
From: DCF BWF Work Programs Help Desk <BFWWorkProgramsHD@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 1:38 PM
To: DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 Agency CARES Coordinators <DCFDLW-2AgencyCARESCoordinators@wisconsin.gov>; DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 Agency Policy Coordinators <DCFDLDFESBFW2AgencyPolicyCoordinators@wisconsin.gov>; DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 Agency Directors <DCFDLDFESBFW2AgencyDirectors@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 REGIONAL STAFF <DCFDLDFESBFW-2REGIONALSTAFF@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: For Distribution to Agencies: Public Utility Moratorium Expiration
Importance: High

Good Afternoon,

The moratorium on utility disconnections, a year-long order preventing utilities from disconnecting services due to nonpayment, expires on Thursday, April 15. The expiration of the moratorium could leave over 93,000 Wisconsin homes at risk of utility disconnection. Many utility providers have offered some flexibility in payment plans of past-due amounts to their customers due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Individuals who are behind on utility payments should first contact their service provider to discuss repayment agreements. We encourage you to inform W-2 participants who may be behind on, or struggling to pay, their utilities that there are energy assistance resources available to them:

The **Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program** (WHEAP) is a program designed to assist low-income families in heating and electric costs. For WHEAP application and eligibility information call 1-866-432-8947 or visit benefits.gov/benefit/1397, or apply online here: energybenefit.wi.gov.

The **Energy Assistance Program** is available to Milwaukee County residents to assist in electric and heating bills. This program pays a portion of energy costs determined by household size, income, and energy costs. Find out more here: county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/Energy-Assistance

Additionally, the **Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance** (WERA) program may provide up to 12 months rental and home energy assistance to those experiencing housing instability, loss of income, or financial struggles due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Read more here: <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/WERA.aspx>

If all energy crisis resources available have been exhausted, agencies can assist individuals in applying for Emergency Assistance (EA). Please see: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ea>

This email will be posted to the BWF Work Programs Help Desk Home Page located here:
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/w2/partners/toolbox/helpdesk> .

If you have any questions regarding policies, please contact the W-2 Policy Mailbox at DCFW2PolicyQuestions@wisconsin.gov or the Help Desk at BWFworkprogramsHD@wisconsin.gov as appropriate.

For contract questions, please contact Linda Richardson at Linda1.Richardson@wisconsin.gov. Your regional staff are also available for questions.

BWF Work Programs Help Desk

Bureau of Working Families

Division of Family and Economic Security

Department of Children and Families
