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The Department specifically requests comments on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted within 60 days of this publication.

**Robert Sargis,**

*ACF Reports Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Administration for Children and Families

[CFDA Number: 93.568]

#### The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Announces the State Median Income Estimates for Federal Fiscal Year 2016

**AGENCY:** Office of Community Services, ACF, HHS.

**ACTION:** The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS), announces the State Median Income Estimates for a Four-Person Household for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 State Median Income Estimates for Use in the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

**SUMMARY:** The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS), Division of Energy Assistance (DEA) announces the

estimated median income of four-person households in each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for FFY 2016 (October 1, 2015, to September 30, 2016).

**DATES:** These estimates become effective at any time between the date of this publication and the later of (1) October 1, 2015; or (2) the beginning of a grantee's fiscal year.

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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice announces to grantees of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) the estimated median income of four-person households in each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for FFY 2016 (October 1, 2015, to September 30, 2016). LIHEAP grantees that choose to base their income eligibility criteria on these state median income (SMI) estimates may adopt these estimates (up to 60 percent) on their date of publication in the **Federal Register** or on a later date as discussed in the **DATES** section. This enables grantees to implement this notice during the period between the heating and cooling seasons. However, by October 1, 2015, or the beginning of the grantee's fiscal year, whichever is later, such grantees must adjust their income eligibility criteria so that they are in accord with the FFY 2016 SMI.

Sixty percent of SMI for each LIHEAP grantee, as annually established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, is one of the income criteria that LIHEAP grantees may use in determining a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP. The last time LIHEAP was authorized was by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58, which was enacted on August 8, 2005. This authorization expired on September 30, 2007, and reauthorization remains pending.

The SMI estimates in this notice are 3-year estimates derived from the

American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce (Census Bureau).

For additional information about the ACS state median income estimates, including the definition of income and the derivation of medians see [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data\\_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2013\\_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2013_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf) under "Income in the Past 12 Months." For additional information about using the ACS 3-year estimates versus using the 1-year or 5-year estimates, see [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance\\_for\\_data\\_users/estimates/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/estimates/). For additional information about the ACS in general, see <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/> or contact the Census Bureau's Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division at (301) 763-3243.

These SMI estimates, like those derived from any survey, are subject to two types of errors: (1) Non-sampling Error, which consists of random errors that increase the variability of the data and non-random errors that consistently shift the data in a specific direction; and (2) Sampling Error, which consists of the error that arises from the use of probability sampling to create the sample. For additional information about the accuracy of the ACS SMI estimates, see [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data\\_documentation/Accuracy/MultiyearACSAccuracyofData2013.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/MultiyearACSAccuracyofData2013.pdf).

In the state-by-state listing of SMI and 60 percent of SMI for a four-person family for FFY 2016, LIHEAP grantees must regard "family" to be the equivalent of "household" with regards to setting their income eligibility criteria. This listing describes the method for adjusting SMI for households of different sizes, as specified in regulations applicable to LIHEAP (45 CFR 96.85(b)). These regulations were published in the **Federal Register** on March 3, 1988, (53 FR 6827) and amended on October 15, 1999 (64 FR 55858).

#### ESTIMATED STATE MEDIAN INCOME FOR FOUR-PERSON FAMILIES, BY STATE, FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016, FOR USE IN THE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

| States            | Estimated state median income for four-person families <sup>1</sup> | 60 percent of estimated state median income for four-person families <sup>2,3</sup> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama .....     | \$66,253                                                            | \$39,752                                                                            |
| Alaska .....      | 90,307                                                              | 54,184                                                                              |
| Arizona .....     | 65,138                                                              | 39,083                                                                              |
| Arkansas .....    | 58,262                                                              | 34,957                                                                              |
| California .....  | 77,106                                                              | 46,264                                                                              |
| Colorado .....    | 85,915                                                              | 51,549                                                                              |
| Connecticut ..... | 106,193                                                             | 63,716                                                                              |

ESTIMATED STATE MEDIAN INCOME FOR FOUR-PERSON FAMILIES, BY STATE, FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016,  
FOR USE IN THE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)—Continued

