



PROGRAM YEAR 2024 1-4 UNIT WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

Purpose: To increase the energy efficiency of dwellings owned or occupied by income-eligible persons and to improve their health and safety, especially for individuals and households identified as vulnerable

In Compliance with Federal Regulations

- 10 CFR 440 (Program)
- 2 CFR 200 (Financial)

The draft Plan we are discussing today is for federal formula funds only (the unit weatherization program)

- Plans and budget for federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) WAP (the multifamily program) can be viewed on DEEP's webpage.

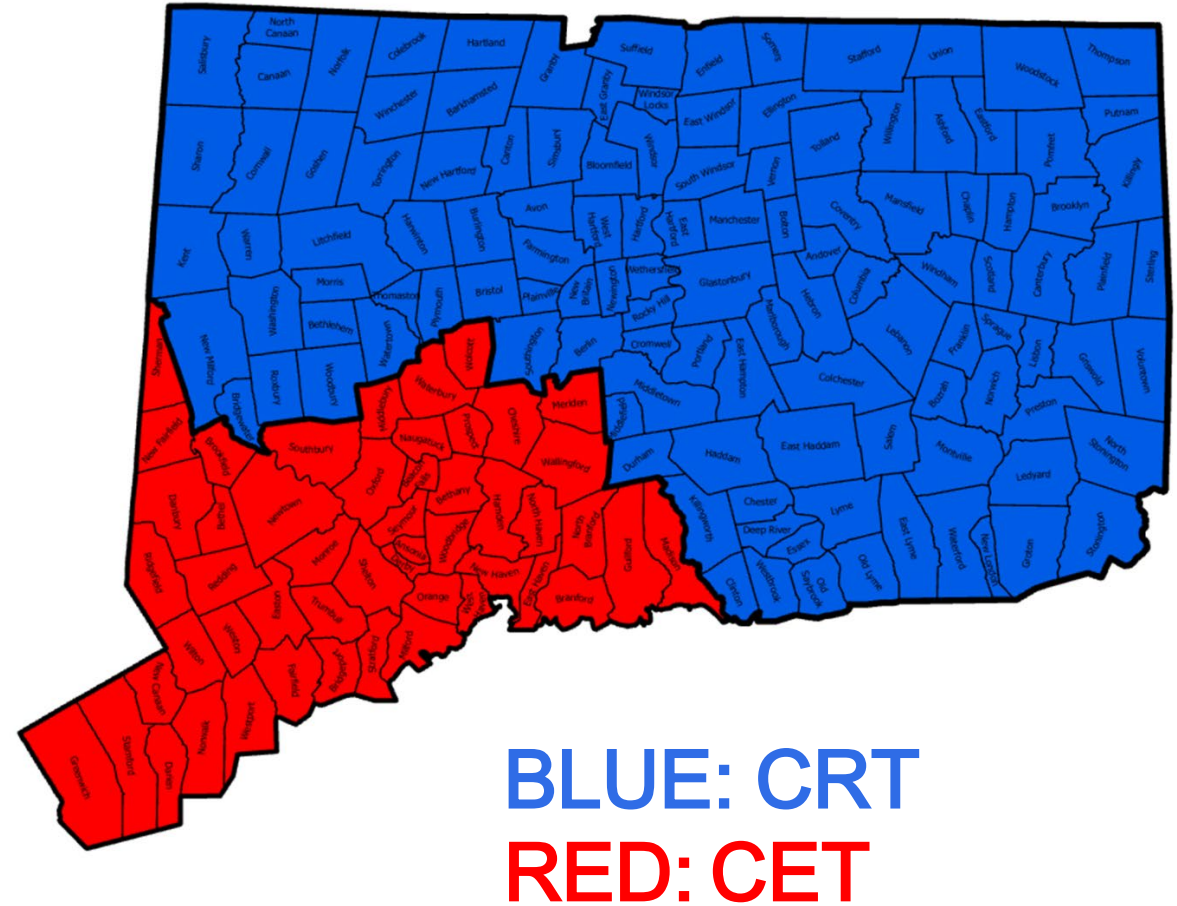
BUDGET

Federal Allocation PY 24	
Program	\$2,996,244
Training and Technical Assistance	\$651,548
Weatherization Readiness Funds	\$380,474
Total	\$4,028,266

Grantee Distribution	
DEEP Admin	\$100,707
DEEP T&TA (includes field and desk monitoring activities)	\$503,533
Subgrantee Distribution	
Admin	\$503,533
Program Operations	\$2,040,874
Health & Safety	\$306,130
Training and Technical Assistance	\$90,000
Financial Audits	\$15,000
Insurance	\$30,000
Wx Readiness Funds	\$63,750
Total	\$3,049,287

PY 2024: CT WAP Regions Map

Each region has approximately the same population of households that meet the 60% SMI definition of low-income.



