

.03 Heating and Cooling Allowance

To qualify for the heating and cooling utility allowance the budgetary unit **MUST** meet one of the following requirements:

- Incur primary heating or cooling expenses separately from rent or mortgage on a regular basis.

Heating sources include ANY of the following:

- Central heating
- Portable or space heaters
- Cooking stoves
- Fuel, butane, wood or wood pellets purchased on a regular or an irregular basis

NOTE The expenses connected with cutting wood **DO NOT** qualify for ANY utility allowance.

WARNING

Costs for the following heating sources **DO NOT** qualify for the heating and cooling utility allowance:

- Electric blankets
- Heat lamps

Cooling sources include ANY of the following:

- Room air conditioners
- Central air conditioners
- Evaporative coolers

WARNING

Costs for the following cooling sources **DO NOT** qualify for the heating and cooling utility allowance:

- Fans
- Water for evaporative coolers

- Receive or anticipate, with reasonable certainty to receive **LIHEA** payment for the current housing unit.

NOTE A LIHEA payment received at a new address to pay arrearages at the old address DOES NOT qualify the budgetary unit for ANY utility allowance at the new address.

- Live in [public housing](#) or [subsidized housing](#) and are billed for heating or cooling expenses.

(See Examples [Qualifying for Utility Allowance 1](#), [Qualifying for Utility Allowance 2](#), [Qualifying for Utility Allowance 3](#) and [Qualifying for Utility Allowance 4](#))

- Receive a [negative rent payment](#) paid directly to the participant or to the utility provider when BOTH of the following occur:

Heating or cooling expenses are incurred at any time during the year.

Heating or cooling expenses exceed or are expected to exceed the amount of the negative rent.

When vendor payments are used to pay utility expenses, complete the following:

- When a portion of ANY expense that would qualify the budgetary unit for the heating and cooling utility allowance is paid by the budgetary unit, allow the heating and cooling utility allowance.
- When ALL utility expenses that would qualify the budgetary unit for the heating and cooling utility allowance are paid by vendor payment, DO NOT allow the heating and cooling utility allowance.