



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

**WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM NOTICE 11-6a**  
**EFFECTIVE DATE: April 28, 2011**

**SUBJECT:** SUPPLEMENTAL WEATHERIZATION HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDANCE

**PURPOSE:** To update and provide additional time for implementation of Weatherization Program Notice (WPN) 11-6 as part of the Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). This guidance also provides direction to Grantees as they develop their Health and Safety Plans and procedures. The information in this guidance as well as many additional health and safety resources related to weatherization are available at [www.waptac.org](http://www.waptac.org).

**SCOPE:** The provisions of this guidance pertain to all Grantees applying for financial assistance under DOE WAP.

**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended, authorizes DOE to administer the WAP. All grant awards made under WAP shall comply with applicable law including regulations contained in 10 CFR Part 440, the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act).

**BACKGROUND:** DOE issued updated Health and Safety Guidance on January 12, 2011 to provide clarity and consistency in how health and safety issues are addressed in Weatherization. This Guidance document provides additional guidance from the DOE Health and Safety Committee to address health and safety issues raised by the WAP network.

**GUIDANCE:** While the components outlined in WPN 11-6 must be addressed in the 2011 Grantee Health and Safety Plans as part of the Grantee Plans (as outlined below), DOE has determined that in order to avoid undue hardship on any Grantee or to cause delays in their Application review process; Grantees may use the 2011 Program Year to **implement** the various applicable components of WPN 11-6. This extension provides the necessary time for Grantees to conduct research, solicit public input, and conduct any training necessary to effectively implement and enforce their Health and Safety Plans. It is still required that Grantees are in full compliance with WPN 11-6 in their 2012 Plan submissions.

***Special Note:*** While the majority of the WPN 11-6 Guidance allows for flexibility in Grantee policy and application, continuing activities that are expressly restricted in WPN 11-6 must be addressed in the 2011 Grantee's Health and Safety Plans and ***enforced immediately***. The restricted use of DOE funds for health and safety activities include:

- Actions that are unreasonable in cost as determined by DOE in accordance with the Grantee's approved Grantee Plan.
- Actions that are either not necessary to effectively perform weatherization work, where the work will be lasting and effective; OR are not necessary as a result of weatherization work so as not to create a health or safety problem for the occupant.
- Activities that are conducted where no efficiency measures are identified for installation.
- Installing health and safety measures that could have otherwise achieved a cost-effective savings-to-investment ratio and been treated as a weatherization efficiency measure.
- Performing work in homes that should have been deferred in accordance with the Grantee Plan.
- Performing work by an untrained worker where a trained professional is required.
- Replacement and installation of appliances other than water heaters.
- Removal of asbestos, unless on small covered surfaces.
- Addressing bacteria and viruses.
- Correction of preexisting code compliance issues other than where weatherization measures are being conducted.
- Conducting mold testing.
- Replacement of operable smoke/CO alarms, unless required by code compliance.
- Window and door replacement, repair, or installation.

In the 2011 Program Year, DOE will provide additional assistance to Grantees with their Health and Safety Plan development. DOE will review Grantee Plans based on the revised guidance as a tool to help Grantees move toward compliance. Grantees must submit 2011 plans in accordance to normal Program Year schedules and must demonstrate movement toward 2012 implementation of WPN 11-6 strategies and requirements. It is assumed that some Grantees must still improve their capacity to address specific health and safety issues. Grantees are encouraged to provide as much detail as possible in their Plans and include a statement for those standards not yet ready for implementation but planned to begin in the 2012 Program Year. In the interim, Grantee's should perform the following:

1. Update portions of the Health and Safety Plan that are ready for Grantee implementation and enforcement, while removing any conflicts with WPN 11-6.
2. Include those portions of the Health and Safety Plan that may not be ready for implementation with a statement that the specific items are in place for DOE review.

3. Include strategies that will be used to finalize that portion of the Plan for future implementation, no later than the beginning of the 2012 Program Year.
4. Submit revised Health and Safety Plan as part of the 2011 Grantee Plan.
5. Full implementation and enforcement of WPN 11-6 by the Grantee must begin in the 2012 Program Year.

Project Officers will review and approve Grantee Plans for compliance with WPN 11-6 using standard procedures. Any conflicts with WPN 11-6 will be noted and resolved prior to approval. DOE will provide support materials, such as best practice documents and frequently asked questions, on its web site to help guide Grantees in formulating their Health and Safety Plans.

**CONCLUSION:** The Weatherization Assistance Program continues to make progress in addressing health and safety issues and ensuring the health and safety of weatherization workers and the families who receive the Weatherization services. In addition to this guidance, DOE will continuously update and provide best practices and referral opportunities at [www.waptac.org](http://www.waptac.org).



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