

Goodbye high utility bills!



Got high utility bills? Increase your energy efficiency!

- TDHCA's free **Weatherization Assistance Program** may help you save energy and lower your utility bills.
- Our **Weatherization Assistance Program** helps low-income Texans control their energy costs through the installation of weatherization materials and consumer education.
- Priority for free assistance is given to the elderly, disabled, families with young children, households with the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income (highest home energy burden), and households with high energy consumption.

You don't have to choose between paying your utility bill and eating.

- Weatherization measures reduce average annual energy costs by up to \$413 per home.
- Start saving today with free weatherization assistance, which may include:
 - Adding insulation
 - Caulking
 - Duct work
 - Energy audit
 - Heating or cooling system repair or replacement
 - Patching holes in the structure
 - Weather stripping doors and windows

Call today to see if you qualify!

- **Call toll free 1-888-606-8889** on a local land line (not a cell phone) to find your local Weatherization Assistance Program provider; or
- Call TDHCA **toll free** at **1-800-525-0657**; or
- Visit us online at **www.tdhca.state.tx.us** and click on the **Help for Texans** tab.

Do It Yourself Weatherization Tips

- Adjust the thermostat to slightly lower temperatures in the winter and slightly higher temperatures in the summer when your family is sleeping.
- Replace the return air filters in the home on a monthly basis.
- Remove furniture that may be blocking the return air to your heating and cooling units. This ensures proper circulation of air.
- Check the direction of ceiling fans: in the winter set the fans to move air downward (counterclockwise); in the summer, set fans to move the air upward (clockwise).
- Close drapes or blinds to eliminate solar heat through the windows.
- Install Compact Florescent Lights (CFL), which use 5 times less electricity, last 7 times longer, and produce less heat than an ordinary light bulb.
- Install glass doors or dampers in fireplaces to reduce air infiltration.
- Set water heater to 120 degrees. Add an insulation blanket if the unit is located outside the home.
- Add insulation to exposed water pipes.
- Install low flow shower heads and faucet aerators to conserve hot water usage.
- Weather strip exterior door jams.
- Install insulation in your attic, walls, and floors.
- Install solar screens to eliminate solar heat through the windows.
- Install storm windows, or add caulking to the perimeter of the existing windows to reduce the infiltration of cold air in the winter and warm air in the summer.
- Replace old appliances with new energy efficient models. Look for the Energy Star label.
- Use dishwashers, washers and dryers at night.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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The Weatherization Assistance Program is administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, which receives the money for the program from the US Department of Energy (DOE), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Investor Owned Utility (IOU) Program funds. The Texas Weatherization Assistance Program is made available in all 254 Texas counties by Community Action Agencies (CAAs), non-profits, local Councils of Government (COGs) and units of local government.

