



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING &  
LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

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

To: Regional Administering Agencies (RAAs)  
From: Maryssa Schneider McLean, Director, Division of Rental Assistance  
Re: Verification of Date of Construction for Buildings Built After December 31, 1977  
Date: July 15, 2024

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As per the Division of Rental Assistance's (DRA) Housing Choice Voucher Program [Administrative Plan](#), § 8.16, in order to verify that a building was built on or after January 1, 1978 for the purpose of ensuring lead paint compliance, DRA has required that RAAs "collect a building permit to document the time of initial construction of the building."

Recognizing, however, that it can be difficult to obtain copies of building permits and that other sources of verification are available, DRA hereby amends § 8.16 to allow RAAs to accept other documentation to confirm the initial construction of a building. In addition to a building permit, RAAs may use information collected from the municipal assessor's database, the [Massachusetts Interactive Property Map \(arcgis.com\)](#), or another source approved in advance by EOHL's Inspections Specialist or Assistant Director, Federal Programs, to confirm initial construction. Note that if a pre-1978 building undergoes rehab or remodeling after January 1, 1978, this building is still subject to the pre-1978 lead-based paint compliance documentation requirements.

This change in policy is effective immediately and will be recorded in the next version of the Admin Plan. Please do not hesitate to reach out to DRA staff if you have any questions.