

# Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

## SAULT ST. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$141,089 in FY21. The Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians utilizes LIHWAP grant funds to restore and maintain access to water services for Tribal citizens.

### Program Operation

The Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' LIHWAP, which began in November 2021, is managed and operated by the Tribe in coordination with other programs available to low-income households. The Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **two priority groups**:

- Households with disconnected services
- Households with arrearages to prevent a shut-off

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

### FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



#### AMOUNT

**TOTAL: \$141,089**

- ARP: \$56,094
- CAA: \$84,995



#### OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

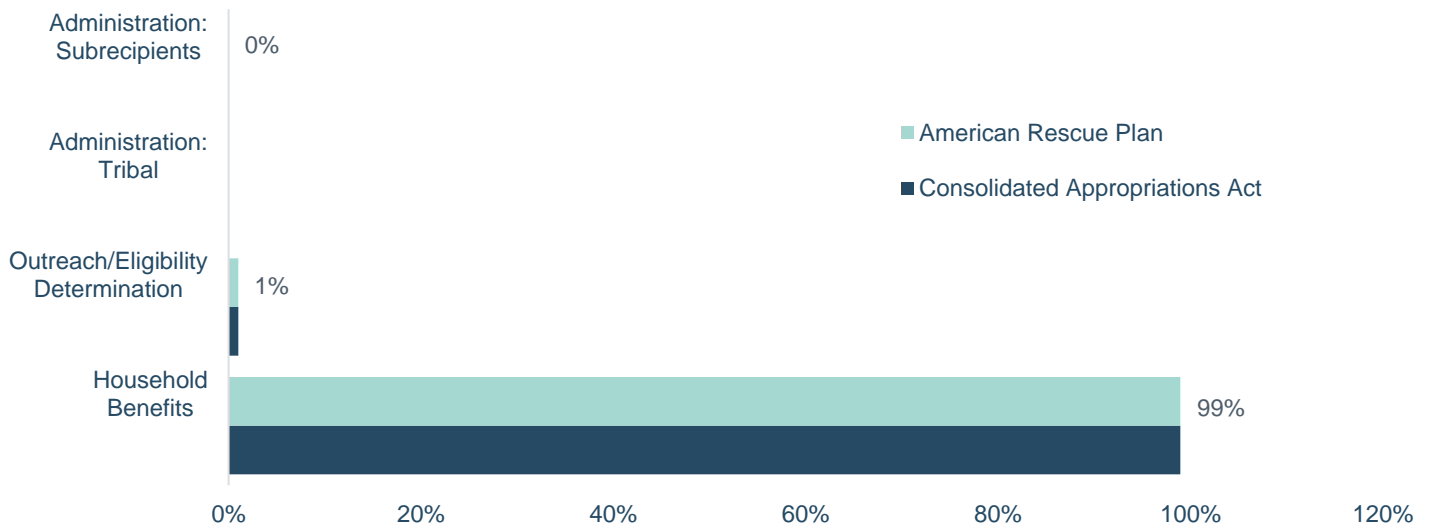
- Restoration of services
- Payment of arrearages



#### PROGRAM COORDINATION

- Coordination with and referral to other programs to ensure applicant needs are met
- Coordinated application process with available resources within the Tribe as well as community agencies

### Use of Funding by Funding Source



### Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under the Tribe's administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$950 in benefit assistance. Households with lower income levels and a higher water burden receive an increased benefit amount to help meet their energy needs.

#### 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.
- 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	
<b>\$500</b>	Minimum
<b>\$950</b>	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. Because the Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is not using its LIHWAP funds to assist households with their current water bills, the Tribe did not establish a benefit level.

### For more information about the Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians LIHWAP, contact:

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