

**STATE OF MAINE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

**Notice of Agency Rulemaking Proposal**

**AGENCY:** 99-346 Maine State Housing Authority

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND RULE TITLE:** Chapter 24, Home Energy Assistance Program Rule

**TYPE OF RULE:** Routine Technical

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER:**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Rule establishes standards for the Home Energy Assistance Program for the State of Maine as administered by the Maine State Housing Authority. The Home Energy Assistance Program provides Fuel Assistance and Energy Crisis Intervention Programs to income Eligible Households. The Rule also establishes standards for the HEAP Weatherization, Central Heating Improvement Program, and Heat Pump Program.

**PUBLIC HEARING: NOTE: The public hearing that was originally scheduled for May 19, 2026 has been CANCELLED** and will instead be held on Monday, June 1, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at Maine State Housing Authority, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine. To listen or testify virtually, please contact the Board Administrator before the hearing at MaineHousing, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330-6046; (207) 626-4600 (voice); 1-800-452-4668 (voice in state only); or 711 (Maine Relay) or via e-mail:

BoardAdmin@mainehousing.org.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Ashley Carson

Maine State Housing Authority, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine, 04330-6046

(207) 626-4600 (Telephone)

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[acarson@mainehousing.org](mailto:acarson@mainehousing.org) (Email)

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT:** Same as Contact Person

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES:** None

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 30-A M.R.S. §§4722(1)(W), 4741(1) and (15), and 4991 et seq.; 42 U.S.C. §§8621, et seq.

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED:** Same as above

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <https://www.mainehousing.org>

**EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:**

acarson@mainehousing.org

**Choose one of the following:**

*The summary provided above is for the newspaper notice only. See 5 M.R.S. § 8053, sub-§ 3 & sub-§7. A more detailed summary is attached for inclusion in the rulemaking notice posted on the Secretary of State's website. See 5 M.R.S. § 8053, sub-§ 3.*

**Please approve the bottom portion of this form and assign the appropriate AdvantageME number.**

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE WEB NOTICE**

**DETAILED SUMMARY:**

This replacement rule repeals and replaces in its entirety the current Home Energy Assistance Program Rule. The rule establishes standards for administering fuel assistance, emergency fuel assistance, weatherization, and heating system repair and replacement funds to income eligible households in the State of Maine. This replacement rule: updates the matrix used for determination of benefits, makes minor changes to clarify documentation requirements for citizenship, identity and social security number verification, increases the allowable time to reverse a denial for missing documentation for an application, updates income documentation and incorporates language to provide clarity and continuity between the rule and the State Plan, changes the threshold for the solicitation and use of price quotes for CHIP repairs, and adds a life-time maximum benefit per dwelling unit, and makes minor formatting and grammar edits.