| States                     | Estimated state median income for four-person families <sup>1</sup> | 60 percent of estimated state median income for four-person families <sup>2,3</sup> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Delaware .....             | 85,925                                                              | 51,555                                                                              |
| District of Columbia ..... | 83,794                                                              | 50,276                                                                              |
| Florida .....              | 65,764                                                              | 39,458                                                                              |
| Georgia .....              | 68,448                                                              | 41,069                                                                              |
| Hawaii .....               | 86,495                                                              | 51,897                                                                              |
| Idaho .....                | 62,002                                                              | 37,201                                                                              |
| Illinois .....             | 82,918                                                              | 49,751                                                                              |
| Indiana .....              | 72,299                                                              | 43,379                                                                              |
| Iowa .....                 | 79,300                                                              | 47,580                                                                              |
| Kansas .....               | 75,709                                                              | 45,425                                                                              |
| Kentucky .....             | 69,239                                                              | 41,543                                                                              |
| Louisiana .....            | 71,516                                                              | 42,910                                                                              |
| Maine .....                | 76,455                                                              | 45,873                                                                              |
| Maryland .....             | 107,438                                                             | 64,463                                                                              |
| Massachusetts .....        | 106,173                                                             | 63,704                                                                              |
| Michigan .....             | 75,711                                                              | 45,427                                                                              |
| Minnesota .....            | 92,111                                                              | 55,267                                                                              |
| Mississippi .....          | 57,024                                                              | 34,214                                                                              |
| Missouri .....             | 72,647                                                              | 43,588                                                                              |
| Montana .....              | 68,720                                                              | 41,232                                                                              |
| Nebraska .....             | 77,165                                                              | 46,299                                                                              |
| Nevada .....               | 66,461                                                              | 39,877                                                                              |
| New Hampshire .....        | 98,638                                                              | 59,183                                                                              |
| New Jersey .....           | 105,700                                                             | 63,420                                                                              |
| New Mexico .....           | 60,534                                                              | 36,320                                                                              |
| New York .....             | 86,316                                                              | 51,790                                                                              |
| North Carolina .....       | 67,706                                                              | 40,624                                                                              |
| North Dakota .....         | 88,725                                                              | 53,235                                                                              |
| Ohio .....                 | 76,875                                                              | 46,125                                                                              |
| Oklahoma .....             | 64,907                                                              | 38,944                                                                              |
| Oregon .....               | 70,295                                                              | 42,177                                                                              |
| Pennsylvania .....         | 83,730                                                              | 50,238                                                                              |
| Rhode Island .....         | 89,353                                                              | 53,612                                                                              |
| South Carolina .....       | 63,706                                                              | 38,224                                                                              |
| South Dakota .....         | 74,498                                                              | 44,699                                                                              |
| Tennessee .....            | 66,060                                                              | 39,636                                                                              |
| Texas .....                | 69,517                                                              | 41,710                                                                              |
| Utah .....                 | 70,740                                                              | 42,444                                                                              |
| Vermont .....              | 82,781                                                              | 49,669                                                                              |
| Virginia .....             | 92,379                                                              | 55,427                                                                              |
| Washington .....           | 85,013                                                              | 51,008                                                                              |
| West Virginia .....        | 67,613                                                              | 40,568                                                                              |
| Wisconsin .....            | 82,053                                                              | 49,232                                                                              |
| Wyoming .....              | 79,777                                                              | 47,866                                                                              |
| Puerto Rico .....          | 29,188                                                              | 17,513                                                                              |

<sup>1</sup> These figures were prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce (Census Bureau), from 3-year estimates from the 2011, 2012, and 2013 American Community Surveys (ACSs). These estimates, like those derived from any survey, are subject to two types of error: (1) Non-sampling Error, which consists of random errors that increase the variability of the data and non-random errors that consistently direct the data in a specific direction; and (2) Sampling Error, which consists of the error that arises from the use of probability sampling to create the sample.

<sup>2</sup> These figures were calculated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Division of Energy Assistance by multiplying the estimated state median income for a four-person family for each state by 60 percent.

<sup>3</sup> To adjust for different sizes of households for LIHEAP purposes, 45 CFR 96.85 calls for multiplying 60 percent of a state's estimated median income for a four-person family by the following percentages: 52 percent for a one-person household, 68 percent for a two-person household, 84 percent for a three-person household, 100 percent for a four-person household, 116 percent for a five-person household, and 132 percent for a six-person household. For each additional household member above six people, 45 CFR 96.85 calls for adding 3 percentage points to the percentage for a six-person household (132 percent) and multiplying the new percentage by 60 percent of the median income for a four-person family.

**Note:** FFY 2016 covers the period of October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016. The estimated median income for four-person families living in the United States for this period is \$77,507. Grantees that use SMI for LIHEAP may, at their option, employ such estimates at any time between the date of this publication and the later of October 1, 2015 or the beginning of their fiscal year.

**Statutory Authority:** 45 CFR 96.85(b) and 42 U.S.C. 8624(b)(2)(B)(ii).

**Jeannie L. Chaffin,**

*Director, Office of Community Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Administration for Children and Families

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

*Title:* Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Carryover and Reallotment Report.

*OMB No.:* 0970-0106.

*Description:* The LIHEAP statute and regulations require LIHEAP grantees to report certain information to HHS concerning funds forwarded and funds