

NOTICE

Department of Community and Economic Development Weatherization Assistance Program's Proposed State Plan

The Department of Community and Economic Development (Department) publishes notice of a public hearing to be held electronically, via web/conference call on Thursday, April 22, 2021. In accordance with Governor Wolf's emergency disaster declaration and based on advice from the Department of Health regarding the mitigation of the spread of novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), this public hearing will only be held virtually via the method listed. There will be **no** in person opportunity to attend the hearing.

The public hearing via the web/conference call will be held at 1:00 p.m. and will last as long as there are comments to be received. This more widely available computer access/conference call will replace the on-site public hearing. The format will be more accessible than an in-person meeting because those who wish to make comment may participate directly from their electronic device, telephone, or computer. Access information can be found at the end of this notice.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments on the proposed Pennsylvania (PA) 2021-2022 annually appropriated U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) State Plan.

The proposed 2021-2022 State Plan will authorize the formula-based distribution for each county. Specific performance goals emphasize production, quality of the work product, prompt, accurate and complete reporting, and compliance with program standards and regulations.

The State Plan includes the following changes:

- Provisions for the 2020-21 unspent funds and extension to spend such funds due to production shutdown during the current COVID-19 pandemic
- An overall administrative allowance increase from 10 to 15% due to a change in the Weatherization Assistance Program reauthorization legislation
- Reweathering date change from September 30, 1994 to a rolling 15 years from receiving previous federally identified weatherization activities
- A plan of work to receive DOE approval of the Home Energy Audit Processes, Policies and Procedures to include the use of the NEAT and MHEA audit tools for single family and manufactured housing, respectively and an extension for the use of the HEAT audit
- A plan of work to receive DOE approval of Multi-Family Weatherization Processes to include a multi-family audit tool and finalized policy and procedures
- Training & Technical Assistance activity changes such as: dramatically streamlining the Home Energy Professional's structure and registration process, introduction of a new training plan template, and moving the training and technical assistance pieces from the Health and Safety Plan to the Master File, Training and Technical Assistance Plan.
- The name change of the National Sustainable Structures Center to the Clean Energy Center

- The 2021 PA WAP SWS Field Manual, reflecting the most recent updates to the SWSs, will be released in Fall 2021, pending DOE approval.

There is a continued national focus on coordination of efforts where other health and safety, lead-abatement, utility weatherization, and housing rehab services are coordinated locally with weatherization services.

Copies of the proposed 2021-2022 DOE WAP State Plan may be obtained beginning April 9, 2021, by contacting the Department of Community and Economic Development, Center for Community Services, by phone at (717) 425-7597 or it can be downloaded from the Department's web site at www.dced.pa.gov. Written comments may be submitted electronically to ra-wxmail@pa.gov until 5 p.m. on April 22, 2021.

There is no registration, but you may join the meeting directly using the following methods:

To join this public hearing electronically, please go to:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 267-332-8737,12190169#](tel:+1267332873712190169) United States, Philadelphia

Phone Conference ID: 121 901 69#

The hearing will be shortened if there is no one to testify or there is minimal response.

Persons with a disability who wish to participate in this hearing should contact Yvonne Adams at (717) 425-7597 to discuss how the Department may accommodate their needs.

Dennis Davin
Secretary