

## **Emergency Financial Assistance Program for Flood-Impacted Vermonters**

**Program Purpose:** Emergency grant funding will be available to assist Vermont residents, including homeowners and renters, who were impacted by the July 2023 flood disaster, as declared in Executive Order No. 03-23, and need to replace flood-damaged and flood-destroyed appliances and equipment. Current FEMA reports estimate over 4,000 residences were impacted. This emergency funding will support addressing this urgent financial need. Efficiency Vermont will utilize existing, cost-effective programs, supply chain partners, and delivery mechanisms to ensure supply availability.

**Program Amount:** Up to \$10,000,000

**Grant Program:** Applications will be considered and grants will be awarded on a rolling basis and until all funds have been granted. Qualifying replacement appliances and equipment include those on Efficiency Vermont's Qualifying Products List and comparably efficient equipment.

Income qualifications are based on Vermont's Area Median Income (AMI) in keeping with Efficiency Vermont's standard practices. Priority will be given to Vermonters with income at or below 120% AMI. For renters, awards will be based on the renter's income, not the landlord's income. For a multi-unit dwelling, the average income of all renters in the building may be used to determine income for appliances and equipment that affect more than one unit.

Awards shall not exceed \$10,000 per individual. Assistance will not be available for items reimbursed by another source, including insurance payouts and FEMA awards. Applicants will be required to verify income, proof of damage with damage assessments from FEMA and/or insurance companies and other documents as requested by the grantor.

Grant award decisions can be stacked with Distribution Utility Tier III and Efficiency Utility programs and incentives, federal tax incentives, Inflation Reduction Act incentives and state-controlled programs; ARPA-funded weatherization, heat pump and hot water heater switch-and-save programs, electric panel upgrades, and flexible load management; FEMA assistance, and other grant awards or philanthropic dollars.