


Income and Asset Limits policy

POLICY STATEMENT	<p>The <i>Housing Services Act, 2011</i> (HSA) requires the City of Hamilton, as Service Manager, to establish and administer policies, local rules and procedures for social housing in Hamilton.</p> <p>Under the HSA, Hamilton may establish a local eligibility rule limiting the amount of income or assets that a household may have and still be eligible for RGI assistance. There is no requirement that these limits be established.</p>
PURPOSE	To establish the basic eligibility requirements for to be placed on the centralized waiting list for Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) and/or continue to receive RGI assistance.
SCOPE	The Income and Asset Limit policy applies to all households who have applied for or are in receipt of rent-geared-to-income assistance.
DEFINITIONS	
<i>Access to Housing (ATH)</i>	the point of access for applicants for rent-geared-to-income subsidized housing, and maintains the corresponding waiting lists which is also known as the centralized waiting list
<i>Household</i>	an individual who lives alone or two or more individuals who live together
<i>Housing Provider</i>	a Non-Profit or Co-operative organization that provides social housing; the City of Hamilton, Housing Services Division acts as the housing provider for the Rent Supplement program
TERMS & CONDITIONS	
Households on the Access to Housing Wait List	Income and Assets are not part of the eligibility criteria to be on the Access to Housing wait list for social housing.
Households in receipt of RGI or Rent Supplement	<p>Income and Assets are used to calculate rent based on the formula outlined in the <i>Housing Services Act, 2011</i>.</p> <p>To be eligible to be for RGI assistance a household must meet the <u>Household Income Limits</u> as updated annually by the Province.</p> <p>Depending on the number of bedrooms the household requires, to be eligible to receive RGI assistance the total household income from all sources may not exceed the annual gross income limits as determined by the Province in the HSA (O. Reg. 370/11 - Schedule 1 & 2).</p>

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RESPONSIBILITIES	Housing Providers are responsible for calculating how much rent a rent-geared-to-income (RGI) household must pay. Housing Services Division staff is responsible for calculating how much rent a Rent Supplement household must pay.	
COMPLIANCE	All RGI and rent supplement applicants, tenants and members are subject to this policy.	
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