

The Weatherization Assistance Program

The Weatherization Assistance Program assists income-eligible families and individuals by reducing their heating/cooling costs and improving the safety of their homes through energy efficiency measures. Energy efficiency measures performed through the program include air sealing (weather stripping, caulking), wall and ceiling insulation, heating system improvements or replacement, efficiency improvements in lighting, hot water tank and pipe insulation, and refrigerator replacements with highly efficient Energy Star rated units. Both single-family and multi-family buildings are assisted.

For this exercise, we will focus on multi-family buildings.

Criteria	What can go wrong?	How can we monitor?
<p>Program Eligibility: To be eligible for weatherization funds, in a multi-family building, the grantee must certify that tenants in at least 50% of the units must meet at least one of these requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenants' combined income is less than certain limits; • Tenants receive certain public assistance payments such as food stamps ; or • Tenants are eligible for low-income Home Energy Assistance 	<p>Grantee certifies that tenants in at least 50% of the units meet the eligibility criteria when in-fact they do not, thereby obtaining funds under false pretenses.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the number of units in a building. 2. Review at least 50 percent of tenants' applications and supporting documentation. 3. Verify applications using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leases • Check Stubs • Face-sheet of tax return, with the first five digits of the SSN eliminated • Birth certificate or other authoritative document confirming dependents • Information from OTDA for food stamps and HEAP payments
<p>Building Materials: Grantee only bills for materials allowed by the contract and actually installed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay for materials never installed in buildings. • Overpay for materials • Product substitution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit buildings and verify items have been installed. (Trace materials from energy audit) • Obtain digital photograph of installed materials • Use final inspection reports to verify items have been installed. • Verify pricing by reviewing purchase orders/invoices • Contact supply vendors to verify items were delivered to the correct address and not returned