

## **Utility Help in Massachusetts**

### UTILITY PROGRAMS (CONTACT THE UTILITY COMPANY TO APPLY):

- Arrearage Management Programs (AMPs): Each utility company offers AMPs to eligible low-income
  customers with overdue utility bills and cancel these arrearages when customers enter and follow
  through with a payment plan
- Discount Rate: Low-income customers can receive a discount of up to 42% on utility bills
- Contact your utility company for details

#### PROTECTIONS FROM UTILITY DISCONNECTION

 Contact your utility company or municipal utility to apply for special protections during the winter season, or for customers with a <u>serious illness</u>, <u>infants</u>, and <u>seniors</u>

#### **EMERGENCY UTILITY HELP**

- HAF (<u>Homeowner Assistance Fund</u> <u>one pager</u>) and RAFT (<u>Residential Assistance for Families in Transition</u>) benefits can be used for utility payment help for qualified low-income renters and homeowners, for current or overdue utility bills and other expenses
- Apply for <u>help with rent, mortgage or utility bills</u>, or contact <u>Regional Housing Administering Agencies</u> for assistance
- Immigrants may apply, even if the household is not eligible for LIHEAP or other benefit programs
- Benefits may be available for electricity, gas, water and sewer, trash removal, and other energy and utility costs
- Housing Consumer Education Centers are available to help

# FUEL ASSISTANCE OR LIHEAP (LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

- FY 2023 LIHEAP applications are due by May 12, contact your local community action agency or other LIHEAP agency for more information
- See the Massachusetts <u>Cold Relief brochure</u> for more information and where to apply, or call the DHCD Heatline at 800-632-8175
- The local community action agency/LIHEAP program may have information about other assistance available in the community, such as the <u>Good Neighbor Energy Fund</u>

## **LEAN PROGRAM:**

• Free energy efficiency services for eligible low-income households, apply through local community action agency, more information here.

## ACP (Affordable Connectivity Program) AND LIFELINE

- Funds to help pay for broadband internet services and devices (a laptop, computer or tablet) are available through the <u>Affordable Connectivity Program</u>
- Households may also apply for Lifeline benefits for additional help with phone and internet costs

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