



Home Weatherization Help for Low-income Families

The “Recovery and Reinvestment” measure enacted by the federal government earlier this year expanded the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program to allow not only more improvements to homes but also to make more low-income people eligible for the services.

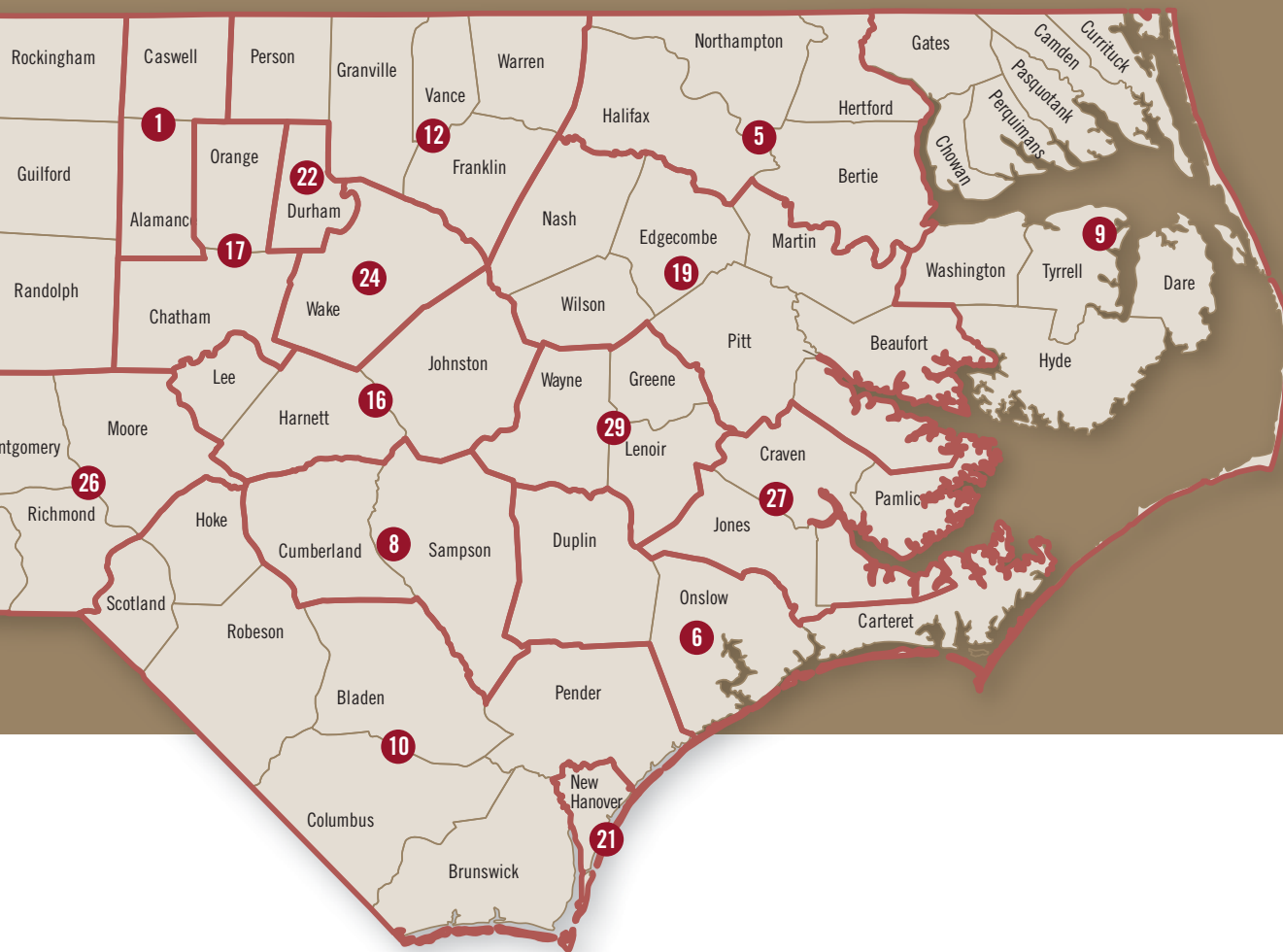
Families whose household incomes are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for up to \$6,500 in home improvements that will make houses more energy efficient. (See box for income guidelines.)

The DOE says that for every \$1 invested, weatherization returns \$2.73 in benefits. These include \$1.65 in energy-related benefits and \$1.07 in other benefits such as reducing pollution, unemployment and adverse health concerns. Also, families save approximately \$350 or more each year on their energy bills after their homes have been weatherized within the program, DOE reports.

