

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

THE CATAWBA NATION LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Catawba Nation Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$48,163 in FY21. The Catawba Nation's water department identified assistance with arrearages so that drinking water and/or wastewater services can be restored or disconnection can be avoided as the highest need for families.

Program Operation

The Catawba Nation's LIHWAP, which began in December 2021, is managed and operated at the tribal level by the Catawba Nation Family Services. The Catawba Nation's LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **three priority groups** listed here in order of priority:

- Households whose water or wastewater services have been disconnected
- Households facing the threat of disconnection of their water and wastewater services
- Households in need of assistance with deposits for water or wastewater services for new residences

FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



AMOUNT

TOTAL: \$48,163

- ARP: \$19,153
- CAA: \$29,010



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

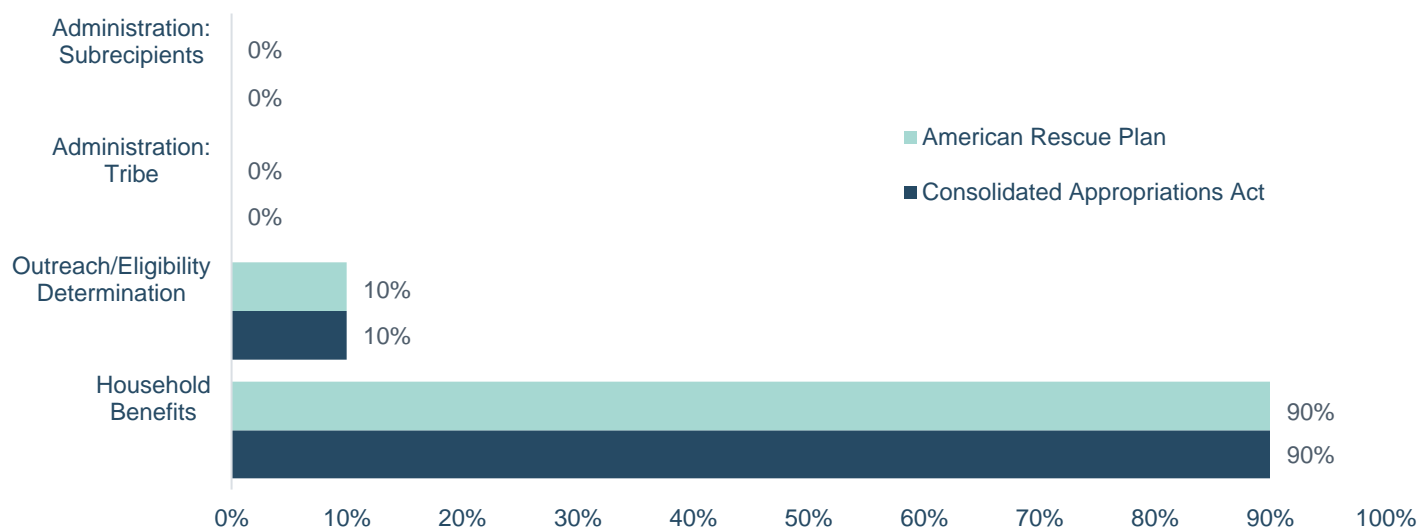
- Restoration of services
- Payment of arrearages
- Deposits for new residences



PROGRAM COORDINATION

- Joint application for multiple programs
- Intake referrals to/from other programs

Use of Funding by Funding Source



Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under The Catawba Nation's administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$350 in financial assistance each quarter to pay the account balance, past due arrears, or disconnection and reconnection fees. Agency staff use applicants' income, household size, and drinking water and wastewater burdens to determine the benefit amount.

Priority Populations

Households that meet program eligibility criteria, are a Catawba tribal household, **and** fall in one of the following categories are prioritized. Applicants receive a designated day and time to apply, home visits, and priority processing of benefits.

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

Program Outreach Activities

- Work directly with water utilities to identify potential recipients.
- Inclusion of inserts in water vendor billings to inform individuals of the availability of LIHWAP assistance.
- Mass mailing(s) to prior-year LIHEAP recipients or recipients of other government benefits
- Automated phone campaigns and/or social media outreach.
- Publish on agency website.

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
✓	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	
\$100	Minimum
\$350	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.

For more information about The Catawba Nation LIHWAP, contact:

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