Creating One Equitable Income Standard

For eligibility in the state's low-income clean energy programs

What standard are we using right now?

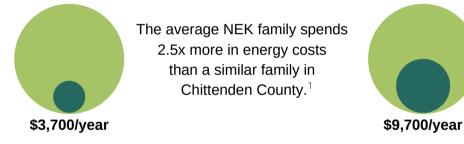
Currently, income qualification for weatherization and other energy services varies by county. A family of four in Chittenden County making \$68,000 qualifies for the services, but a similar family of four in the Northeast Kingdom making \$68,000 does not.





What's the problem with that?

Energy costs are dramatically higher for the family living in the NEK that was just disqualified.



A simple solution - one state-wide standard

We can move toward more equitable programs and simplify the qualification process by switching to a single, state-wide metric - State Median Income.

Using SMI, both families would qualify for weatherization and energy services.





Families in Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle would continue to use county-weighted income levels to qualify for housing, food, childcare, and other assistance. Those at the top edge of the current qualification may no longer qualify for energy-related services.

Let's support the Vermont families with the heaviest energy burden in buttoning up their homes and reducing their energy use. Making the switch to a statewide income qualification is the first step.

1. https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/news-blog/whitepapers/vermont-energy-burden