2009 Poverty Guidelines	
Persons in family	200% of poverty guideline
1	\$21,660
2	\$29,140
3	\$36,620
4	\$44,100
5	\$51,580
6	\$59,060
7	\$66,540
8	\$74,020

How the Process Works

- Call your local agency (see map and directory).
- Go to the office and complete an application (about 20 minutes).
- Bring proof of income for the past year.
- Answer a few questions about your household, such as, the number of people living in the home.
- If you rent, get permission from your landlord.
- If you are eligible, you are on a waiting list. If there’s an immediate need, you could go to the top of the list.
- Professionals who analyze energy usage at your house will:
 - Test the infiltration of outside air with a blower door.
 - Inspect equipment for health and safety.
 - List the most cost-effective measures for your home.
- The weatherization agency schedules skilled workers.
- All work is energy-related and does not include new roofing, siding, etc.
- Work is typically completed in a day or two.
- You sign off on final inspection.



N.C. Weatherization Assistance Program Agencies

1. Alamance County Community Services Agency

Counties served: Alamance, Caswell Burlington, (336) 229-7031

2. Blue Ridge Communication Action

Counties served: Burke, Caldwell, Alexander, Catawba Morganton, (828) 438-6255

3. Blue Ridge Opportunity Commission

Counties served: Alleghany, Ashe, Wilkes N. Wilkesboro, (336) 667-7174

4. Cabarrus County Planning Services Division

Counties served: Cabarrus Concord, (704) 920-2141

5. Choanoke Area Development Assn.

Counties served: Hertford, Bertie, Halifax, Northampton Rich Square, (252) 539-4155

6. Coastal Community Action

Counties served: Carteret, Duplin, Onslow Newport, (252) 223-1630

7. Community Action Opportunities

Counties served: Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, Transylvania Asheville, (828) 252-2495

8. Cumberland Community Action

Counties served: Cumberland, Sampson Fayetteville, (910) 485-6131

9. Economic Improvement Council

Counties served: Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington Edenton, (252) 482-4459

10. Four-County Community Services

Counties served: Bladen, Hoke, Robeson, Columbus, Brunswick, Scotland, Pender Laurinburg, (910) 277-3500

11. Four Square Community Action

Counties served: Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Swain Andrews, (828) 321-4475

12. Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity

Counties served: Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, Warren Henderson, (252) 492-0161 or (800) 682-1163

13. Gaston Community Action

Counties served: Gaston, Mecklenburg, Stanly, Union Gastonia, (704) 861-2283

14. I Care, Inc

Counties served: Iredell, Lincoln Statesville, (704) 872-8141

15. Isothermal Planning and Development Commission

Counties served: Cleveland, McDowell, Polk, Rutherford Rutherfordton, (828) 287-2281

16. Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action

Counties served: Johnston, Harnett, Lee Smithfield, (919) 934-2145

17. Joint Orange-Chatham Community Action

Counties served: Orange, Chatham Pittsboro, (919) 542-4781

18. Macon County

Counties served: Macon Franklin, (828) 369-2605

19. Martin County Community Action

Counties served: Beaufort, Edgecombe, Martin, Nash, Pitt, Wilson Williamston, (252) 792-7111

20. Mountain Projects, Inc.

Counties served: Haywood, Jackson Waynesville, (828) 452-1447

21. New Hanover County Action

Counties served: New Hanover Wilmington, (910) 762-7808

22. Operation Breakthrough

Counties served: Durham Durham, (919) 688-8111

23. Regional Consolidated Services

Counties served: Randolph, Rockingham, Davidson, Guilford, Forsyth Asheboro, (336) 629-5141

24. Resources For Seniors

Counties served: Wake Raleigh, (919) 872-7933

25. Salisbury-Rowan Community Action

Counties served: Rowan Salisbury, (704) 633-6633

26. Sandhills Community Action

Counties served: Anson, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond Carthage, (910) 947-5675

27. Twin Rivers Opportunities

Counties served: Craven, Jones, Pamlico New Bern, (252) 637-3599

28. W.A.M.Y. Community Action

Counties served: Watauga, Avery, Mitchell, Yancey Boone, (828) 264-2421

29. Wayne Action Group for Economic Solvency

Counties served: Wayne, Lenoir, Greene Goldsboro, (919) 734-1178

30. Yadkin Valley Economic Development District

Counties served: Davie, Stokes, Surry, Yadkin Boonville, (336) 367-7251