



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

**ROY COOPER** • Governor

**MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH** • Secretary

**SUSAN OSBORNE** • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for  
Human Services

August 13, 2021

**Dear County Directors of Social Services**

**Attention:** Energy Administrators, Managers & Supervisors

**Subject:** Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Block Grant Plan

**Priority:** **Time Sensitive, Action & Response Required**

The LIHEAP Block Grant Plan, completed each fiscal year, outlines how grantees will operate the Energy programs. The Administration of Children and Families (ACF) requires that states seek public participation for the LIHEAP Plan each year. Revisions to the 2022 block grant plan are listed below.

- Summer Cooling Program – temporary program being established utilizing funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), will begin July 1<sup>st</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Federal Poverty Guidelines – effective October 1, 2021, the Federal Poverty Level for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP), Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) and the Summer Cooling Program will temporarily be changed to 150% for FY 22.
- LIEAP -- allows the priority group of households with individuals 60 or older or disabled receiving DAAS services to begin applying November 1, 2021 instead of December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- CIP – the maximum benefit amount will be temporarily increased to \$1,000 per household instead of \$600 for FY 22, effective October 1, 2021.
- Energy programs – temporary change for FY22 that resources will not be counted in household eligibility requirements.

The Division is requesting each county to post the link below to the NC Division of Social Services webpage on their county websites from August 16-20, 2021. This allows the public to view the LIHEAP Block Grant Plan for FY 2022 and submit comments. Comments will be accepted until 5 pm on **Monday, August 23, 2021**. Comments can be emailed to Jasmyne Simmons at [Jasmyne.Simmons@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Jasmyne.Simmons@dhhs.nc.gov)

The public hearing will be Friday August 20, 2021 from 1pm-2pm via webinar. Please use link to register for the webinar <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/231815950985422091>

To view the public notice website please visit <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/public-notices>

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES**

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Thank you for your cooperation regarding this matter. Please contact [Jasmyne.Simmons@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Jasmyne.Simmons@dhhs.nc.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Carla L. West, Senior Director for Economic Security

CLW/js

**EFS-FNSEP-67-2021**

**Attachments (2)**

Block Grant

Public Notice