Act/Regulations ***Social Assistance Act Reg. 5(3), 17(1)(c), 17(3)*** ***Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act Gen. Reg. 40(2)***	**Program**	**Social Assistance, Access Ability Support**	
	Subject	**Shelter – Shared Accommodations**	***Policy #*** SA 5.1.3 AAS 3.4.3
Effective Date: **SA April 1, 2006** **AAS March 26, 2019** **Revised Date:** **December 1, 2022**		**Authorized by:** **Deputy Minister Jamie MacDonald**	

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide financial support for shelter costs to eligible applicants of Social Assistance (SA) and Assured Income (AI) sharing accommodations.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

2.1 **Applicant:** a person who applies for or on whose behalf an application is made for SA.

2.2 **Parent(s):** an applicant or co-applicant's natural born or adoptive parent(s), step-parent(s), or common-law parent(s).

2.3 **Recipient:** a person who is provided SA or AI and includes a person whose SA or AI has been suspended, but not cancelled.

2.4 **Relative(s):** an applicant or co-applicant's grandparent(s), brother, sister or child over the age of majority.

2.5 **Supports Coordinator:** a staff member that provides direction and case management support in delivering a range of social benefits and services to applicants eligible for Social Programs.

3.0 POLICY STATEMENT

3.1 For the purposes of this policy, use of the word applicant is inclusive of recipient.

3.2 An applicant living with a parent or relative is not considered to be sharing accommodations. An applicant living with a parent or relative is eligible for shelter costs according to SA policy 5.1.4 or AAS policy 3.4.4

3.3 Where an applicant is sharing accommodations with another person, shelter costs may be granted to the applicant to an equitable share of the cost of shelter as per the Schedule of Allowable Shelter Rates (attached).

3.4 This policy is not to be used to negate policy and procedure statements listed in additional shelter policies.

4.0 PROCEDURE STATEMENT

4.1 The Supports Coordinator will verify an applicant's living arrangement, address, and shelter costs upon application and at minimum once every 12 months as a part of the annual review, or when a change in circumstances occurs.

4.2 To determine an equitable shelter cost for an applicant sharing accommodations, the Supports Coordinator will include all persons in the home, including dependents of the applicant or other residents, when calculating the number of bedrooms required.

4.3 The Supports Coordinator will verify if any other person residing in the home is an applicant of SA or AI to avoid issuing shelter costs twice for the same accommodations.

5.0 REFERENCES

5.1 Social Assistance Policy 5.1.4 Shelter – Living with Parents and Relatives

5.2 Access Ability Policy 3.4.4 Shelter – Living with Parents and Relatives

6.0 ATTACHMENTS

6.1 Schedule of Allowable Shelter Rates

HISTORY:

July 1, 2021: Editorial, content, and format changes.

December 1, 2022: Shelter rates have increased for:

- singles and couples with no children from $795 to $850;
- single parents and couples with one child from $961 to $1,000;
- single parents and couples with two children from $1,118 to $1,168;
- single parents and couples with three children from $1,191 to $1,241;
- single parents and couples with 4+ children from $1,242 to $1,292.

Schedule of Allowable Shelter Rates

Family Composition		1 Bdr	2 Bdrs	3 Bdrs	4 Bdrs	5+ Bdrs
1 Adult, 0 Children	2 Adults, 0 Children	$850				
1 Adult, 1 Child	2 Adults, 1 Child		$1000			
1 Adult, 2 Children	2 Adults, 2 Children			$1,168		
1 Adult, 3 Children	2 Adults, 3 Children				$1,241	
1 Adult, 4 Children	2 Adults, 4 Children					$1,292
1 Adult, 5 Children	2 Adults, 5 Children					$1,292
1 Adult, 6 Children	2 Adults, 6 Children					$1,292
1 Adult, 7+ Children	2 Adults, 7+ Children					$1,292