

Iowa Weatherization Program Information

Weatherization Process

There are more people eligible for weatherization each year than the program is able to serve. Therefore, we must prioritize clients. Priority is based first on fuel consumption. Households having the most annual fuel usage are prioritized highest because their homes are most likely the least energy efficient. Households are then given priority bonus points if the occupants are elderly, disabled, or under age 6.

The DCAA contracts with 18 local agencies to administer the program statewide.

Local agency energy auditors do an energy efficiency assessment and a health and safety assessment of the home.

The auditors use a computerized energy audit, developed by the Department of Energy (DOE), to determine what energy efficiency measures are cost effective to do on each home.

The health and safety assessment consists of a safety check of all combustion appliances (including testing for carbon monoxide and proper drafting), inspection for mold and moisture problems, and checking for wiring problems.

The local agencies inspect 100 percent of the homes that are weatherized to ensure that all required work was done and done well.

State Oversight and Training

Bureau of Weatherization staff inspect 15-20 percent of the homes that are weatherized by each agency every year.

Bureau of Weatherization staff and fiscal staff monitor each agency every year.

Bureau of Weatherization staff provide formal technical training to local agency weatherization staff.

State Administrative Dollars

3.3% of the total program dollars is used for state administration.

Annual Program Evaluation

Since 1994, the DCAA and Iowa's investor-owned utilities have co-funded annual evaluations of the Iowa Weatherization Program. Because of this, Iowa is the only state that does an annual evaluation of its weatherization program.

Energy Savings

The average first year bill savings per home for homes weatherized in 2005 is \$481. We believe this is the highest savings for any state weatherization program.

2007 Funding

The 2007 Weatherization appropriation has not been determined. The House bill increases funding by \$12 million over the 2006 level and the Senate bill decreases funding by about \$42 million.