



THE TOWN OF LIMINGTON

— P.O.Box 240, Limington, ME 04049 —



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MARCH 30, 2023

Meeting Called to Order at 7:03 pm by Stanley Hackett.

Approval of meeting minutes March 09, 2023. Michael Barden was not present for March 09, 2023 meeting.

Motion to approve meeting minutes for March 09, 2023 made by Pete Talbot second Stanley Hackett, approved.

Approval of meeting minutes for March 23, 2023, Pete Talbot was not present for March 23, 2023 meeting.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from March 23, 2023 made by Michael Barden second Stanley Hackett, approved.

Approval of Warrants:

Payroll Warrant # 27 : \$27,349.78
Appropriations Warrant #28 : \$74,106.30
Weekly Warrant 27 & 28 Total: \$101,456.08

*Mellen \$25,000 and \$11,500 for PWD trailer

Motion to approve Warrants 27 & 28 made by Michael Barden second Pete Talbot, approved.

Purchase Order Requests:

PWD:

A request to pay Super Shoes for work boots for PWD: \$1,100.93.

A request to pay Cornish Hardware for fluorescent light bulbs: \$86.90.

A request to pay Amazon for printer ink: \$112.68.

A request to pay Grainger for disc, hazard tags, and running gear/cart: \$390.06.

A request to pay CRAFCO for rubber sealant, traffic cones, wheel: \$2,995.25.

A request to reimburse Dominic Levesque for work boots: \$242.60.

A request to pay HERC Rentals for the large excavator to work on storm damage on Norton and Douglass Rds: \$8,722.00. (FEMA reimburseable)

Motion to approve PWD POs made by Peter Talbot second Stanley Hackett, approved.

FIRE & EMS:

A request to pay Hartford Communications for 5061 radio and installation: \$1,500.

A request to pay HUB international for Fire/EMS insurance for 26 people: \$884.00.

A request to pay Stryker for new stretcher per Capital Imp at Town Meeting March 11, 2023: \$23,955.10.

A request to pay Stryker for service agreement for stretcher: \$3,708.00.

A request to pay Amazon for N95 fit test solution: \$93.84.
A request to pay Sleeper's for trash can, hose, toilet repair kits: \$55.96.
A request to reimburse Luke Alexander for Fall 2022 classes: \$1,337.20.
A request to pay Amazon for printer ink: \$166.79.
Motion to approve Fire & EMS POs made by Peter Talbot second Stanley Hackett, approved.

PARKS & REC:

A request to pay Gopher for track & field equipment: \$657.05.
A request to pay Smitty's Cinema for April break field rip deposit: \$250.00.
Motion to approve Parks & Rec POs made by Peter Talbot second Stanley Hackett, approved.

Old & New Business:

Appointments: Victoria Kundishora as Planning Board Alternate for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Patricia Ramsdell as Information Officer for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Jenna Cote as e911 Address Officer for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Craig Galarneau as Code Enforcement Officer for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Joyce Foley to the Comprehensive Plan Committee for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Judy Weymouth to the Comprehensive Plan Committee for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Marcel Desrosiers as Electrical Inspector for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Julie Anderson as Health Officer for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Steve Kelley to represent Limington on the ecoMaine board for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Emil Braley as Emergency Management Officer for a term of 1 year, April 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
Motion to accept appointments as listed above made by Michael barden second pete Talbot, approved.

Reminder: there will be NO televised Select Board meeting next week, April 06, 2023. The office will be open normal hours are 4pm-8pm.

Assessor day if Monday April 3, 2023. If you have questions on your property, please come to the Select Board Office 9am to noon.

Weekly Update on Select Board activities:

MSAD#6 will be presenting the school budget to the Select board on April 13, 2023 at 7:30pm. We encourage residents to come and hear the budget and ask question. The School budget is going up approximately 8.07% from \$3,921,769 to \$4,175,452 in 2023/2024.

Informational Bulletin:

Select Board office hours are Thursdays 4pm to 8pm. The on-air meeting time remains Thursdays at 7pm.

MSAD#6 is holding a job fair Wednesday April 5, 2023 for full and part time seasonal positions, by appointment only. If you would like more information you can look on their website, Bonnyeagle.org, email hrdept@bonnyeagle.org, or call 207-929-2320.

