

# **Policy Clarifications LIHEAP - All PLA14983601**

**Submitted: 10/09/09**

**Agency: CAOs**

**Citations:**

**Subject: Heating Bills in Someone Else's Name**

Can the CAO accept a heating bill in someone's name other than a household member as verification of a heating responsibility?

**Response By: Division of Federal Programs/LIHEAP**

**Date: 10/09/09**

Yes, Section 601.104 (d) of the State Plan allows this in certain reasonable situations such as the death of a spouse or credit problems. The applicant must provide written proof besides the heating bill that the applicant resides at the address. The applicant must also provide in writing the reason why the bill is in the name of a non-household person's name. If proof of heating responsibility is not provided at the time of application, the CAO will send a pending notice requiring proof of a heating responsibility.

**Note:** The heating bill cannot be in the name of a child, even though they are a member of the household.

In situations when the heating bill is in the landlord's name and the household is responsible to pay the heating bill directly to the vendor, a landlord statement or a copy of the lease indicating this arrangement is acceptable.

The CAO will also verify with the vendor that the LIHEAP payment will be accepted on behalf of the applicant when the bill is in someone else's name.

If the heating responsibility for the household cannot be established, the application will be denied.