

Rent Assistance Benefit Program

Homeland Housing provides Rent Assistance Benefits in the following communities:

- Bon Accord
- Clyde
- Gibbons
- Legal
- Morinville
- Redwater
- St. Albert
- Sturgeon County
- Westlock
- Westlock County

What is a Rent Assistance Benefit?

The Rent Assistance Benefit is designed for low income households in core housing need, that are paying more than 30% of their total household income for rent and have an ongoing need. The Rent Assistance Benefit is the difference between affordable rent (30% of the applicant's total household income) and the market rent, up to the maximum benefit.

What is the Maximum Rent Assistance Benefit?

Homeland Housing offers Rent Assistance Benefit to applicants with the

highest point score in the community they are applying for, and as benefits are available.

The maximum benefit is based on the number of bedrooms your household requires.

- \$400 for a household requiring a bachelor or one-bedroom suite;
- \$550 for a household requiring a two-bedroom suite;
- \$650 for a household requiring a three-bedroom suite; and
- \$750 for a household requiring a four-bedroom suite.

Eligibility for the Rent Assistance Benefit

To qualify for a Rent Assistance Benefit, applicants must meet all eligibility criteria under the Social Housing Accommodation Regulation. This means you must:

- Be in core housing need;
- Have a total asset value of \$25,000 or less;
- Be a Canadian Citizen, permanent resident, convention refugee, an individual who has applied for refugee or immigration status and where private sponsorship has broken down.

Eligible Housing Types

Housing Types that qualify for the Rent Assistance Benefit program include:

- a self-contained, rented home with its own kitchen and bathroom.
- a self-contained rented basement suite or secondary suite as approved by the municipality.
- a house, row/townhouse, duplex.
- an apartment, co-operative, or condominium suite.
- A mobile home where you are renting both the mobile home and the pad.

Housing types that do not qualify for the Rent Assistance Benefit program include:

- Hotels, motels, and vacation rentals;
- illegal basement or secondary suites;
- Shared living accommodations with the landlord;
- Housing owned by the applicant;
- Owned mobile homes requesting a rent assistance benefit for the rental of the mobile home pad/lot; and

- Social or community housing where rent is based on income.

How Do I Apply?

You can apply online at www.homelandhousing.ca or complete an application and mail or fax to Homeland Housing.

When Will I get the Rental Assistance Benefit?

Applicants will be offered the Rental Assistance Benefit based on a needs point scoring system. The benefit is offered to applicants with the highest point score in the community they are applying for as funding is available.

When Will I get the Rental Assistance Benefit?

Recipients must sign a Rent Assistance Benefit Agreement with Homeland Housing. Homeland Housing will provide one year of monthly payments. After one year, the agreement may be renewed provided you are still eligible, and funding is available.

If you are approved to receive a Rent Assistance Benefit must provide direct deposit information. This information is available from a bank or credit union.

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