

<i>Act/Regulations</i> <i>Social Assistance Act Reg. 16(3)</i> <i>Supports for Persons with</i> <i>Disabilities Act Gen. Reg. 39(3)</i>	Program	Social Assistance, AccessAbility Supports	
	Subject	Pregnancy Food Allowance	Policy # SA 5.8 AAS 3.3.1
Effective Date: SA February 1, 1995 AAS March 26, 2019 Revised Date: October 1, 2021		Authorized by: Deputy Minister David Keedwell	

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To support pregnant applicants of Social Assistance (SA) and Assured Income (AI) with the additional food costs associated with meeting the increased nutritional demand of pregnancy.

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 benefits to eligible applicants with disabilities to use towards securing basic needs.
- 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 **Supports Coordinators:** 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 or dependent, upon providing verification of pregnancy, may be eligible for a pregnancy food allowance of \$76 per month.
- 3.3 Applicants are eligible for a pregnancy food allowance from the month the Department is notified of the pregnancy until the anticipated month of delivery or until the pregnancy ends. Pregnancy food allowances will not be paid retroactively.

4.0 PROCEDURE STATEMENT

- 4.1 Applicants are responsible to provide verification of pregnancy to the Department.

- 4.2 Where a pregnancy food allowance is approved, the Support Coordinator will add the pregnancy food allowance to the applicant's client financials with an expense end-date of last day of the anticipated month of delivery.
- 4.3 Support Coordinators will advise applicants of the Public Health supports available to pregnant women to support a healthy pregnancy and encourage applicants to attend prenatal classes. Where there is a cost associated with additional supports, Support Coordinators may approve a special need expense.

HISTORY:

October 1, 2021 – Editorial, content, and format changes. Now applies to Social Assistance and AccessAbility Supports. Replaces AccessAbility Supports Policy 3.3 – Food, section 4.3. Rate has increased from \$53 to \$76 per month.