



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

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

**NOTICE LIFTING INITIAL FEDERAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE POLICIES  
IMPLEMENTED IN RESPONSE TO THE STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Date Issued: June 2, 2021

On May 17, 2021, Governor Baker announced the end of the COVID-19 State of Emergency, effective June 15, 2021. Accordingly, DHCD is hereby updating its COVID-19 Pandemic Notice of Initial Policies and Procedures for Federal Rental Assistance Administered by the Division of Rental Assistance, enacted in March 2020 in response to the State of Emergency.

I. Termination of Participants

In its March 2020 notice, DHCD temporarily suspended federal rental assistance terminations in all cases other than those involving violent or drug-related criminal activity seriously affecting the health and safety of other residents.

Per this notice, DHCD is ending the suspension of terminations and instructing all Regional Administering Agencies (RAAs) to follow the usual policies outlined in the Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan regarding termination of participants. As of the date of this notice, RAAs may resume regular termination proceedings, both new and those in process prior to the state of emergency, implementing an effective date no earlier than Tuesday, August 31, 2021. Please note that where a proposed termination conflicts with a waiver contained in the [HUD waiver guidance](#), the HUD waiver guidance will prevail.

In the event that a termination was started prior to the State of Emergency, the RAA will need to send new termination notices to the affected participants.

II. Extension of Voucher Term

In its March 2020 notice, DHCD provided for an extension of its usual 60-day voucher term, allowing vouchers to be extended automatically until 30 calendar days past the expiration of the State of Emergency.

DHCD remains committed to providing housing assistance to our applicants and participants. As such, DHCD is instructing all RAAs to provide an automatic 90-day extension from the date of this notification; thus, the earliest voucher expiration date will be Tuesday, August 31, 2021. Applicants and participants will not be required to submit a request for this extension, but the RAAs must notify affected applicants and participants in writing of the new expiration date. After August 31, 2021, requests for extension will be considered as usual per § 5.5.2 of the Administrative Plan.

III. Government Stimulus Income

Exclusions of income are addressed in the [HUD waiver guidance](#).

IV. Verification of Self-Certification Documentation

Permissible self-certification is addressed in the [HUD waiver guidance](#).