



# Program Instructions

## This Program Instruction applies to the following:

- ✓ Tony Wong Place, Mount Albert United Church Senior Citizen, Hesperus Village Fellowship, Reena
- ✓ **Housing York**
  - ✓ Mackenzie Green, Lakeside Residence

## Updates to Minimum Rent and Shelter Allowances for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Recipients

**Note:** This Program Instruction replaces Program Instruction 2015-07 AHP/IAH

### Summary

The Province of Ontario recently increased social assistance rates including maximum shelter allowances for Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) recipients. Under Regional Rent Assistance, tenants receiving OW or ODSP support payments pay rents based on the applicable maximum shelter allowance.

This Program Instruction provides the updated maximum shelter rates and minimum rent for households with low or no income.

### Determining the Tenant Contribution for Households Receiving OW

Effective October 1, 2018, Maximum Shelter Allowance rates increased for households receiving OW. Table 1 provides the updates rates. Please use Table 1: Maximum Shelter Allowance when calculating the Tenant Contribution for households receiving OW.

**Table 1: Maximum Shelter Allowance - OW**

Benefit Unit Size	Maximum Monthly Shelter Allowance (Tenant Contribution)
1	\$390
2	\$642
3	\$697
4	\$756
5	\$815
6 or more	\$844

Source: Section 42 of Ontario Regulation 134/98 of the Ontario Works Act, 1997.

### Determining the Tenant Contribution for Households receiving ODSP

Effective September 1, 2018, Maximum Shelter Allowance rates increased for households receiving ODSP. Please use Table 2: Maximum Shelter Allowance when calculating the Tenant Contribution for households receiving ODSP.

**Table 2: Maximum Shelter Allowance – ODSP**

Benefit Unit Size	Maximum Monthly Shelter Allowance (Tenant Contribution)
1	\$497
2	\$781
3	\$846
4	\$918
5	\$991
6 or more	\$1,026

Source: Section 42 of Ontario Regulation 222/98 of the Ontario Disability Support Program Act, 1997.

### Determining Minimum Rent

Minimum Rent is the amount a household must pay if their income results in a Rent Benefit calculation where the Tenant Contribution is lower than the Minimum Rent set out in the Table 3. Minimum Rent typically applies to households with self-employment income, student loans, very low or no income.

Minimum Rent aligns with the OW maximum shelter rate for a **benefit unit size of one**. Please use Table 3: Minimum Rent Contribution to calculate rent for applicable tenants.

Example:

A household of three people earns \$13,000 a year based on line 150 of their income tax return. 30% of the gross household income is \$325 per month. Since \$325 is lower than the Minimum Rent Contribution rate in Table 3, the household will pay \$390 each month.

Any applicable utility and insurance allowances must be deducted from the Minimum Rent Contribution. Any additional charges, such as parking, can be added to the Minimum Rent Contribution after allowances are deducted.

**Table 3: Minimum Rent Contribution**

Household Size	Minimum Rent
1	\$390
2	\$390
3	\$390
4	\$390
5	\$390
6 or more	\$390

**Authority:** Rent Assistance Agreement

Please contact your Program Coordinator with any questions.

- ORIGINAL SIGNED -

Rick Farrell

General Manager

Housing Services Branch

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This notice will be available in an accessible format or with communication supports upon request from 1-877-464-9675 or 905-830-4444 ext. 72119

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