



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Charles D. Baker, Governor ♦ Karyn E. Polito, Lt. Governor ♦ Jennifer D. Maddox, Undersecretary

MRVP NOTICE: FY23-03

To: All Local Housing Agencies and Regional Non-Profits
 Administering Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) Vouchers
From: Cecilia Woodworth, Assistant Director, State Rental Assistance Programs
Subject: **MRVP Utility Allowance Schedule, effective January 1, 2023**
Date: November 7, 2022

As required in the [FY23 MRVP Budget Line Item](#), DHCD is implementing new calculation methods for both Mobile and Project Based Voucher Tenant Rent Shares for MRVP. Included in this calculation is a Utility Allowance, as described below. (For more information on rent calculations using the Utility Allowance, see [Revised Calculations for Both Mobile and Project Based Vouchers](#).)

The Utility Allowance is an amount published by DHCD of the monthly cost for heat and other electricity if either utility is not included in the Contract Rent and for which a Household must pay separately. Utility Allowances apply to both Mobile and Project Based Vouchers. MRVP is adopting a simplified Utility Allowance schedule, shown below. The Utility Allowance is based on the number of bedrooms in the Contract Unit, regardless of Voucher Size.

Unit Size	SRO	ESRO	0/ Studio	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Heat Utility Allowance	\$23	\$25	\$30	\$45	\$65	\$85	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$175
Other Electric Utility Allowance	\$12	\$14	\$16	\$17	\$18	\$19	\$20	\$21	\$22	\$23

The “Heat Utility Allowance” shall be applied to all Households whose heat, regardless of fuel type, is not included in the Contract Rent. “Other Electric Utility Allowance” shall be applied to Households whose electricity for anything other than heat is not included in the Contract Rent. A Household may receive the “Heat” and/or “Other Electric” Utility Allowance depending on the specifics of their Lease.

Depending on the Household’s net income, Contract Rent, and Utility Allowance, the Household may qualify for a Utility Reimbursement. The Utility Reimbursement is a payment made to the Head of Household to help offset the cost of utilities when, in some cases, the Utility Allowance exceeds Required Household Contribution. Utility Reimbursement does not count as income when calculating Household income.

MRVP Utility Allowances

Effective January 1, 2023

Unit Size	SRO	ESRO	Studio/ 0 BDR	1 Bedroom	2 Bedrooms	3 Bedrooms	4 Bedrooms	5 Bedrooms	6 Bedrooms	7+ Bedrooms
Heat Utility Allowance	\$23	\$25	\$30	\$45	\$65	\$85	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$175
Other Electric Utility Allowance	\$12	\$14	\$16	\$17	\$18	\$19	\$20	\$21	\$22	\$23

- Utility Allowances apply to both Mobile and Project Based Vouchers.
- The Utility Allowance is based on the number of bedrooms in the Contract Unit, regardless of Voucher Size.
- The “Heat Utility Allowance” shall be applied to all Households whose heat, regardless of fuel type, is not included in the Contract Rent.
- “Other Electric Utility Allowance” shall be applied to Households whose electricity for anything other than heat is not included in the Contract Rent.
- A Household may receive the “Heat” and/or “Other Electric” Utility Allowance depending on the specifics of their Lease