



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

August 3, 2022

To all Regional Administering Agencies and Local Housing Authorities

Re: Waivers under Revised Calculations for Both Mobile and Project Based Vouchers

The Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) is hereby waiving certain requirements under 760 CMR 49.00 in order to continue DHCD's commitment of providing housing assistance to low-income households. These regulatory waivers shall allow the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) to move to a biennial recertification schedule beginning January 1, 2024 and remove the heat deduction because utility allowances will be applied to both mobile and project based vouchers beginning January 1, 2023 at a household's annual recertification, relocation, admission, or otherwise required interim recalculation.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 760 CMR 49.05(7)(a), during the period that this waiver is in effect, until rescinded, determination of the voucher payment will be required only at least once in every 24 month period, instead of annually or at least once in every 12 month period. All other requirements listed in 760 CMR 49.05(7)(a) shall continue to apply.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 760 CMR 49.05(5)(d)(2), during the period that this waiver is in effect, until rescinded, for a participant with a mobile or project based voucher who is responsible for the cost of heat separate from rent, a deduction for heat calculated in accordance with administrative guidance published by the Department shall not be deducted from the participant's gross income. Instead, as required by the FY23 MRVP Budget Line Item Language (7004-9024) and outlined in DHCD issued guidance, a utility allowance for heat will be applied to both mobile and project based vouchers. In no event shall a participant's net income be less than zero.

These waivers shall take effect as described in the attached guidance and shall apply to any LHA or RAA administering MRVP.

In you have any questions, please contact Cecilia Woodworth, Assistant Director, at [cecilia.woodworth@mass.gov](mailto:cecilia.woodworth@mass.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer D. Maddox".

Jennifer D. Maddox  
Undersecretary