

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

ALEUTIAN PRIBILOF ISLAND ASSOCIATION LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc. (APIA) Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$47,499 in FY21. The Aleutian and Pribilof Island region is immense and consists of an area over 100,000 square miles. There is no road access linking any of the communities, and travel to (and within) the region is only possible by air or sea. Utilities are unreliable and antiquated by today's standards. Generally, the cost of living in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands is an average 40-60% higher than in Anchorage. The reduction of rates, arrearages, and restoration of water services provides much needed alleviation from the exorbitant cost of living in the unique region for low-income families. The APIA utilizes LIHWAP grant funds to provide emergency assistance to enable low-income households to access water and wastewater services.

Program Operation

The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association LIHWAP, which began in November 2021, is managed and operated at Tribal level in coordination with other programs available to low-income households. Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **three priority groups**:

- Households whose water and/or wastewater services have been disconnected
- Households facing the threat of disconnection of their water and wastewater services
- Households in need of rate reduction in current bills

Program staff conduct outreach activities, determine client eligibility, and process benefit payments to water service providers.

FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



AMOUNT

TOTAL: \$47,499

- ARP: \$18,864
- CAA: \$28,635



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

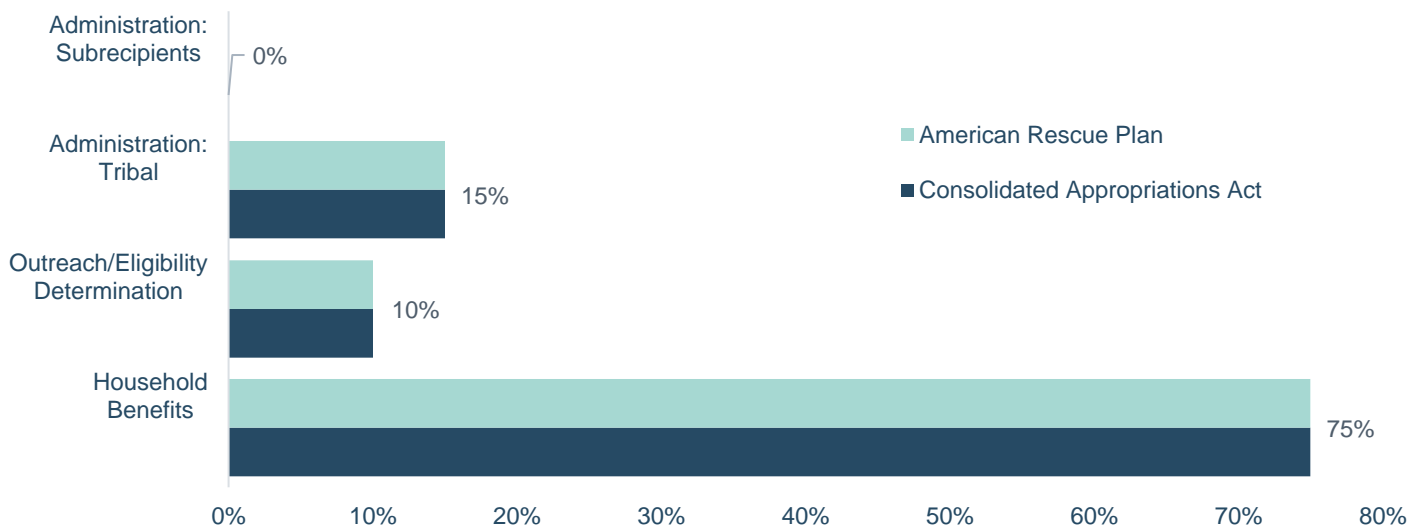
- Restoration of services
- Payment of arrearages
- Rate reductions



PROGRAM COORDINATION

- Joint application for multiple programs
- Intake referrals to/from other programs
- One-stop intake centers

Use of Funding by Funding Source



Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association's administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$1,036 in financial assistance to pay the account balance, past due arrears, or disconnection and reconnection fees. Program staff use applicants' income, household size, and drinking water and wastewater burdens to determine the benefit amount. In addition, staff use the LIHEAP Community Point as an estimate for differences in cost of living between communities served.

Priority Populations

Households that meet program eligibility criteria **and** fall in one of the following categories are prioritized and receive a priority point when calculating benefit amounts. Applications are processed by the date and time received, with priority applications processed first. When funds fall below a threshold, only priority and crisis applications will be processed. Households with high water burden are given a higher point value when determining benefit amounts.

- ✓ People with disabilities
- ✓ Families with young children
- ✓ Older Adult/Seniors (60+)
- ✓ Households with high water burden

Program Outreach Activities

- Place posters/flyers in local and county social service offices, offices of aging, Social Security offices, Veterans Affairs, etc.
- Publication of articles or public service announcements in local newspapers or broadcast media announcements.
- Work directly with water utilities to identify potential recipients.
- Inform low-income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHWAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.

Eligibility and Benefit Determination Criteria

Title	Item
Income Threshold	
✓	150% Federal Poverty Guideline
	60% State Median Income
	Hybrid Federal and State (based on household size)
Categorical Eligibility	
✓	LIHEAP
	Means-tested Veterans Programs
	Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)
	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
Eligible Households	
✓	Homeowners
✓	Renters
Benefit Level Determination*	
✓	Income
✓	Household size
✓	Household drinking water burden
✓	Household wastewater burden
Benefit Amount	
\$96	Minimum
\$1,036	Maximum
Benefit Period	
✓	One Time
	Multiple

*Grant recipients are required to determine a benefit level for households seeking assistance with their current water and wastewater bills. Benefit level determination is based on household income, size, and drinking water and wastewater burden. In addition, LIHEAP Community Point, used as an estimate for differences in cost of living between communities served, is included.

For more information about the Aleutian Pribilof Island Association LIHWAP, contact:

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