



P.O. Box 5327 • 5700 R Street • Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

April 1, 2020

As a result of the economic impact and work disruptions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lincoln Housing Authority (LHA) has temporarily changed two of its policies.

1. All households with an annual recertification effective July-December will be skipped in 2020. These households will have their next recertification in 2021.

Please note:

- LHA increased its payment standards and utility allowances at the end of 2019. All households will have an interim completed in 2020 to implement these higher rates.
 - All households can REQUEST an interim if they have income decreases or household changes.
 - Households with elderly or disabled members that skipped 2019 WILL still have a recertification in 2020. They will not be skipped again in 2020.
2. LHA is temporarily suspending its Minimum Earned Income (MEI) rule. This work expectation that counts minimum income in a household with workable members is being automatically suspended effective for annuals effective June 1, 2020 and new admissions effective immediately.
 - Households can request an interim for an income review to remove MEI beginning immediately.
 - Households regularly scheduled for an annual recertification effective July-December 2020 and that are being skipped this year will NOT automatically have MEI removed. These households must request an interim to have an income review.

LHA staff are prioritizing processing interim income reviews for individuals who have lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact your housing specialist to request an interim.

- Please note the agency's 90-day rule still applies if a family member has terminated or reduced income by choice. In these instances, the household must wait 90 days before an interim can be conducted.
- If the employment income was reduced or terminated due to the employer's reduction in workforce, there is no delay.

Finally, effective March 18, 2020 in response to COVID-19 ALL Lincoln Housing Authority office locations were closed to public walk-in traffic. Lincoln Housing Authority is taking additional measures to respond to the COVID-19 / Coronavirus pandemic including flexible scheduling, allowing staff to work from home, and planning for a potential office closure. As a result, response times may be affected. Please consider emailing your housing specialist or calling them directly.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these difficult times.

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