



Economic Stimulus Response

Weatherization Sidebar

Release date: 4/27/2009, 231 words

Do you qualify for the Federal Weatherization Assistance Program?

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) says weatherization—the process of sealing air leaks and properly insulating a home—can produce an average energy savings of \$358 per year. Most people would like to save energy dollars by making their home more efficient, but not everyone can afford the improvements.

As a result of the federal stimulus package, DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program is expanding with a goal of weatherizing 1 million low-income homes per year. Households with incomes at or below 200 percent of the national poverty level are eligible. For a family of four, that's an income limit of \$44,100

Each house has different needs; the stimulus bill allows an average of \$6,500 to be spent on each home. Program participants receive professional energy consultation that analyzes energy bills, a blower-door test to locate air leaks and advice on how to be more efficient. Workers then arrive to make energy upgrades like insulating walls and roofs, sealing air leaks, and installing more efficient heating and cooling systems. For details, visit www.eere.energy.gov/weatherization.