PROGRAM CHANGES FOR PY2024

New Subgrantees

- As a result of last year's RFP DEEP has competitively selected the Center for EcoTechnology (CET) and the Community Renewal Team (CRT) as subgrantees for the 1-4 unit WAP
- **Selected subgrantees have contracts that extend through PY25**

Weatherization Readiness Funding (WRF)

- CT DEEP will continue to give the majority of WRF to the Residential Energy Preparation Services (REPS) program to address Health & Safety Barriers to weatherization
- The Subgrantees will also be given a smaller portion of the WRF funds to address whole home ventilation requirements

Software Transition

- In PY24 DEEP will transition to DOE's WA Web Suite of Software including NEAT/MHEA - this software suite is cloud -based allowing for more streamlined yet secure access - this transition is required by DOE.
- CT WAP will pursue the use of Hancock's Energy Audit Tool: MINT. This energy audit tool connects with the program's data management software

PRODUCTION GOAL



Region 1	Region 2	Total
121 units	120 units	241 units

NEW TECHNICAL CONSULTANT / MONITORS

CT WAP is in contract negotiations with Association for Energy Affordability (AEA) for Desk Consultant services

- Desk reviews
- Waiver reviews
- Technical writing

CT WAP is in contract negotiations with True View Consultants (TVC) for Field Monitor services

- In-progress monitoring
- Final inspections
- Annual technical monitoring

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INPUT

- DEEP has issued a request for written public comments on the first draft of the PY24 1-4 unit WAP State Plan
- Written Comments on the first draft of the Plan are due by April 9th, 2024 at 11:59 pm

DEEP is seeking public input on the length of time a renter is protected from rent increases due to weatherization

CT WAP seeks public input regarding Fuel Switching and transitioning to newer more efficient technologies

CT WAP seeks Public Input on the allocation of WRF funding to REPS and WAP Subgrantees for addressing health and safety concerns

- Send written comments to: deep.energybureau@ct.gov
- Full notice available [here](#) on the www.ct.gov/DEEP/Weatherization webpage

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM NOTICE 22-13

AS IT RELATES TO RENTAL UNITS

DOE requires that all Grantees ensure that the benefits of weatherization to occupants of rental units are protected in accordance with 10 CFR 440.22(b). Which States that regardless of housing type the Grantee's procedures for rental units shall at the minimum ensure that:

- Written permission of the building owner or authorized agent is obtained before commencing work
- Benefits of the services accrue primarily to the low-income tenants residing in such units
- For a *reasonable* [emphasis added] period of time after completion, the household will not be subjected to rent increases (unless those increases are demonstrably related to other matters other than the weatherization work being performed)
- There are adequate procedures whereby the Grantee can receive tenant complaints and owners can appeal, should rental increases occur
- No undue or excessive enhancement shall occur to the value of the dwelling unit
 - A properly executed energy audit resulting in the installation of common energy conservation measures (ECM's) with and SIR of 1 or greater with necessary health and safety and incidental repairs would not constitute an undue enhancement.

CT WAP is seeking input specifically on what constitutes a "reasonable period of time" for protection from rent increases due to weatherization.

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM NOTICE 23 -6

AS IT RELATES TO FUEL-SWITCHING

DOE allows fuel -switching as an Energy Conservation Measure when meeting a Savings to Investment ratio of 1.0 or better

Fuel-switching may also be completed as a health and safety measure

The process of allowing fuel -switching in the CT WAP involves seeking approval from DOE by demonstrating competence at the Grantee and Subgrantee level

- Provide sample audits to DOE for review
- Update libraries in the energy audit software

CT WAP is proposing to work throughout PY24 to seek approval from DOE to administer fuel-switching in our program.

DEEP is seeking public input on how to best ensure fuel switching does not negatively impact low-income access to energy assistance

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM NOTICE 23 -4

AS IT RELATES TO WRF FUNDING

Per HR 2471. The Consolidated Appropriations Act , 2022 allowed for the creation of set-aside funding for "Weatherization Readiness Fund"

The Purpose of the WRF is to allow WAP to address necessary repairs (Health and Safety, Structural, etc.) in dwelling units that have been deferred from receiving weatherization services. Specifically, this funding is targeted to reduce the frequency of deferred homes that require services outside the scope of weatherization before the weatherization services can commence.

All units receiving WRF must result in a DOE completion defined as "A dwelling on which a DOE approved energy audit or priority list has been applied and weatherization work has been completed"

CT WAP is seeking input into how much of the Weatherization Readiness Funding should be allocated to the WAP Subgrantees and to REPS.

REPS is tasked with addressing barriers to Weatherization, while WAP Subgrantees will be tasked with installing additional/extra Health and Safety measures where needed

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Monday, April 29, 2024

- Hearing 1: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- Hearing 2: 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM
- Both are Hybrid – DEEP Public Hearing Room 2 (10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT) & on Teams
- Teams link will be posted by April 18th in the public hearing Notice on www.ct.gov/DEEP/Weatherization
- The second draft of the Plan will also be posted on www.ct.gov/DEEP/Weatherization by April 18th.

Written Comments on the second draft Plan are due by April 29, 2024 at 11:59 pm

Comments may be addressed to: deep.energybureau@ct.gov

DEEP is requesting a vote from LIEAB on the proposed Plan