

Reasons for Decision:

Order #AP1617-0453

The appellant appealed that the appellant's application for Rent Assist Benefits was denied.

The appellant applied for Rent Assist benefits on <date removed>. The appellant's eligibility for the program was calculated based on the appellant's net income as declared on the appellant's 2015 Income Tax Return. The appellant's net income for 2015 was <amount removed>. As the net income amount was over the allowable maximum for a single person of \$25,584, the appellant was found not eligible for the Rent Assist benefit.

At the hearing the program indicated that the appellant could reapply for the program on July 1, 2017 at which time the appellant's eligibility would be calculated based on the appellant's 2016 net income amount.

The appellant retired in <date removed>, and therefore the appellant's only current source of income is OAS and CPP benefits. The appellant stated the amount of the appellant's monthly income is just barely enough to cover the appellant's rent, and the appellant has nothing left over for the appellant's other living expenses. The appellant has applied for the Guaranteed Income Supplement, but has not received a response as of yet. The appellant indicated that the appellant was hoping that the Board would be able to make an exception and look at the appellant's current circumstances.

After carefully considering the written and verbal information the Board has determined that the appellant's eligibility for the Rent Assist Program has been calculated in accordance with the Regulation. The Regulation is very specific in how the formula is to be calculated. The Regulation does not allow for increases based on either the amount of rent actually paid or the amount of household income that is currently being earned. Therefore the decision of the director has been confirmed.

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