
**ENERGY PROGRAMS
EP-110 DEFINITIONS**

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**CHANGE #7-2023
DECEMBER 1, 2023**

ALIEN - Any person who is not a citizen or native of the United States.

BOARDER - A person who lives in a household and pays a set amount for room and meals.

CATEGORICALLY ELIGIBLE (for LIHWAP purposes): Households that are receiving Work First Family Assistance (WFFA), Food and Nutrition Services (FNS), or received a Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) payment in the last 12 months.

CIP (CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM) - CIP is a program which provides assistance to low-income families who are experiencing or in danger of experiencing a heating or cooling-related emergency.

CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY - Real property with boundaries which touch the home site property, disregarding the presence of streets, roads, rivers, or streams.

EIS (Eligibility Information System) - An automated system which contains information pertinent to an individual's eligibility to receive benefits under a number of public assistance programs.

ELDERLY - A person age 60 or over.

ELIGIBLE ALIEN - A person who is not a United States citizen but who meets the alien status requirements in EP-175. He is included as an eligible energy household member.

ENERGY BURDEN/EXPENSE - The percentage of a household's income that is used to pay for **all** home energy costs and needs.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES - A federal program which provides monthly benefits that help low-income households buy the food they need for good health.

GREEN CARD - A slang term describing the Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-151 or Form I-551). Most versions of these forms are not green in color.

HOMELESS - An individual who lacks a permanent or fixed residence.

HOMESITE - Principle residence of applicant/recipient or energy household member.

HOUSEHOLD - For purposes of the Energy Programs, a household consists of any individual or group of individuals who live at the same residence unless known to be a boarding house or separate apartment.

ILLEGAL ALIEN - A person who (a) entered the United States without approval by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) or (b) who, after entering legally, remained in the United States past the time limit granted by **INS** without authorization.

LIEAP (LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) - LIEAP provides for a one-time vendor payment annually to help eligible families pay their heating bills.

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LIHWAP (LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM): A temporary federally funded program that provides emergency assistance to low-income households to prevent disconnection or provide assistance with reconnection of drinking and wastewater services.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MEDICAID, MA) - A program to assist eligible aged, disabled, blind individuals, pregnant women, families and/or children with the cost of medical care under Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

MEDICARE - A program of health insurance for aged and disabled individuals who meet the program's eligibility requirements under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

MIGRANT FARM WORKER - A person who moves with the migrant stream in order to follow seasonal farm work employment and does not return to his permanent home each night.

OBLIGATION- An obligation is a commitment of funds for a specific use. The State obligates funds by entering into a signed agreement with local agencies. Expenditures are the payments of those funds. The State makes payments for local agency operations and salaries.

The funds are available for obligation and expenditure for a period of two years after the award date. The two-year grant period authorizes the State to obligate and expend carryover funds in the second year. If any of the carryover funds are not obligated or expended by the end of the 2nd year in the grant period, they are returned to the federal government. All funds are reported in the SF-425, *Federal Financial Report*, at the end of the award's obligation and expenditure period, including any vendor refunds that are re-obligated.

SOURCE OF HEAT - The source of heat reportedly used by the household.

EXAMPLE: Four-member family occupies a single unit dwelling and heats with coal. One member is elderly and needs extra warmth. The elderly person keeps an electric heater to supplement the heat in his room. The primary source of heat for the household is coal.

PRIORITY GROUP (for LIEAP purposes): Households containing an elderly person aged 60 and above, or households containing person(s) with disabilities that receive services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS), and currently receiving Food and Nutrition Services (FNS).

PRIORITY GROUP (for LIHWAP purposes): Households could fall under priority groups 1, 2 or 3 based on current water service status. (Group 1: services are disconnected, Group 2: services in jeopardy of disconnection and Group 3: services are current but need assistance to maintain.)

PROJECT SHARE - Charitable donations.

PRIVATE LIVING ARRANGEMENT - Housing owned by an individual or private company.

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PUBLIC HOUSING - Housing owned by the government. This can be apartments or houses.

RENTER - Any individual who pays rent for separate living quarters. Energy costs may be included in the rent or may be paid separately.

ROOMER - A person who lives in a house and pays a set amount for a room only.

SERVICE PROVIDER – A vendor that provides a heating or cooling source to Energy Program applicants.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) - A cash payment program administered by the Social Security Administration for low-income aged, blind, or disabled persons.

SUBSIDIZED HOUSING - Any housing unit (household) which receives a federal subsidy to assist with utility bills.

TEMPORARY RESIDENT STATUS - One year period for which an alien has lawfully been granted the privilege of residing in the United States. The temporary status may be removed after one year when the Immigration Office rules favorably or unfavorably on granting permanent resident status to the alien.

VULNERABLE - A household is said to be vulnerable if it is subject to the rising cost of heating and has a heat source.

FULLY VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLD - Vulnerable households are those who live in a private living arrangement and are subject to the rising cost of heating and have a heat source. Also includes households living in public housing where utilities for heat are billed separately from the rent or where utilities for heat are included in the rent, and the household has paid an excess in utilities for heat in the last 12 months at the current address.

NON-VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLD - A household that is not subject to the cost of heating. Individuals who reside in an institution are not considered vulnerable.

WORK FIRST FAMILY ASSISTANCE (WFFA) - Work First is an assistance program which provides a money payment and medical assistance to certain relatives and children when the children have been deprived of parental support and care due to the death, physical or mental incapacity, continued absence of either parent from the home, or unemployment of one or both parents.