

The Recovery Act Weatherization Leveraged Partnerships and Performance Assistance Project

Funding Leveraging Activities: The Law, The Regulation, The Program Guidance

1. The Law

[TITLE 42](#) > [CHAPTER 81](#) > [SUBCHAPTER III](#) > [Part A](#) > § 6864a

§ 6864a. Private sector investments

(a) In general

The Secretary shall, to the extent funds are made available for such purpose, provide financial assistance to entities receiving funding from the Federal Government or from a State through a weatherization assistance program under section 6863 or section 6864 of this title for the development and initial implementation of partnerships, agreements, or other arrangements with utilities, private sector interests, or other institutions, under which non-Federal financial assistance would be made available to support programs which install energy efficiency improvements in low-income housing.

(b) Use of funds

Financial assistance provided under this section may be used for—

- (1) the negotiation of such partnerships, agreements and other arrangements;
- (2) the presentation of arguments before State or local agencies;
- (3) expert advice on the development of such partnerships, agreements, and other arrangements; or
- (4) other activities reasonably associated with the development and initial implementation of such arrangements.

(c) Conditions

- (1) Financial assistance provided under this section to entities other than States shall, to the extent practicable, coincide with the timing of financial assistance provided to such entities under section 6863 or section 6864 of this title.
- (2) Not less than 80 percent of amounts provided under this section shall be provided to entities other than States.
- (3) A recipient of financial assistance under this section shall have up to three years to complete projects undertaken with such assistance.

2. The regulation : U.S. Department of Energy, Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons Title 10, Part 440, 14 (State Plan Requirements)

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(xiv) The amount of Federal funds and how they will be used to increase the amount of weatherization assistance that the State obtains from non-Federal sources, including private sources, and the expected leveraging effect to be accomplished.

3. Program Guidance WPN11-01

1.7 LEVERAGING AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES:

DOE program regulations permit Grantees to take a percentage of their grant (including PVE funds used under the Weatherization Program, and training and technical assistance funds) to undertake leveraging activities which may supplement the program or be used to run a parallel program (regardless of who initiates the action). (See, 10 CFR 440.14(c)(6)(xiv) and 440.18(d)(14)) Leveraging activities include paying for agency staff or hiring consultant staff to explore and develop partnerships with utility companies and other entities that will generate non-Federal resources for Weatherization. Other allowable activities include: holding leveraging meetings; preparing technical materials/briefs; or facilitating voluntary match funds from a non-Federal source. The leveraged resources should expand energy efficiency services and/or increase the number of DOE-eligible dwelling units weatherized.

The work done with leveraged resources must be consistent with an approved energy audit and utilize cost-effective measures. Leveraging efforts will not always be successful but Grantees should aim to produce more than one dollar leveraged for each DOE dollar expended. As of PY 2007, the maximum percentage of Weatherization funds that can be diverted for leveraging activities is 15 percent of the Grantee's total allocation.

Grantees utilizing this option must provide a detailed leveraging implementation plan in their annual plan, and must indicate in their annual budget, the estimated DOE resources to be used for leveraging activities. The amount of detail in the plan should be commensurate with the amount of funds used for this effort. Reporting of leveraging activities and results must be submitted on the annual Training, Technical Assistance, Monitoring and Leveraging Report (see Section 6.1). Landlord contributions are not considered leveraged resources because they are generally not voluntary and often come with special stipulations or requirements. Grantees requiring further clarifications or guidance on leveraging resources should contact their respective DOE Project Officer.

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