

1. Why are CAPS involved with a rebate program granted to the Department of Energy?

There are several existing tax credit and rebate programs for Oregonians who retrofit their homes to increase energy efficiency. Unfortunately, many low-income Oregonians do not have the money to update their homes, and as a result, never get to take advantage of these incentives.

The Oregon Department of Energy decided to use these particular grant funds to target low-income families. More specifically, rebating furnace replacements completed by Community Action Agencies within existing Low Income Energy Assistance and Weatherization programs.

2. What exactly does the rebate program cover?

Each rebate will cover 70 percent, or up to \$2000, per eligible furnace. Eligible appliances include Energy Star Gas Furnaces, as well as Energy Star Heat Pump Equipment (split system, package units, ductless split).

3. What are the household eligibility requirements?

Households must meet the income requirements for existing programs (at or below 60% State Median Income). They must also own their homes.

4. What if low-income Oregonians want to receive a rebate voucher, but do not wish to participate in Energy Assistance or Weatherization programs?

Income eligible households who do not wish to receive assistance through local programs, or do not want to be placed on waiting lists for appointments/services, have the option of requesting a stand alone voucher. These households will be responsible for purchase and installation of their furnace, as well as redemption of their rebate (70% up to \$2000) through the Oregon Department of Energy. Households interested in this option will be referred to Oregon Housing and Community Services.

5. How will available resources be allocated?

It is anticipated that around 1800 "voucher numbers" will be available as a result of this \$3.1M award. About half of the voucher numbers will be distributed to CAPS at the beginning of the program based on the current LIHEAP allocation formula. Remaining voucher numbers will be distributed to meet demand across all regions of Oregon.

This program is administered on a "first come, first served" basis.