

Technical Advisory



Oregon Housing and Community Services

March 20, 2020

RE: Interim OHCS Oregon Multifamily Energy Program (OR-MEP) Guidance on COVID-19

Oregon Multifamily Energy Program Participants,

In response to concerns related to COVID-19, OHCS is implementing a series of interim policies impacting onsite activities for the Oregon Multifamily Energy Program. These policy changes have been adopted to be responsive toward this emergent health crisis. OHCS and our partners must do what we can to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health of residents, owners/operators, management agents, and program staff.

Existing Building Application Submittals

- Existing Building projects participating in the **Menu or Bundled Paths** were required to submit photos of all applicable existing conditions prior to installation of new measures or equipment. This requirement is now waived for the duration of this interim period.
- Existing Building projects participating in the **Whole Building Path** had been required to work with an Energy Consultant to complete an onsite energy assessment of existing property conditions. To limit onsite inspections, this requirement is now waived.

Please [contact program staff](#) to discuss options for completing an energy modeling analysis without an onsite assessment of existing conditions (e.g. analysis assumptions, alternative methods of collecting existing conditions via remote interviews, etc.).

Onsite Verification of Projects in Construction or Nearing Completion

Enrolled projects with reserved incentives are required to work with an independent third party confirming all measures are installed as proposed. The verification submittal requires photos of installed measures (as detailed in this [Verification Protocols training](#)).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we expect delays in onsite verifications by independent third parties for projects in construction or nearing completion. In instances where photos are not captured of installed measures (e.g. installation of insulation), projects can instead submit a letter from their contractor confirming that the measure was installed or implemented as described in the incentive reservation letter. It is recommended, but not required, that the contractor provide supporting photo documentation.

OR-MEP Application Deadlines Revised to Align with Updated NOFA Application Deadlines:

April 3: OR-MEP Submittal Deadline for 2020 LIFT Rental NOFA

Multifamily Energy Program application packages remain due April 3, 2020, three weeks prior to the LIFT Rental NOFA application deadline. Get started by submitting an interest form [here](#). [LIFT Rental NOFA applications](#) are due to Oregon Housing & Community Services April 24, 2020.



May 1: OR-MEP Submittal Deadline for 2020 NOFAs – 9% LIHTC, HOME, Preservation

Multifamily Energy Program application packages are now due May 1, 2020, three weeks prior to the NOFA application deadline for 9% LIHTC, HOME, and Preservation. Get started by submitting an interest form [here](#). NOFA applications for [9% LIHTC](#), [HOME](#), and [Preservation](#) are due to Oregon Housing & Community Services May 22, 2020.

REMINDER: To streamline your application process, remember to take advantage of the [OR-MEP Express for NOFA Projects](#) pilot launched in January 2020. Additionally, the Energy Efficiency Plan (EEP) workbook has been updated for this new offering. [Email](#) or call 503.505.6787 to request the updated EEP workbook or for any additional questions.

Please send any comments or concerns about the policies impacted by COVID-19 to OHCSMultifamilyEnergy@trccompanies.com

With appreciation,
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