



A Guide to the Home Weatherization Assistance Program

Each year, more Ohioans find it difficult to pay their electric and natural gas bills. Although following energy efficiency tips may help to reduce the amount of energy used, unless a home has proper insulation or other systems in place to properly control temperatures, energy usage may still be higher and result in more expensive monthly energy bills. The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), your residential utility consumer advocate, offers the following information on the state Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) for consumers who are income eligible.

What is HWAP?

The Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) is a federally funded energy efficiency program available to low income residential consumers. The program, administered by the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD), helps to lower energy bills by reducing the amount of energy used to heat and cool a home. Some of the free services included in the program are:

- Attic, wall and basement insulation
- Heating system repairs or replacements
- Reduction of air leakage from major sources such as a chimney or wall
- Personalized energy management plan
- Health and safety testing and inspections

Those accepted into the HWAP program will receive a home weatherization review in order to determine which services will be most cost effective.



Who is eligible?

Consumers are eligible for the program if they are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. (**See the chart on page 2 for specific income guidelines**). They also can apply for HWAP if they participate in or qualify for any of the following:

- Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
- Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP)
- Supplemental Security Income
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families

To apply for HWAP, consumers must complete the Energy Assistance Programs Application (the same form to apply for HEAP and PIPP) and check the box for the weatherization program. Applications can be obtained by contacting ODOD or the OCC.

Who can help?

For more information on these and any other utility assistance programs, contact the OCC at 1-877-PICKOCC (1-877-742-5622) toll free or visit www.pickocc.org. Consumers also may call the ODOD at 1-800-282-0880, or visit its Web site at www.odod.state.oh.us. Information about local assistance programs also may be available by contacting a local community action agency.

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2009-2010 Ohio Energy Credit Income Guidelines

A household whose total income is less than the following income guidelines may qualify weatherization assistance.

Size of household	Total household income for 12 months
1	\$21,660
2.....	\$29,140
3.....	\$36,620
4.....	\$44,100
5.....	\$51,580
6.....	\$59,060

** For households with more than six members, add \$7,480 per person.*

The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), the residential utility consumer advocate, represents the interests of 4.5 million households in proceedings before state and federal regulators and in the courts. The state agency also educates consumers about electric, natural gas, telephone and water issues and resolves complaints from individuals. To receive utility information, brochures, schedule a presentation or file a utility complaint, residential consumers may call 1-877-PICKOCC (1-877-742-5622) toll free in Ohio or visit the OCC Web site at www.pickocc.org.

The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel is an equal opportunity employer and provider of services.

For additional information from the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel:

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