retirement pay), and regular insurance or annuity payments; dividends, interest, net rental income, net royalties, periodic receipts from estates or trusts, and net gambling or lottery winnings.

INCOME EXCLUDES capital gains; any assets drawn down as withdrawals from a bank, the sale of property, a house, or a car; one-time payments from a welfare agency to a family or person who is in temporary financial difficulty; tax refunds, gifts, loans, lump-sum inheritances, one-time insurance payments, or compensation for injury.

INCOME ALSO EXCLUDES non-cash benefits, such as the employer-paid or union-paid portion of health insurance or other employee fringe benefits, food or housing received in lieu of wages, the value of food and fuel produced and consumed on farms, the imputed value of rent from owner-occupied non-farm or farm housing, and such Federal non-cash benefit programs as Medicare, Medicaid, Food Stamps, school lunches, housing assistance and combat zone pay to the military. Note: **CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS AND COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE EXCLUDED.**