

## F Negative Rent

[REVISION 35](#)  
(04/01/15 - 05/31/15)

Participants may have some or all of their utilities paid by [Negative Rent](#), also known as [Energy Assistance](#), when one of the following apply:

- They live in public housing and their rent is zero
- They live in Section 8 Project based Rental Housing
- They are recipients of a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher

Verify the following information for these budgetary units:

- Rental obligation amount
- Utility Allowance amount
- Utility reimbursement amount (if any)
- Energy Assistance amount (if any)

Energy Assistance can be paid directly to one of the following:

- The participant
- The utility company

The NA budgetary unit does not qualify for a utility allowance when they have no out of pocket utility expense.

Deduct the assistance amount received from the utility expenses. Apply the assistance to the telephone bill last. After deducting the energy assistance, key any utility expenses on EXNS that still have a balance.

When the payment is in excess of all utility expenses and is paid directly to the participant, see [Energy Assistance Payments](#) for keying unearned income. (See Example [Negative Rent](#))

When the payment is paid directly to the utility company, it is considered a [vendor payment](#).

### EXCEPTION

Allow all utility costs for budgetary units who receive Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) payments, even when paid as [vendor payments](#). (See [Energy Assistance](#))