

IMPORTANT UPDATE ABOUT RESIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES IN TRANSITION (RAFT) PROGRAM:

In accordance with the House and Senate budget proposals for FY24, the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) will be implementing a \$7,000 maximum benefit limit for new applications effective July 1, 2023.

EOHLC will also implement an administrative policy change at this time, no longer offering future rent payments (“stipends”). This change is being made to allow EOHLC to serve as many unique households as possible over the coming fiscal year.

These changes will be in effect beginning July 1, 2023, for all new applications. There will be a 30-day transition window for this policy to take effect for pending applications. Households who apply prior to July 1 will be able to access program funds at the up to \$10,000 benefit limit and a one-month stipend payment so long as their application is approved before August 1, 2023.

Finally, effective July 1, 2023, the RAFT program will again serve homeowners facing homelessness and housing instability by covering mortgage arrears. As previously announced, the Massachusetts Homeowner Assistance Fund will no longer accept new applications after June 30, 2023. Homeowners who are three months or more behind on their mortgage, or who are otherwise at risk of foreclosure or utility shutoff, may apply for RAFT beginning on July 1.