



Notice of Instruction

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Notice of Instruction Number: #092217 Release of Weather-Related/Supply Shortage Crisis Funds

TO: All PSA 6 EHEAP Provider Agencies

FROM: Kristina Melling, Senior Program Planner and Q.A. Data Manager

DATE: September 22, 2017

SUBJECT: Release of Weather-Related/Supply Shortage Crisis Funds

This Notice of Instruction is in response to recent weather-related events in Florida and provides the guidance and authority to release Emergency Home Energy Assistance to the Elderly (EHEAP) Weather-Related/Supply Shortage Crisis (WR) funds. The attachments to this notice will provide EHEAP Providers with the requirements for compliance.

The Department of Economic Opportunity's (DEO) Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Program Information Memorandum, IM-17-01, establishes the policy for the release of EHEAP WR funds. WR funds may only be used during state or federal emergencies declared by the President, the Governor, or the Executive Director of DEO. When funds are released for a WR emergency, DEO provides binding directives as to the allowable expenditures of the funds. The directives contained in this notice supersedes the 2017-2018 EHEAP Contract and Master Contract.

In response to the Governor's Declaration/Executive Order 17-235, the release of EHEAP WR funds will be used to assist low-income elder Floridians to maintain or re-establish electric service, provide utility deposits at new places of residence for those permanently displaced, and provide repairs or replacements of air-conditioning equipment to households with health-related conditions exacerbated by flooding, wind, and other storm damage.

IM-17-01 provides the directives for the expenditure of EHEAP WR funds that include:

1. Purpose and Objective
2. Requirements for Assistance
3. Applicant Responsibilities
4. Benefit Limits
5. Benefits Available

Utility assistance requests outside the parameters of the provided directives are not eligible for WR assistance. All WR assistance client files shall contain proof that the assistance was both energy and storm event related, and occurred during the period from September 4, 2017, through December 2, 2017

WR emergency assistance is a benefit for elder Floridians that is in addition to other EHEAP benefits. The maximum WR benefit is \$1,000.00 per household for expenses incurred as a result of Hurricane Irma, from September 4, 2017, through December 2, 2017. The use of WR funds does not include paying past due bills or supplementing a crisis benefit.

Prior SCC approval of each EHEAP Provider's written policy for determining the conditions under which an applicant is eligible for assistance is required. Preference should be given to households containing elders, young children, and persons with disabilities. EHEAP Providers shall submit their written policies within ten (10) working days of the issuance of this notice; and receive written approval from SCC, to be eligible to provide this type of benefit to elder Floridians.

Should your agency's WR assistance needs exceed WR allocations currently in contract, Crisis Assistance funds may be transferred to the WR category. SCC's prior approval of a transfer to the WR category is required and must occur prior to exceeding your agency's current WR allocation.

Thank you for your continued commitment to elders in our community. Should you require additional information, please contact your Contract Manager.

Attachments:

Department of Economic Opportunity, LIHEAP Program Information Memorandum, IM-17-01
Governor's Declaration/Executive Order 17-235