

<i>Act/Regulations</i>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Social Assistance, AccessAbility Supports</b>	
	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Basic Unit Rates</b>	<b>Policy #</b> SA 5.4 AAS 3.3
<b>Effective Date:</b> SA March 1, 2022 AAS March 1, 2022		<b>Authorized by:</b>  <b>Deputy Minister Jamie MacDonald</b>	

## 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide financial support for basic needs to eligible applicants of Social Assistance (SA) and Assured Income (AI).

## 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

2.2 **Assured Income:** a component of AccessAbility Supports (AAS) that provides monthly financial supports to eligible applicants with disabilities to use towards securing basic needs.

2.3 **Basic Unit Rate (BUR):** a monthly allowance to meet an applicant, co-applicant, and dependents' basic needs including food, clothing, household supplies, and personal requirements.

2.4 **Co-Applicant:** the spouse of an applicant, and includes a person who, although not married to the applicant, lives with the applicant as if they were married.

2.5 **Dependent:** a child of either an applicant or co-applicant who is either under 18 years of age and living with the applicant, or 18 years of age or over, but under 25 years of age and attending a full-time education program and is not receiving SA or AI.

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

2.7 **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 STATEMENTS

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

- 3.2 An applicant is eligible to receive a basic unit rate (BUR) based on their housing type, family composition, and according to the Schedule of Basic Unit Rates (attached).
- 3.3 Applicants residing in housing where an applicant's basic needs are partially met may be eligible to receive a modified basic unit rate according to the Schedule of Basic Unit Rates (attached).

**4.0 PROCEDURE STATEMENTS**

- 4.1 The Supports Coordinator will confirm the applicant's housing type and family composition upon application and at minimum once every 12 months as part of the annual review or when a change in circumstances occurs.
- 4.2 Applicants are responsible to advise the Department when a change in their housing situation or family composition occurs.
- 4.3 Where an applicant has shared custody of a dependent child, the applicant is responsible to advise the Supports Coordinator and to provide verification of the dependent's custody arrangement.
- 4.4 Where an applicant has shared custody of a dependent child, the Supports Coordinator is responsible to adjust the dependent's basic unit rate benefits based on the custody arrangement and the number of days in the applicant's care.

$$\frac{\text{Basic Unit Rate}}{30 \text{ Days}} \times \# \text{ of days in care}$$

**5.0 ATTACHMENTS**

- 5.1 Schedule of Basic Unit Rates

**HISTORY:**

**March 1, 2022:** Food, Clothing, Household, and Personal expenses are replaced by the Basic Unit Rates. Replaces SA policies 5.4 Food Allowance, 5.6 Clothing, 5.6.1 Household Supplies, and 5.6.2 Personal Requirements. Replaces AAS policies 3.3 Food, 3.2 Assured Income – Core Living Supports.

## Schedule of Basic Unit Rates

<b>Family Composition</b>	<b>Basic Unit Rate</b>
Adult	\$450.00
Child 12 – 17	\$359.00
Child 0 – 11	\$271.00