

# Allowances for Tenant-Furnished Utilities and Other Services

U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development  
Office of Public and Indian Housing

OMB Approval No. 2577-0169  
(exp. 05/31/2004)

See Public Reporting Statement and Instructions on back

| Locality           |                   | Unit Type                 |      |      |      | Date (mm/dd/yyyy) |      |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------|------|------|-------------------|------|
| Utility or Service |                   | Monthly Dollar Allowances |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    |                   | 0 BR                      | 1 BR | 2 BR | 3 BR | 4 BR              | 5 BR |
| Heating            | a. Natural Gas    |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | b. Bottle Gas     |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | c. Oil / Electric |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | d. Coal / Other   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Cooking            | a. Natural Gas    |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | b. Bottle Gas     |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | c. Oil / Electric |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | d. Coal / Other   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Other Electric     |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Air Conditioning   |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Water Heating      | a. Natural Gas    |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | b. Bottle Gas     |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | c. Oil / Electric |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
|                    | d. Coal / Other   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Water              |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Sewer              |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Trash Collection   |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Range/Microwave    |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Refrigerator       |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |
| Other -- specify   |                   |                           |      |      |      |                   |      |

**Actual Family Allowances** To be used by the family to compute allowance.  
Complete below for the actual unit rented.

Name of Family

Address of Unit

Number of Bedrooms

| Utility or Service | per month cost |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Heating            | \$             |
| Cooking            |                |
| Other Electric     |                |
| Air Conditioning   |                |
| Water Heating      |                |
| Water              |                |
| Sewer              |                |
| Trash Collection   |                |
| Range/Microwave    |                |
| Refrigerator       |                |
| Other              |                |
| <b>Total</b>       | \$             |

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

This collection of information is authorized under Section 8 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f). The information is used to establish a utility allowance schedule for all utilities and other services used to determine the family's monthly housing assistance payment and rental payment. HUD will use this information to ensure that the costs are reasonable.

## Instructions for Form HUD-52667, Allowances For Tenant Furnished Utilities and Other Services

Form HUD-52667 shall be completed by a HA for each different type of unit as explained below. Each form shall be reproduced by the HA and given to families with their Certificate or Voucher or subsequently in connection with any revisions. The form will provide the family, while shopping for a unit, with the amount of the allowances for various types of units for rent. With these allowances the family can compare gross rents and fair market rents. Form HUD-52667 shall also be used by the HA to record the actual allowance for each family.

**Level of Allowance:** Utilities and other services are included in gross rent, and when they are not furnished by the owner, an allowance must be provided to the family. Allowances must be adequate for all utilities and services not provided by the owner that were included in the fair market rent. The utility allowance schedule is based **on the typical cost of utilities and services paid by energy-conservative households that occupy housing of similar size and type in the same locality.** In developing the schedule, the HA must use normal patterns of consumption for the community as a whole and current utility rates. Allowances must not be based on energy consumption or costs above average or below average income families. The objective shall be to establish allowances based on actual rates and average consumption estimates and should allow the majority of participating families an allowance that is adequate to cover expected average utility costs and other services over a 12-month period.

### Determining Allowances:

- a. In general, HAs shall use to the extent possible local sources of information on the cost of utilities and services. The following local sources should be contacted:
  - (1) Electric utility suppliers.
  - (2) Natural gas utility suppliers.
  - (3) Water and sewer suppliers.
  - (4) Fuel oil and bottle gas suppliers.
  - (5) Public service commissions.
  - (6) Real estate and property management firms.
  - (7) State and local agencies.
  - (8) Appliance sales or leasing firms.
- b. Recently adopted utility allowance schedules from neighboring HAs with essentially the same type of housing stock should also be examined. In most cases fuel or utilities rates normally will not vary appreciably in neighboring communities and where data is not available in small communities allowances for larger nearby communities may be used. Where local sources are inadequate, the HA may consult the national average consumption data provided in Table 1 and make appropriate adjustments to reflect local conditions.

- c. The HA must establish separate heating and cooling allowances for the various types of existing housing in the locality with the same number of bedrooms. Depending on local housing stock, utility allowances must be established for the following unit types: detached houses, duplexes, row or townhouses, garden and high rise apartments and manufactured homes. In addition to establishing different heating and cooling allowances for various types of structures, attention should be given to different allowances for water depending on whether families will have responsibilities for lawn care.
- d. The data to be solicited from the local sources shown above should be as close as possible in form and detail to the format of form HUD-52667. If possible, all consumption data should be obtained for each unit size and type. If data is available only for an average unit size (2.5 bedrooms), multiply the utilities costs for the average unit by the following factors:

| <u>Size of Unit</u> | <u>Factor</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 0-BR                | 0.5           |
| 1-BR                | 0.7           |
| 2-BR                | 0.9           |
| 3-BR                | 1.1           |
| 4-BR                | 1.4           |
| 5-BR                | 1.6           |

Example: Natural gas heating cost for average sized unit is \$18.00 per month. The allowance for a 4-bedroom unit will be  $1.4 \times \$18.00 = \$25.00$  (rounded to nearest dollar).

