

# Temporary Relocation Policy for City Programs



## Goal

The goal of the Temporary Relocation Policy is to reduce financial hardship by providing reimbursement for a portion of lodging and meal costs to residents participating in certain City of Minneapolis programs who are required to temporarily relocate due to required renovations for lead and other health and safety hazards. Hazards include but are not limited to:

- A systems or structural failure.
- An accessibility need that prevents a person with disabilities from inhabiting the home.
- Environmental hazard where owner is experiencing a health condition that can be associated with air quality levels.
- A lead-free entry is not available, or occupants do not have safe access to lead contaminant free sleeping areas, a bathroom, and kitchen facilities.
- City officials determine personal safety is at risk.

## Eligible Participant

This policy applies to reimbursement of lodging and meal costs incurred by City of Minneapolis program participants that meet the following criteria:

- Undergoing home renovation to address lead and other health and safety hazards that meet policy criteria.
- City official has determined a personal safety risk is present requiring temporary relocation.
- Lodging with friends, family, or Minneapolis Health Department Safe House is not feasible.
- The occupant not eligible for relocation assistance under another federal, state, or City of Minneapolis relocation policy.
- The occupant is enrolled in one of the following City-funded programs:
  - a. Community Planning and Economic Development
  - b. Health Department
  - c. Regulatory Services
  - d. Crime Prevention
  - e. Neighborhood & Community Relations

## Ineligible Participant

- Owner occupant of a property that is exempt under the Lead Safe Housing Rule 24 CFR § 35.115 Exemptions such as but not limited to
  - A zero-bedroom dwelling unit, including a single room occupancy (SRO) dwelling unit.
  - Housing for the elderly, or a residential property designated exclusively for persons with disabilities
- Treatment will not disturb lead-based paint or lead contaminated dust.
- Treatment of the interior will be completed within one period of eight daytime hours, the site will be contained, and the work will not create other safety, health or environmental hazards.
- Only the building's exterior will be treated. The windows, doors, ventilation intakes, and other openings near the work site are sealed during hazard reduction activities and cleaned afterward, and a lead-free entry is provided.
- Treatment will be completed within five calendar days; the work area is sealed; at the end of each day the area within ten feet of the containment area is cleared of debris; at the end of each day occupants have safe access to sleeping areas, a bathroom, and kitchen facilities; and treatment does not create other safety, health or environmental hazards.
- The owner occupant is over 62, no younger persons will be visiting during rehabilitation work, and the owner - being fully informed of the risks - waives the right to temporary relocation.
- Emergency repairs where relocation is not feasible.

## Eligible Expense

- Receipts for lodging, including taxes and related booking fees, at a hotel or a short-term rental (such as Airbnb or VRBO).
- Receipts for meals from a restaurant or itemized receipts from a grocery.

## Ineligible Expense

- Lodging at properties that were built prior to 1978 and do not have sufficient documentation that the property is lead safe.
- Expenses not supported by a vendor receipt.
- Expenses that are not food or lodging related.
- Fines or charges due to lost, stolen, or damaged property.
- Fines or charges relating to breach of lodging facility's rules and policies.
- Alcoholic beverages, tobacco, room service, delivery fees, and recreation.

## Application Requirements

- Relocation pre-authorized by department director or designee.
- Reimbursement request with original receipts and any other documentation supporting the claim must be submitted within 45 days from re-occupancy.

## Reimbursement Funding

- Up to \$1,000 per week during the approved time frame. Funds must first be used for lodging expenses. Remaining funds after lodging expenses may be used for reimbursement of reasonable food purchases up to the limitation.
- Department Director or designee has authority to pre-approve expenses that exceed policy limits for reasonable accommodations relating to disability, accessibility, mobility, and family sizes that exceed lodging capacity policy for one unit up to an additional \$1,000 per week.
- \$50 per day reimbursement for meals and grocery if staying with family, friends, or Minneapolis Health Department Safe House.
- Reimbursement ends on the day where satisfactory lead clearance has been achieved or when the health and safety hazards are no longer present, and occupancy can resume as determined by City staff.