

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

NOOKSACK INDIAN TRIBE LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Nooksack Indian Tribe Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$36,716 in FY21. The Tribe utilizes LIHWAP grant funds to provide emergency assistance to enable low-income households to access water and wastewater services.

Program Operation

The Nooksack Indian Tribe's LIHWAP, which began in October 2021, is managed by the Department of Social Services in coordination with other programs available to low-income households. The Nooksack Indian Tribe's LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **two priority groups**:

- Households whose water and wastewater services have been disconnected
- Households with existing arrearages at risk of disconnection

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

FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



AMOUNT

TOTAL: \$36,716

- ARP: \$14,601
- CAA: \$22,115



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

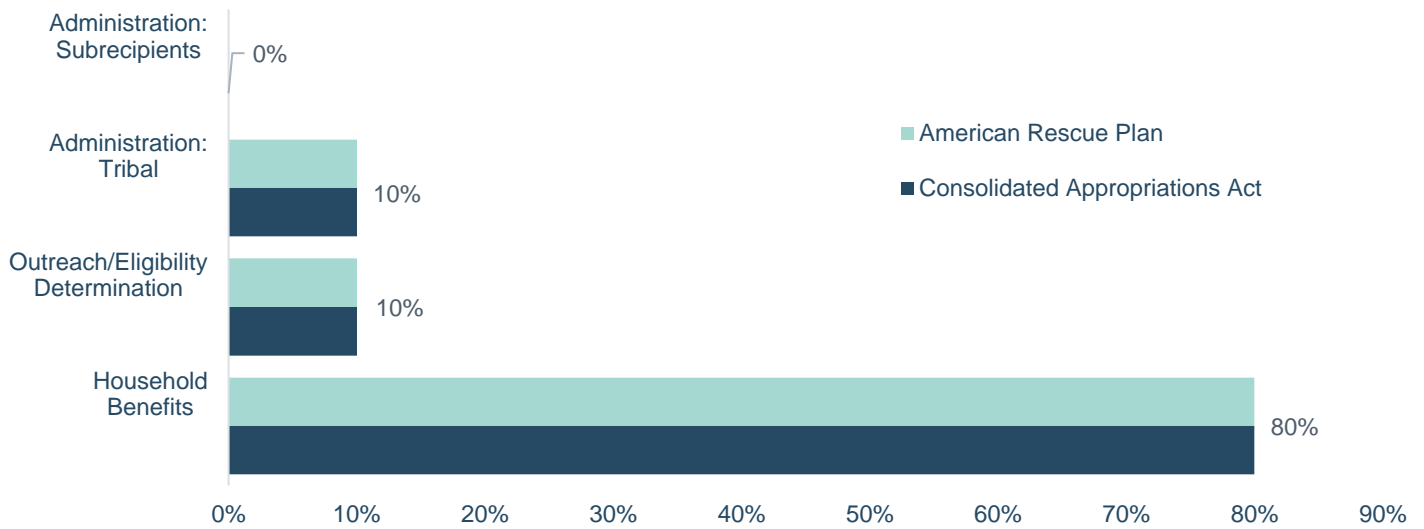
- Restoration of services
- Payment of arrearages



PROGRAM COORDINATION

- Joint application for multiple programs, i.e., LIHEAP, CSBG, EFAP, and LIHWAP
- Social Services Department works closely with the Opportunity Council, Vocational Rehabilitation Program and the local Department of Social and Health Services Office

Use of Funding by Funding Source



Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under the Department of Social Services' administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$500 in benefit assistance. Agency staff use a benefit matrix to determine benefit amounts taking into consideration household income, size, and water burden. Households are eligible to apply for assistance every six months.

Program Outreach Activities

- 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.
- Execute interagency agreements with other low-income program offices and/or public health pathways created for COVID-19 outreach to perform outreach to target groups.

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	
\$0	Minimum
\$500	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 Nooksack Indian Tribe LIHWAP, contact:

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