

Program Instructions

**This Program Instruction applies to the following :**

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

Minimum Rent Contribution

NOTE: This Program Instruction replaces all references to Minimum Tenant Contribution in the Regional Rent Assistance Program Guide.

Summary

This Program Instruction provides clarification on applying a minimum rent contribution under the Region's Rent Assistance Program.

Background

Minimum rent contribution refers to the minimum amount of rent a household must pay. Under the Rent Assistance Program, a Minimum Tenant Contribution has been established for households who have no income or their income is either from self-employment or student loans.

What's New?

Effective July 1, 2015, Table 1 below replaces the Program Guide Table 1 for Minimum Tenant Contribution. This update aligns with the Ontario Works (OW) Maximum Shelter Allowance rate.

Table 1: Minimum Rent Contribution

Unit Size	Minimum Rent
1	\$376
2	\$602
3	\$655
4	\$710
5	\$766
6 or more	\$793



Minimum rent now applies to households with self-employment, student loans/awards, no income and low income

Currently the Program Guide indicates the Minimum Rent Contribution applies to households whose only income is derived from:

- self-employment
- student loans/awards
- no declared income

Effective July 1, 2015, the Minimum Rent Contribution will also apply to households experiencing **low income**. For example, if a one bedroom household earns \$12,000 a year based on line 150 of their income tax return, 30% of the gross income is \$300 per month. Since \$300 is lower than the new Minimum Rent Contribution in Table 1 for a one bedroom unit, the household is required to pay the minimum rent for a one bedroom unit (\$376).

The Minimum Rent Contribution for a unit is based on the size of the unit as listed in Table 1. If the household's contribution calculation prior to any utility or insurance allowances is lower than the Minimum Rent for the unit size, the household contribution is based on the Minimum Rent in Table 1.

When determining the Minimum Rent Contribution for a single person approved for a two bedroom unit due to a medical condition per the *Unit Size Eligibility Section*, the one bedroom Minimum Rent applies.

Authority: Rent Assistance Agreement

Please contact your Program Coordinator with any questions.

-ORIGINAL SIGNED-

Rick Farrell
General Manager
Housing Services Branch

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