**Air Conditioning:** Allowances for air conditioning must be established only for communities where the majority of units in the market provide centrally air conditioned units or appropriate wiring for tenant installed A/C units.

**Ranges and Refrigerators:** Allowances for ranges and refrigerators must be based on the lesser of the cost of leasing or installment purchasing of suitable equipment.

**Utility Rate Schedules:** The cost of gas and electricity varies according to amounts consumed as shown on the appropriate rate schedules. It is not possible to compute exactly the cost of electricity for any given function without knowing the total electrical usage for a unit. However, because neither the HA or the families know beforehand just what will be the combination of utilities for any unit rented, it will be necessary to approximate the allowances for each function (e.g., heating cooking, etc.) as follows:

For electricity the rates used for lighting, refrigeration and appliances (Table 1, Item I), should be from the top of the rate schedule or the higher unit costs. Allowances for electric cooking, water heating and space heating should be computed from the middle or lower steps in the rate schedules.

Similarly, allowances for gas used for water heating and cooking should be computed using rates from the top of the rate schedule and for heating from the lower steps.

**Supporting Documentation:** The HA shall maintain with the form HUD-52667 copies of all supporting documentation used in determining the allowances and any revisions. For instance, letters from local utility companies shall be attached plus any worksheets used by the HA in computing allowances. The material should contain, if possible, the quantities of the utilities that are the basis of the dollar allowances (e.g., kilowatt hours per unit. A copy of the utility allowance schedule must be sent to the HUD Field Office.

**Table 1**

**Average Allowances For Tenant Purchased Utilities**

Note: The consumption amounts listed below are inexact averages and must be used with caution when establishing allowances for actual projects.

|                                       | <u>Monthly Consumption</u> |                     |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
|                                       | <u>Units</u>               | <u>2 1/2-BR (a)</u> |
| <b>I. Electricity</b>                 |                            |                     |
| a. Lighting and Refrigeration         | KWH                        | 250-400 (b)         |
| b. Cooking                            | KWH                        | 110                 |
| c. Domestic Hot Water                 | KWH                        | 340 (c)             |
| d. Space Heating                      | KWH                        | 680 (d)             |
| e. Air Conditioning                   | KWH                        | 180 (e)             |
| <b>II. Natural Gas And Bottle Gas</b> |                            |                     |
| a. Cooking                            | Therms                     | 8                   |
| b. Domestic Hot Water                 | Therms                     | 21 (c)              |
| c. Space Heating                      | Therms                     | 48 (d)              |
| <b>III. Fuel Oil</b>                  |                            |                     |
| a. Domestic Hot Water                 | Gals                       | 17 (c)              |
| b. Space Heating                      | Gals                       | 40 (d)              |
| <b>IV. Water</b>                      |                            |                     |
| a. Domestic Use                       | Gals                       | 8,000               |
| b. Lawn                               | Gals                       | 2,000               |

- (a) Estimated average consumption for a hypothetical 2 1/2 bedroom dwelling unit. All consumptions listed must be adjusted for the size of the dwelling unit. Factors shown under Determining Allowances, subparagraph d, may be used for making the adjustment.
- (b) Consumptions will vary considerably depending on electrical appliances used. Upper limit should be sufficient to provide 85 kilowatt hours for a clothes dryer and 50 kilowatt hours for a frost free refrigerator.
- (c) The temperature of local water supply varies by geographic area and will have considerable impact on energy used to heat domestic water. This estimate is for North Central geographic areas where the average city water temperature is approximately 50° F.
- (d) Consumptions are for housing insulated for the heating system installed. Normally a building designed for electric space heating is better insulated than one designed for gas or oil space heating equipment. Climatic conditions assumed to be 4,000 heating degree days and 0° F outside design temperature. Consumption must be adjusted for the normal heating degree days and the outside design temperature in the given geographic area.
- (e) Consumption estimated for 1,000 degree days cooling. Actual consumption will depend on many variables.

**Note:** The consumption amounts listed above are inexact averages and must be used with caution when establishing allowances for actual projects.