

Commonwealth of Massachusetts EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING & LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

Maura T. Healey, Governor ◆ Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor ◆ Edward M. Augustus Jr., Secretary

To: Local Housing Authorities (LHAs) the Issue Mobile Alternative Housing Voucher

Program (AHVP) Vouchers

From: Ben Stone, Undersecretary, Division of Public Housing and Rental Assistance

Date: January 22, 2025

Re: AHVP Mobile Voucher Issuance Pause

As part of Governor's Healey's state budget for fiscal year 2026 and in response to a difficult state fiscal situation, **EOHLC** is pausing the issuance of mobile AHVP vouchers via CHAMP. EOHLC is taking this action to stay within the proposed appropriation while maintaining our commitment to current voucher holders and retaining our ability to support project-based vouchers for new housing development.

This voucher issuance pause applies to all <u>mobile</u> AHVP vouchers issued via CHAMP. This includes underutilized vouchers and vouchers lost due to attrition. Any mobile vouchers that expire or are terminated may not be re-issued. Mobile vouchers may be issued for relocation to current AHVP participants. CHAMP will remain open to new applicants.

<u>Timeline and Key Dates</u>

- As of today, January 22, 2025, LHAs may no longer pull any new AHVP mobile lists in CHAMP and may not send out any unsent screening letters from previous list pulls.
- LHAs may continue to accept already requested documentation to verify AHVP
 eligibility through Friday, January 24, 2025. Please be careful to note when
 documentation was postmarked (if mailed) or uploaded into CHAMP by a participant.
 Except for verified reasonable accommodations, any verification documents submitted
 after January 24, 2025 shall not be considered.
- LHAs may continue to verify eligibility for AHVP through Friday, January 31, 2025. LHAs may only consider documentation submitted by January 24, 2025.
- Through Friday, February 14, LHAs may continue to issue mobile vouchers to households that were fully verified, including a CORI, by January 31, 2025. If, for some reason, you are unable to issue a mobile voucher to a household by 1/31/25, please contact EOHLC.
- Any mobile voucher <u>issued</u> by February 14 may be utilized by the household.

 Housing agencies are encouraged to complete any data entry in CHAMP prior to February 14, 2025. After that date, EOHLC and our vendor will update CHAMP and certain actions may no longer be available.

Applicability

The AHVP mobile voucher issuance pause only applies to mobile AHVP vouchers issued via CHAMP. As such, there is one narrow exception to the pause in issuance. LHAs may continue to issue mobile AHVP vouchers to:

• Referrals from MassHealth and MassAbility as part of the Money Follows the Person program.

The AHVP mobile voucher issuance pause does not apply to any project-based vouchers.

LHAs must alert EOHLC when a mobile voucher is issued for some other irregular reason.

Currently, there are no other program changes for AHVP. Households can continue to utilize the AHVP Security Deposit Program.