
Influx of Funding for Clean Energy Transformation

Delivering Community Clean Energy
NW Energy Coalition's 2022 Fall Conference
November 14, 2022



**National
Consumer Law
Center**

*Fighting Together
for Economic Justice*

Olivia Wein
Staff Attorney
National Consumer Law Center

About NCLC

Since 1969, the nonprofit [National Consumer Law Center® \(NCLC®\)](#) has worked for consumer justice and economic security for low-income and other disadvantaged people in the U.S. through its expertise in policy analysis and advocacy, publications, litigation, expert witness services, and training.

Low Income Weatherization

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act “IIJA” (a.k.a. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law “BIL”) provides [\\$3.5 billion](#) for the Dept. of Energy’s WAP
- WAP programs will account for the funds separately from the regular WAP program

LIHEAP

- HHS just released [\\$4.5 billion](#) to the states and territories on Nov. 2, 2022
- Comprised of \$3.4 billion for the regular FY '23 appropriation (note we don't have a final spending bill yet) + \$1 billion from the FY '23 CR and \$100 million from the BIL approps for LIHEAP
- According to NCAF, around \$400 million is transferred to state weatherization programs from LIHEAP

High-Efficiency Electric Homes Rebate Act (HEEHRA)

- \$4.5 billion in the IRA and available thru Sept., 30, 2031 (Sec. 50122)
- Administered by the Dept. of Energy and runs through the [State Energy Office and Indian Tribes](#)
- Targets Low and Moderate Income Households for clean energy rebates (with a point of sale feature)
- Low Income is defined as 80% AMI
- Moderate Income is defined as 150% AMI

HEEHRA: Details about the qualified electrification project measures

	LI rebate cap	MI rebate cap
Electric heat pump water heater	\$1750	\$875
Electric heat pump for space heating and cooling	\$8000	\$4000
Electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven OR Electric heat pump clothes dryer	\$840	\$420
Electric load service center (panel/breaker box)	\$4000	\$2000
Insulation, air sealing and measures to improve ventilation	\$1600	\$800
Electric wiring	\$2500	\$1250
MAX REBATE CAP	\$14000	\$7000

Timeline for HEEHRA and HOMES

- Nov. '22 – Jan. '23: DOE listening session
- DOE RFI expected in early '23
- Funds expected to be released to the [states and Indian Tribes](#) by Spring '23
- Funds available to the public by the end of '23

State application to DOE re HEERA will contain:

- A plan for income verification.
- A plan for the point of sale provision (POS) in a manner that provides for income verification at the POS.
- A plan to ensure HEERA rebate isn't combined with other federal grant or rebate (including HOMES rebate).
- Any additional information DOE may require

Eligible Entity in HEEHRA

- A low- or moderate-income household;
- An individual or entity that owns an MF building where not less than 50% of the residents meet the income eligibility; and
- “a governmental, commercial, or non-profit entity as determined by the Secretary, carrying out a qualified electrification project on behalf of an entity [listed above].”
 - Can receive up to \$500 for the installation from the HEERA program.
 - This amount will be discounted from the installation charge, if any, charged to the eligible household or MF owner.

Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-house (HOMES) Rebate Program

- \$4.3 billion in IRA available thru Sept. 30, 2031 (Sec. 50121)
- Administered by the Dept. of Energy and runs through the [State Energy Office and Indian Tribes](#)
- HOMES Rebates cover energy efficiency and electrification measures
- Rebates are between \$2000 - \$4000 for retrofits plus a portion of the project cost for single family homes if savings are above 20% (greater portion of the project costs covered if LMI);
- Rebates are up to \$200,000 - \$400,000 for MF households if savings are above 20%
- Secretary can increase rebates for LMI households (80% AMI)
- Contractors can receive up to \$200 for each home located in a “disadvantaged community”

IRA Tax Credits for Individuals

- Tax Credits and Low-Income Households:
- Often low-income households have no federal tax liability, so regular tax credits are not very helpful (est. 40% – 50% pre-pandemic had no fed tax liability)
- Workarounds:
 - Refundability
 - Transferability (but with some cautions)

Some IRA Tax Credits for Individuals

- §25E – Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit
- §25D – Residential Clean Energy Credit
- §30D – EV Credit for new cars
- §25E - EV Credit for used cars
- §30C – EV Charging (“Alternative Fuel Refueling Property Credit”)

IIJA/BIL's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

- Pre-pandemic, 1 in 3 unbanked households did not have a smartphone and 2 out of 3 unbanked households did not have home broadband. *Source 2019 FDIC Survey of Household Use of Banking and Financial Services.*
 - *Implications for smart technologies and access to EV charging*
- IIJA/BIL provided \$14.2 billion for low-income broadband affordability with the ACP

ACP

- For eligible low-income households, the ACP provides ***up to 30/month for broadband service (up to \$75/month for households on Tribal lands)***.
- The ACP also provides a one-time discount of ***up to \$100 off a connected device*** (laptop, desktop, or tablet).
- Households can combine ACP with Lifeline; apply for just ACP or just Lifeline, or apply for ACP and Lifeline through separate providers.

How to apply for ACP

- **IMPORTANT – There are **Two-Steps** to Enroll**
 - Go to Affordableconnectivity.gov to submit an application or print out a mail-in application
 - For more info on free/low-cost internet plans see: Getinternet.gov or NDIA's www.digitalinclusion.org/free-low-cost-internet-plans/
 - Some providers may have an *alternative application* that they will ask you to complete.
- AND**
- Contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.
 - *Eligible households must **both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.***

Thank you!

Olivia Wein

Staff Attorney

National Consumer Law Center

owein@nclc.org



Since 1969, the nonprofit **National Consumer Law Center® (NCLC®)** has worked for consumer justice and economic security for low-income and other disadvantaged people, including older adults, in the U.S. through its expertise in policy analysis and advocacy, publications, litigation, expert witness services, and training. www.nclc.org