



Save Money with AHFC's Weatherization and Rebate Programs



As we told you in last month's issue of Ruralite, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) was awarded \$300 million from the State of Alaska for weatherization and energy rebate programs. The funding is intended to help Alaskans reduce their energy bills by making energy-efficient improvements to their homes. This issue provides you with additional details regarding both programs.

CVEA wants to make sure all of our members have the information you need to determine which program might work for you. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to make sure your homes are running as efficiently as possible.

Weatherization Program

The Weatherization Program is for individuals who meet certain income guidelines for eligibility. See below for the income limits for our area. These figures are based on 100% of adjusted median income.

| Community Name | Income Limit – 1 person | Income Limit – 2 people | Income Limit – 3 people | Income Limit – 4 people | Income Limit – 5 people | Income Limit – 6 people | Income Limit – 7 people | Income Limit – 8 people |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Valdez/Cordova census area | 52,200 | 59,700 | 67,100 | 74,600 | 80,600 | 86,500 | 92,500 | 98,500 |

An individual or family with income less than the income limit requirements may qualify to receive free weatherization assistance for their home, rental or multifamily dwellings.

The process goes basically as follows:

- Qualifying individuals may call the weatherization provider for our area to check full eligibility requirements and apply for the program
- Once accepted into the program, you will be put on a waiting list, and your home will be scheduled for a weatherization assessment
- The assessment determines the weatherization measures to be performed on the home
- When you come to the top of the waiting list, your home will then be scheduled for the weatherization work
- Once the work is completed by the weatherization crew, the work is verified by the weatherization assessor

The provider listed for CVEA members is:

Alaska Community Development Corporation

1517 S. Industrial Way, Ste. 8

Palmer, AK 99645-6791

Phone: (907) 746-5680, (800) 478-8080, Fax: (907) 746-5681/(800) 478-1530

ltice@alaskacdc.org, www.alaskacdc.org

As the AHFC is moving forward under emergency regulations to implement this enhanced program, we understand there may be a significant waiting period. CVEA is encouraging members to determine whether you qualify and contact the designated provider as soon as possible.

Home Energy Rebate Program

The Home Energy Rebate Program is **not based on income**. The program will rebate *up to \$10,000* to a homeowner who improves the energy efficiency of his or her home. A qualified homeowner must improve the energy efficiency of the home at least one step using the energy rating system. This is a one time rebate for any one family or home.

If you are a year-round occupant of an owner occupied residence, you will be eligible unless:

- You participated in the Weatherization Assistance Program after May 1, 2008

- You received a Home Energy Rebate after May 1, 2008
- Your As-Is rating was done before April 5, 2008 or is more than one year old
- You fail to provide the requested information

The process goes basically as follows:

- You contact an AK Warm energy rater who provides an As-Is energy rating of your home
- You receive an Improvement Options Report listing specific improvement measures to increase your home’s energy efficiency
- You pay the rater and send the required invoice documentation to AHFC for reimbursement of up to \$325 of the As Is rating cost
- You, the homeowner, complete work on measures chosen from the Improvement Options Report; You can complete all or just some of the measures (*you may do the work yourself or hire a contractor)
- You contact the energy rater to provide a Post-Improvement energy rating
- You pay the rater for the Post-Improvement rating and send the required rebate documentation to AHFC for reimbursement (*must be submitted within one year of the As-Is rating)
- You will receive a rebate from AHFC for some of the cost of the improvements, including up to \$175 for the Post Improvement rating cost.

The amount of the rebate is determined by the points and step increase in the home’s energy rating. The more the home moves up the rating scale, the greater the rebate; however, a homeowner is only eligible to receive a rebate of actual expenses incurred.

See the chart below to help you understand the correlation between your energy rating points and the energy rating steps for your home’s energy rating, ie., going from a 2 Star to a 2 Star+ is increasing by one step and would receive a rebate of up to \$4,000 based on actual expenditures.

| Points | Rating | Points | Rating |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| 0-39 | 1 Star | 73-77 | 3 Star + |
| 40-49 | 1 Star + | 78-82 | 4 Star |
| 50-59 | 2 Star | 83-87 | 4 Star + |
| 60-67 | 2 Star + | 88-91 | 5 Star |
| 68-72 | 3 Star | 92-100 | 5 Star + |

Maximum Rebate Amounts:

- One Step - Up to \$4,000
- Two Steps - Up to \$5,500
- Three Steps - Up to \$7,000
- Four Steps - Up to \$8,500
- Five or more - Up to \$10,000

The chart below provides contact information for the energy raters that indicate they could service our area.

| Name | Company | Phone/Fax | Email | Location |
|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Stuart Brooks | Energy Design Assoc. | 907-696-5573 (phn/fax) | | Eagle River |
| Richard Owens | Residential Energy Designs | 907-746-5652 | Rich_r_owens@hotmail.com | Palmer |
| Carol Perkins | Active Inspect. & Energy Ratings | 907-376-0402 (phn/fax) | info@activeinspections.net | Wasilla |

Additional information and a complete list of raters can be found on the AHFC website. Raters are being trained and will be added to the website periodically. Visit www.ahfc.us for more information. This link can also be found on www.cvea.org/energyinfo. If you have general questions, don’t hesitate to contact Sharon Crisp, CVEA Director of Communications, at (907) 835-7005, 822-5506, or crisp@cvea.org.