# Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

CONFEDERATED SALISH & KOOTENAI TRIBES LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$635,169 in FY21. The CSKT utilizes LIHWAP grant funds to ensure Tribal and non-Tribal families that live on the Flathead Reservation and in Western Montana have access to water and wastewater services.

## **Program Operation**

The Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes' LIHWAP, which began in December 2021, is administered by the Department of Human Resources Development in coordination with other programs available to low-income households. The CSKT's LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **two priority groups**:

- Households that have been disconnected from water or wastewater services
- Households with arrearages to prevent service disconnection

Department of Human Resources Development staff conduct outreach activities, determine client eligibility, and process benefit payments to water vendors.

#### **FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION**



**TOTAL: \$635,169**• ARP: \$252,542

CAA: \$382,627



## **OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES**

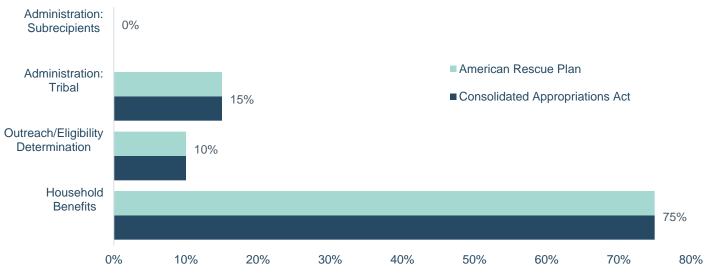
- Payment of arrearages
- Restoration of services



# **PROGRAM COORDINATION**

- Joint application with other programs
- Intake to/from other programs
- One-stop intake centers





## Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under the Department of Human Resources Development's administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$2,000 in benefit assistance.

# **Priority Populations**

Households that meet program eligibility criteria and fall in one of the following categories receive priority assistance.

- ✓ People with disabilities
- ✓ Older Adult/Seniors (60+)

## **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.
- Mass mailing(s) to prior-year LIHEAP recipients or recipients of other government benefits.
- Inform low-income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHWAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.
- Program information, including application, available CSKT's website, DHRD Elders Program, and SK Housing Authority.

# **Eligibility and Benefit Determination Criteria**

| Title               | ltem   |
|---------------------|--|
| Income Threshold    |  |
|                     | 150% Federal Poverty Guideline                     |
| ✓                   | 60% State Median Income                            |
|                     | Hybrid Federal and State (based on household size) |
| Categorical Eligibi | lity   |
| ✓                   | LIHEAP   |
|                     | Means-tested Veterans Programs                     |
| ✓                   | Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) |
|                     | Supplemental Security Income (SSI)                 |
| ✓                   | Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)     |
| Eligible Household  | ds   |
| ✓                   | Homeowners   |
| <b>√</b>            | Renters  |
| Benefit Level Dete  | ermination**                                       |
| ✓                   | Income   |
| ✓                   | Household size                                     |
| ✓                   | Household drinking water burden                    |
| ✓                   | Household wastewater burden                        |
| Benefit Amount      |  |
| \$35                | Minimum  |
| \$2,000             | Maximum  |
| Benefit Period      |  |
|                     | One Time   |
| ✓                   | Multiple   |

<sup>\*</sup>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 Salish & Kootenai Tribes LIHWAP, contact:

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