



<b>Program:</b> HEAP Fuel Assistance	<b>MHPN #</b> 2024-HEAP-003
<b>Action:</b> PY2024 HEAP Application Processing	<b>Effective Date:</b> 02/01/2024
<b>Issued by:</b> MaineHousing, Energy and Housing Services	<b>Expired Date:</b>

**This MaineHousing Notice is being issued to provide information regarding HEAP Application processing and benefit payments.**

**1. Information**

We have been meeting regularly to analyze the Program Year 2024 application processing and the expenditure rate. Based on the current rate of applications, approvals, denials, and average benefit paid, MaineHousing has determined the appropriate date to stop accepting new HEAP applications for benefit payment is March 1, 2024 at 5:00PM, which should allow us to serve everyone who has applied by that date. However, messaging will note that assistance is not guaranteed in the event that the rate of applications or average benefit paid increases.

We will continue to accept, and allow processing of applications after 5:00PM on March 1<sup>st</sup>, but they will not be moved forward for benefit payment for HEAP Fuel Assistance. This will act as a waiting list so in the event of left-over funds, we can work through paying additional applications in date order. Applicants may still be eligible for ECIP, LIAP and TANF Fuel Supplemental if all program guidelines are met.

Furthermore, we have heard from many of you that it is important for \$21 applicants to continue to have access to the program, so applications for \$21 benefits can continue to be accepted and processed for payment after 5:00PM on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

MaineHousing will be communicating this beginning today, by a messaging on the MaineHousing website and by speaking with other partners.

We have included the following language for you to share on your website, if you wish:

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) is a program that provides a fixed amount of funding to Maine each year from the federal government. Based on the most current projections, we will not be able to guarantee payment for processed applications taken after 5:00PM on March 1, 2024. HEAP has now used over 75% of the funds available and has additional applications in the pipeline that we expect will use the remaining funds. We will make every effort to provide assistance to eligible applicants who submit a completed application by the deadline, but cannot guarantee that assistance will be available.

If you need assistance after the deadline, please apply and we will keep a waiting list should there be funding available. We will work through the pipeline as quickly as possible, but please know that assistance is not guaranteed.

**2. Notice Contact**

Genevieve Soucy, *Director of Energy and Housing Services* ■ (207) 626-4600 ■ [gsoucy@mainehousing.org](mailto:gsoucy@mainehousing.org)

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Lauren Bustard, Maine State Housing Authority, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330,  
Telephone Number 1-800-452-4668 (voice in state only), (207) 626-4600 (voice) or Maine Relay 711.

