

June 2023 NABWIS NEWS #2



IMPORTANT CHANGES TO SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

On July 29, 2016, the Housing Opportunity through Modernization Act (HOTMA) was signed into law. The final rule was published on February 14, 2023, and will become effective on January 1, 2024. The Earned Income Disregard (EID) will no longer be available after this date. Anyone who starts using the EID before January 1, 2024, may continue to use all 24 months of the EID. For eligible individuals in qualified housing, the EID excludes 100% of new earned income for the first 12 months and excludes 50% of the earned income in the second 12 months.

Rent adjustments will only occur if the tenant's adjusted income changes by 10% or more, starting January 1, 2024. Tenants should report significant changes in their income promptly. Please visit

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-02-14/pdf/2023-01617.pdf> for more information.

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Important Changes to Subsidized Housing

Highlighting the Affordable Connectivity Program

Ending the COVID-19 PHE Period

THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

Did you know that the Affordable Connectivity Program provides discounts on high-speed Internet access to qualified households? Recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Medicaid, households with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, recipients of SNAP, and other certain benefits based on need are eligible for discounts of up to \$30 per month on their Internet service,

END OF THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) period, in place since early 2020, expired on May 11th, 2023, based on the recommendation of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The decision to end the PHE was based on the most recent COVID statistics and health trends. Certain Medicaid and Medicare-funded services available during the PHE are no longer available.

and \$75 per month for households on qualifying tribal lands.

In addition to these monthly discounts, a one-time discount of up to \$100 is provided toward the purchase of a laptop, desktop, or tablet, as long as the equipment is purchased from a participating provider. The discount is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household.

To learn more visit <https://www.getinternet.gov/> apply.

During the PHE, over the counter COVID tests were funded under traditional Medicare. Testing must now be ordered by a physician or other qualified healthcare professional to be covered by traditional Medicare. Additionally, certain Medicaid waivers in place during the PHE that streamlined and expanded access to healthcare have expired. A frequently asked questions document related to the end of the PHE can be found at <http://bit.ly/3JzpWzj>.

A Message from the NABWIS Board

The NABWIS newsletter is geared toward keeping our members apprised on updates pertaining to federal Social Security benefits, legislative changes, and ways you can partner with the NABWIS board to help inspire change for the individuals we serve. This is YOUR newsletter. If you have comments or suggestions on content in future issues, please email nabwis@gmail.com.



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