

SCHEDULE 301
LOW-INCOME WEATHERIZATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

AVAILABILITY

This program is available to qualifying low-income customers receiving residential gas service.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The program will be administered by Department of Commerce-approved, Low -Income Weatherization providers and other Low Income Agencies providing weatherization services (Agencies). Also, for 12-months beginning March 1, 2025, Cascade will pilot the use of third-party weatherization service contractors as program administrators to provide Low-Income Weatherization Incentive Program (WIP) services as defined in this schedule. Hereafter, any WIP administrator is referred to as a Program Administrator.

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(N)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program is designed to increase energy efficiency in low-income households within Cascade’s service territory by providing rebates for the installation of approved energy efficiency measures in qualifying residential customers’ dwellings following the completion of a home energy evaluation performed by a Program Administrator.

(C)

ELIGIBILITY

In order to qualify for WIP rebates, a Program Administrator must certify that the customer is income qualified, defined as residing in a household with a 200% federal poverty level (FPL) or less, and that the customer’s household uses natural gas as its primary heat source.

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WIP REBATES

WIP rebates shall fully fund the cost of qualified weatherization measures for customers. "Fully funded" does not prohibit the Program Administrator from leveraging other funding sources in combination with Cascade-provided funds to pay for low-income conservation projects.

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES

The following high efficiency measures qualify for rebate under WIP:

- Ceiling insulation
- Wall insulation
- Floor insulation
- Water heater insulation
- Duct sealing
- Duct insulation
- Infiltration reduction
- Low-flow faucet aerators
- Low-flow showerheads
- Natural gas furnaces
- Furnace tune-up and filter replacement
- Direct vent space heater
- Natural gas water heaters (including tankless)

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES (continued)

These measures will qualify for a rebate payment when one of the following is true:

- (a) The measures are identified as cost-effective under the appropriate climate zone and housing type under the Washington State Department of Commerce Deemed Measure Priority List (DMPL);
- (b) The measures are identified as cost-effective under the Department of Energy (DOE) Priority List; or
- (c) Each measure is identified as having a savings-to-investment ratio of 1.0 or higher according to the Program Administrator’s energy audit in the dwelling in which the measure is being installed. (C)

Participating Program Administrators shall use the energy modeling software, TREAT; DMPL; or the DOE Priority List when conducting audits. Program Administrators shall provide a copy of the TREAT or the Priority List report along with its completed rebate application, and other documentation, as specified on the Company’s current rebate application form, in order to qualify for incentives. The Company may consider exemptions to the 1.0 SIR requirement for individual measures, if such exemptions are consistent with provisions in the Department of Commerce Weatherization Manual, and the total weatherization project remains cost-effective. Such exemptions must be approved on an individual basis by the Company and its Conservation Advisory Group. Only Program Administrators with a demonstrated 12-month history of projects whose final costs have not exceeded 120% of anticipated costs shall be eligible for this exemption. (C)

REBATE CALCULATION

Cascade will provide a WIP rebate to the Program Administrator for the total installed cost of approved weatherization measures. Installed cost shall include associated repair work, and health and safety improvements necessary for the installation of a qualified measure, provided advanced review and approval is provided to the Company prior to payment. The Program Administrator shall demonstrate total install costs by providing the Company with all requisite documentation including contractor invoices, where available, or an otherwise itemized list of the work performed and costs incurred. (C)

ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

Agencies will be reimbursed for project coordination. Project coordination will be funded up to a maximum program average of 30 percent of the total project cost, as billed to the Company. An additional agency indirect rate associated with the delivery of low-income conservation measures will be provided in the amount of 10 percent of the total project cost, as billed to the Company. The Company will pay Agencies the total combined project coordination and indirect rate of up to 40% of the total project cost as billed to the Company. (C)

Third-party weatherization contractors will be reimbursed for 100 percent of their material costs and labor costs as invoiced to Cascade. (N)

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GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- 1. The low-income weatherization program costs will be accounted for and recovered through an annual deferral amortization or other accounting mechanism as required under the most recent conditions of the Company’s Biennial Conservation Plan. Cascade shall retain existing cost recovery mechanisms, subject to the Commission’s Order in Docket UG-152286, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.
- 2. All installations of weatherization must comply with all codes and permit requirements applicable in the state of Washington and must be properly inspected, if required, by a designated quality assurance inspector. (C)
(C)
- 3. The Company reserves the right to verify installation prior to payment of any rebates. Rebates are qualified for payment under the terms of the most recent rebate application form, which are subject to update.
- 4. Cascade, in conjunction with its Conservation Advisory group, and the Program Administrators that deliver the low-income weatherization program, will develop and report annual savings goals based on projected annual completions. (C)
- 5. Program spending will be monitored by the Company in conjunction with the CAG to ensure that proper fiscal management is taking place by those delivering the program. To the extent possible, these activities will be integrated with Cascade’s existing biennial and annual conservation planning and reporting processes. (C)
- 6. A Program Administrator must have a current, signed Memorandum of Understanding with Cascade with individualized targets for the number of homes anticipated to be served by that Agency for the calendar year. This target shall be developed in coordination with the Agency and shall be adjusted on an annual basis. (C)

Program Administration Pilot Terms and Conditions

- 1. The Program Administration Pilot will conform to the parameters put forth in the WIP Pilot Plan filed as an attachment to Advice No. 25-01-02. (N)
- 2. Cascade will pilot the use of third-party contractors to administer WIP referrals that exceed the Agencies’ workload capacity. Agencies will have the first right of refusal of any customer lead received. (N)