

441—59.1(216A,PL97-35,PL98-558) Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply:

“*Assurance 16*” means a provision of 42 U.S.C. Sections 8621 through 8630 as amended to August 1, 2026, that provides low-income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) subrecipients the option of spending no more than 5 percent of their LIHEAP funds on services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and thereby the need for energy assistance.

“*DHHS*” means the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

“*Energy crisis*” means weather-related (including natural disasters) supply shortage emergencies or other household energy-related emergencies as follows:

1. Nonworking heating unit (there must be a heating unit present).
2. Temporary need for alternate shelter due to lack of energy or fuel source.
3. Disconnected from utility service.
4. Past-due amounts owed create the risk of disconnection or an empty liquid propane (LP) or fuel oil (FO) tank.
5. LP tank 30 percent or less remaining.
6. Window or portable air-conditioning unit or repair of existing central air unit, when medically necessary.

“*Household*” includes all the people who occupy a housing unit (such as a house or apartment) as their usual place of residence. A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit, such as partners or roomers, is also counted as a household.

“*LAA*” means a local administering agency with which the department contracts to administer LIHEAP.

“*Manual*” or “*the manual*” means the LIHEAP Policy and Procedures Manual that is available on the department’s website. All references herein are to those as amended to August 1, 2026.

“*State plan*” means the LIHEAP state plan that is available on the department’s website. All references herein are to those as amended to August 1, 2026.

[ARC 0497D, IAB 8/19/26, effective 10/1/26]