

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

PUEBLO OF JEMEZ LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Pueblo of Jemez Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$43,793 in FY21. The goal of the Pueblo of Jemez LIHWAP is to ensure that all households within the reservation boundaries continuously have water and wastewater services by reducing arrearages for such services and assisting with the enrollment in a payment plan suitable for each household. Jemez LIHWAP identified high risk households on the verge of disconnection or in arrears and collaborated with the Jemez Public Works and Jemez Finance Department to ensure households receive the best and most efficient services possible while ensuring water and wastewater services are provided continuously.

Program Operation

The Pueblo of Jemez LIHWAP, which began in February 2022, is managed and operated by the Jemez Health and Human Services Department. The Pueblo of Jemez LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **three priority groups**:

- Households whose water and wastewater services have been disconnected
- Households facing the threat of disconnection of their water and wastewater services
- Households with existing arrearages

FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



AMOUNT

TOTAL: \$43,793

- ARP: \$17,396
- CAA: \$26,397



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

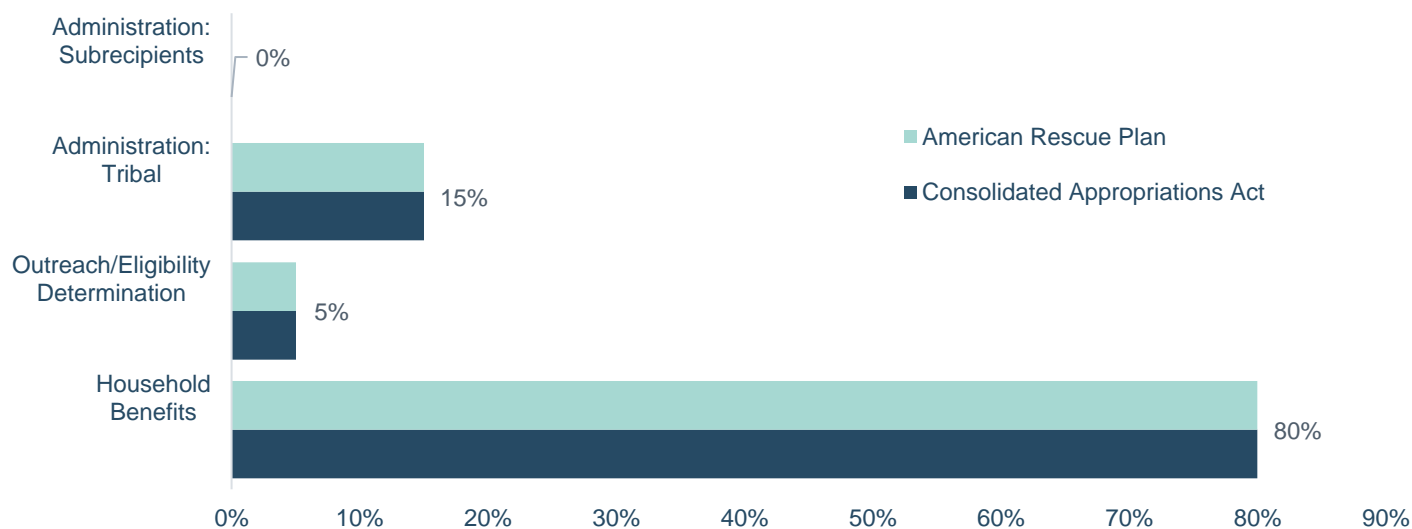
- Restoration of services
- Payment of arrearages
- Rate reductions



PROGRAM COORDINATION

- Joint application with LIHEAP
- Intake referrals to/from other programs

Use of Funding by Funding Source



Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under the Pueblo of Jemez's administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$420 in financial assistance to pay the account balance, past due arrears, or disconnection and reconnection fees. Agency staff use applicants' income, household size, and water and wastewater burden to determine the benefit amount.

Priority Populations

Households that meet program eligibility criteria **and** fall in one of the following categories are prioritized and receive additional points.

- ✓ People with disabilities
- ✓ Families with young children
- ✓ 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.
- Inclusion of inserts in water vendor billings to inform individuals of the availability of LIHWAP assistance.
- Inform low-income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHWAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.
- Interagency agreements executed with other low-income program offices and/or public health pathways created for COVID-19 outreach to perform outreach to target groups.
- Work with Jemez Health and Human Services and other Tribal departments to inform the public of LIHWAP.

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	
\$60	Minimum
\$420	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 Pueblo of Jemez LIHWAP, contact:

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