

NASCSP Update & Managing COVID-19

- ▶ Legislative Update
- ▶ DOE Memo 060
- ▶ Workforce Impact Summary
- ▶ Best Practices and Strategies
- ▶ Open Discussion

Legislative Updates

FY 2021 Regular Appropriations

- ▶ NASCSP and other partners asking for \$310 million for WAP in FY2021
 - ▶ 2 year budget agreement, not a lot of new funding available
 - ▶ Increase of \$1.5 million over FY2020, increase to DOE HQ Training and technical assistance
 - ▶ House letter signed by 135 members, Senate letter 45 signatures
 - ▶ NASCSP submitted written testimony

WAP Reauthorization Bill Status

- ▶ No updates or movement at this time

Legislative Updates

NASCSP asked Congressional champions for the provisions below. Did not make it into Package #3, but hopefully future bill.

Primary

- ▶ Increase the average cost per unit (ACPU) for the current grant cycle (including 2020). Provide authority for the Secretary to adjust or waive the ACPU in times of emergency, disaster, pandemic, economic crisis or other event impacting weatherization.

Secondary

- ▶ Increase allowable administrative costs percentage from 10% to 15%
- ▶ Change re-weatherization date to 15 year rolling to allow WAP staff to begin reviewing previously weatherized lists, doing intake with potential clients, and building wait lists while production is stopped.
- ▶ Double the cost cap for solar to incentivize solar training and building organizational capacity for future solar installs while production is shut down.

DOE Memo 60

Options DOE will allow in response to Coronavirus and the pause in production:

- ▶ Carryover of PY 2019 funds and extend grant periods
- ▶ Shift units and expenditures to another funding source such as LIHEAP
- ▶ Roll PY 2019 and 2020 into one budget period (including extensions) and use of \$7,669 for the ACPU for entire budget period
- ▶ Work with Grantees on an individual basis to adjust performance periods, as needed
- ▶ Extend flexibility in meeting on-site monitoring requirements
- ▶ Continue to review and approve 2020 plan submissions and awards as scheduled
- ▶ Extend HEP certification timeframes – August 2020
- ▶ Work with network to develop and promote online training resources

Grantee Guidance and Management

- ▶ Developed state-specific guidance for COVID-19 operations
- ▶ Shared DOE Memo 60, CAPLAW guidance, NASCSP and other resources
- ▶ Holding regular virtual meetings or teleconferences with subgrantees (weekly)
- ▶ Temporarily changed policy to allow for partial draws to pay contractors but requiring 10% holdback if jobs have not been QCI inspected
- ▶ Encouraging subgrantees invest in workforce development and use T&TA for salaries
 - Each agency created employee-specific training plans and client safety protocols
 - Providing daily training webinars and topics accessible by laptop and smart phone
- ▶ Allowing use of Admin and Operations funds to pay staff while working remote
 - First use available T&TA, then program operations while staying within ACPU
- ▶ Utilizing alternative funding sources and leave to pay for salaries
- ▶ Utilize more LIHEAP funds to stay under ACPU.

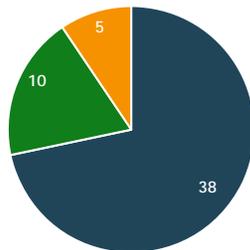
Workforce Impacts

- ▶ Grantee & subgrantee staff working remotely
- ▶ Moving to virtual application intake and allowing for electronic signatures
- ▶ Some subgrantees are able to redirect their weatherization crews to assist with other duties, such as working on other federal programs
- ▶ Some subgrantees opting for furloughs, layoffs and unemployment
 - We do not anticipate many lay offs if the workforce is able to SAFELY enter homes soon
- ▶ Concern about loss of contractors and contractor staff
 - A prolonged stoppage will likely put some out of business
- ▶ Moving toward a new normal: planning for re-entry into client homes
 - Updating client education tools and safety protocols
 - None of our subgrantees want to put their workforce in danger
 - Concern about availability of Personal Protective Equipment

Production & Workforce Impacts

Are WAP workers entering client homes in your state or territory?

■ No ■ Yes ■ Only Emergencies



Are subgrantee WAP staff being asked to use earned leave?

Are subgrantee WAP staff currently furloughed?

Yes	3	11
No	26	32
Unsure	17	3

Best Practices and Strategies - COVID-19

- ▶ Grantee training on state specific guidance documents
 - ▶ Health and Safety plan
 - ▶ State Plan
 - ▶ State Field Guides
- ▶ Deferral data gathering and tracking
 - Work with Subgrantees
 - Work with system providers
- ▶ Energy Audit Approval Submissions
 - Annual update to audit libraries
 - Attend software specific trainings



Best Practices and Strategies - COVID-19

- ▶ Complete online training - see [NASCSP COVID](#) page
- ▶ Procurement and purchase of increased PPE
- ▶ Equipment and Inventory
 - Vehicle Maintenance
 - Vehicle Purchase
- ▶ Client Education
- ▶ Development of success stories
- ▶ Strategic planning to meet production goals
 - ▶ Increase contractor base for ramp up
 - ▶ Train staff



NASCSP Resources on COVID



WAP

- [NASCSP Weatherization Q & A](#) (Updated 4-2-20)
- [Strategies & Tips for Continuing Operations During Suspended Production](#)- This document has suggested activities for crew members, tips about uses of T&TA funds, as well as additional meeting and project ideas during suspended WAP production.
- [Weatherization Online Training Opportunities](#) (Excel)- Compiled by DOE and the WAP Trainers Consortium
 - [WAP Administrative Training Online Modules](#) | Other DOE [online trainings](#)
 - [BPA Virtual Conference](#)
- [COVID Resources for Contractors](#)-A new resource from the DOE EERE Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program containing a summary of the relief available from the U.S. Small Business Administration and other resources for Home Performance Contractors.

<https://nascsp.org/coronavirus-resources/nascsp-resources-on-covid/>

Open Discussion

Thanks for attending!

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