

Home & Community-Based Services Stakeholder Meeting Agenda July 6, 2026 4:00 PM Central Time

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81170221250?pwd=ZXFrUHc0VFhCUDBrWHpnVmdnakcrUT09>

I. Department Updates

A. Office of Economic Assistance (OEA)

1. LIHEAP:

a) The LIHEAP crisis assistance maximum amount will increase to \$800 from \$500 per LIHEAP program year, effective July 18, 2026.

b) Cooling season began June 1, 2026 and will end August 31, 2026. The mass eligibility determination for cooling was completed June 1, 2026. Households that meet eligibility requirements but have not received a cooling payment are highly encouraged to apply.

(1) To qualify for cooling assistance, a household must qualify for “regular” LIHEAP and include a household member who:

(a) Is a child under age 5 or younger who receives Aid to Dependent Children;

(b) Is age 70 or older;

(c) Has a severe illness or condition which is aggravated by extreme heat as verified by a medical statement signed by a licensed healthcare provider (form IM-55 must be completed) ; or

(d) Has received an air conditioner from DHHS within four years of the application date.

2. Summer EBT:

a) Summer EBT issuances continue weekly through August 2026.

B. Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD)

1. Name Change to “Division of Disability and Aging” effective July 18

2. Aged and Disabled Waiver renewal implemented July 1, 2026

3. Rural Health Transformation Plan updates: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Rural-Health-Transformation.aspx>

a) 6.1 & 6.2: Assistive Living Facility Initiatives

b) 4.4b2: Assistive Technology

II. Next Meeting: August 3, 2026