



- **What is the Weatherization Assistance Program?**

The Weatherization Assistance Program provides funds to reduce the heating and cooling costs for low-income families and to ensure their health and safety. The program provides repairs and improvements to home heating and cooling systems and provides installation of energy-saving measures in the house.

- **Who can apply?**

The services are intended for low-income families. Priority is given to households that include elderly persons, individuals with disabilities and/or families with children.

- **How does an applicant qualify for assistance?**

Eligibility is based on income by household size. Look at the income limits on this site to see the maximum amount that can be earned by the household in order to qualify. If a member of the household receives cash payments under Titles IV or XVI of the Social Security Act, they are eligible. To be certain, you should call your local weatherization provider.

- **Is there a cost to receive assistance?**

No, the work is provided at no cost to the approved income eligible household.

- **Where can I get an application?**

**Call or email your local provider** and let them know that you are interested in applying for assistance under the Weatherization Program.

**An applicant must apply through the local agency serving the area in which they live.**

*Do not contact DHCD for application forms. DHCD does not provide applications nor do we accept applications directly.*

- **Are renters eligible to receive assistance?**

Yes, this program is available to eligible homeowners and renters. The owner must sign an agreement giving written permission for the tenant to receive the weatherization work.

- **Can a landlord raise the rent as a result of weatherization?**

A landlord is prohibited from raising rent solely as a result of the weatherization work. If the landlord also made other improvements to the property at the landlord's own expense, a reasonable rent increase may occur.

- **Is a mobile/manufactured home eligible?**

Yes.

- **What happens after the application is approved?**

Staff from the weatherization provider will call to schedule a time to have a licensed auditor perform a residential energy audit of your home. The audit will identify the best energy-saving measures that are cost effective, healthy, and safe.

Once the audit is complete, a work order is prepared and the local provider will contact you to schedule installation. It can be several weeks or months between the audit and the installation if the agency has a backlog of approved applicants.

- **What kind of work will be performed?**

Typical weatherization services include:

- Sealing air leaks with insulation, caulking, and weather-stripping;
- Installing ventilation fans;
- Repairing drafty duct systems;
- Repairing and replacing inefficient or unsafe heating and cooling systems;
- Installing energy efficient lighting

The Weatherization Assistance Program also checks for health and safety risks, including testing for carbon monoxide levels and installing fire alarms where necessary. Recipients are also educated about proper use and maintenance of all installed systems.

- **Can the owner choose the items they want done and skip others?**

No, the energy audit determines which weatherization measures will result in the greatest energy savings.

- **Can Weatherization provide general repairs to the house, like a new roof, a porch or new plumbing?**

No, the Weatherization Assistance Program is an energy conservation program and not a housing rehabilitation program. The Program can make a small repair if the weatherization measures would be otherwise compromised, but replacing the whole roof or plumbing system is not allowed.

- **Need additional information?**

Email Susan Hill at [susan.hill@dhcd.virginia.gov](mailto:susan.hill@dhcd.virginia.gov)