



<i>Act/Regulations</i> <i>Social Assistance Act</i> <i>Reg. 18(b)(c)</i>	Program	Social Assistance	
	Subject	Allowances for Persons in Family Violence Shelters	Policy # 6.5.1
Effective Date: February 1, 1995	Authorized by:		
Revised Date: May 15, 2021	Deputy Minister David Keedwell		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide financial support to meet the emergency needs of applicants residing in family violence shelters.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 **Applicant:** a person who applies for, on whose behalf an application is made, or is in receipt of Social Assistance (SA).
- 2.2 **Family Violence Shelter:** a shelter whose mandate is to provide a safe place and supports to persons experiencing family violence.
- 2.3 **Supports Coordinator:** a staff member who 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 Applicants residing in a family violence shelter are eligible for pharamare coverage through the Financial Assistance Drug Program.
- 3.2 Applicants residing in a family violence shelter are eligible for a personal comfort allowance, clothing, and personal supports based on an applicant's family size and according to the *Pre-Added Budget Schedule* (attached).
- 3.3 Additional allowances may be granted where an applicant's need is not met by the family violence shelter.

4.0 PROCEDURE STATEMENTS

- 4.1 The family violence shelter will notify the Department of an applicant in need by completing an *Emergency Applicant Declaration* with the applicant and submitting the signed declaration to the Department.
- 4.2 Where an applicant is residing in a family violence shelter and has a need for pharmacare coverage, the Supports Coordinator will grant the applicant immediate access to the Financial Assistance Drug Program. When accessing pharmacare coverage, an applicant may access prescriptions at the pharmacy of their choice.

- 4.3 The Supports Coordinator will refer to the *Pre-Added Budget Schedule* (attached) to calculate the applicant's eligibility for a personal comfort, clothing, and personal allowance based on the applicant's family size.
- 4.4 A family violence shelter may offer financial support to an applicant and advance emergency funds from the shelter's resources to be reimbursed by the Department. The Department will not issue reimbursement to the family violence shelter or to the applicant for non-prescription or prescription medications.
- 4.5 The family violence shelter will invoice the Department for items of special need expenses related to family violence case planning. Special need expenses may include but are not limited to medical needs, basic personal need items, and transportation.
- 4.7 Where an applicant is requesting financial support upon leaving a family violence shelter, the Supports Coordinator will complete a Support Needs Assessment with the applicant to determine financial eligibility and collaboratively case plan with the applicant and the family violence shelter to ensure the proper supports are established for the applicant leaving the shelter.

5.0 ATTACHMENTS

- 5.1 Pre-Added Budget Schedule

HISTORY:

May 15, 2021: Editorial, content, and format changes. Policy specifies an applicant's eligibility for pharmacare coverage through the Financial Assistance Drug Program, and a personal comfort allowance has been added as an eligible benefit for applicants.

Pre-Added Budget Schedule

	Adult	Child 0-11 Yrs	Child 12-17 Yrs
PERSONAL COMFORT ALLOWANCE	91	-	-
CLOTHING	24	24	27
PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS	19	13	18