Roads are posted for spring. Please be aware that you need permission to drive vehicles over 23,000 pounds on the posted roads. Not obtaining permission could result in a fine.

Transfer Station hours are Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesday 12-4 p.m. A **Transfer Station sticker must be attached to your vehicle windshield for the disposal of ALL items.** No sticker is required to use the swap shop.

General Assistance Office is open on Wednesdays from 9-11am. Applications are available anytime from the Town Clerks office during their normal business hours. Applications must be filled out and accompanied with supporting documentation and must be signed.

Planning Board meets at the Municipal Complex on site the first and third Monday evenings at 7pm.

Parks & Rec is hosting more Cards and Coffee dates at the Municipal Offices. The times are 9:30am-11:30am the following Wednesday: April 5 & 19, May 3 & 17. Come and see what is happening, meet some new folks. If you have questions or suggestions, please reach out to Madison Moody our Recreation Director at M.Moody@LimingtonMaine.gov

Beach pass prices for 2023: Season Passes \$50.00 for residents, \$60.00 for non-residents, by the day passes are \$10.00 per car. Season passes are available at the Town Hall.

MMDY Summer Day Camp registration opens will next week. Registration forms can be found at the Town Office, or on the website.

Open to the Public:

Town of Limington

The Select Board of the Town of Limington

PUBLIC HEARING

March 30, 2023 at 7:30pm at the Municipal Building

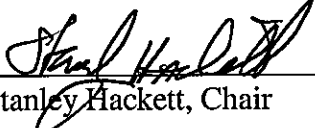
425 Sokokis Ave, Limington, ME

The purpose of the meeting is to enact the General Assistance Ordinance with appendices and will be filed with the Maine Department of Health & Human Services pursuant to 22 M.R.S.

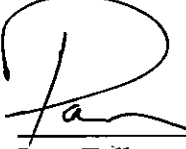
Motion to accept the new General Assistance Ordinance with appendices as stated above and attached made by Michael Barden second Pete Talbot, approved.

Motion to Adjourn at pm

Select Board, Town of Limington


Stanley Hackett, Chair


Michael Barden III


Pete Talbot

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Office for Family Independence
109 Capitol St.
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel.: (207) 624-4168; Toll-Free: (800) 442-6003
TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay); Fax: (207) 287-3455

To: Welfare Officials and Contracted Agents
From: Sara Denson, Program Manager, General Assistance
Date: September 7, 2022
Subject: New GA Maximums for October 1, 2022

Enclosed please find the following items:

- MMA's new (October 1, 2022–September 30, 2023) “**General Assistance Ordinance Appendices**” (A – G).
- Recovery Residence Housing Maximums (October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023)
- “**GA Ordinance Adoption Form**” which was developed so that municipalities may easily send DHHS proof of the adoption of any updated or changed GA Ordinance. Once the selectpersons or council adopts the new ordinance, the enclosed form should be signed and submitted to DHHS. (*see “Filing of GA Ordinance and/or Appendices” below for further information*).
- “**GA Maximums Adoption Form**” which was developed so that municipalities may easily send DHHS proof of GA maximums adoption. Once the selectpersons or council adopts the new maximums, the enclosed form should be signed and submitted to DHHS. (*see “Filing of GA Ordinance and/or Appendices” below for further information*).

Updates

Please note that updates have been made to the General Assistance Ordinance, Appendix A (overall maximums), Appendix B (food maximums), Appendix C (housing maximums), Appendix D (electricity maximums) and Appendix G (mileage rate). There is also a new Recovery Residence Housing Maximums guide. We anticipate an updated the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) GA Ordinance will be released soon. You can find information about the MMA Model Ordinance on the Maine Welfare Director’s Association (MWDA) website at www.mainewelfaredirectors.org.

Appendix A – G

The enclosed Appendices A – G have been revised for your municipality’s General Assistance Ordinance. These new Appendices, **once adopted**, should replace the existing Appendices A – G. Even if you are not updating your GA Ordinance, **the municipal officers must approve/adopt the new Appendices yearly.**

The Adoption Process

The municipal officers (i.e., selectpersons/council) adopt the local General Assistance Ordinance and yearly Appendices, even in town meeting communities. The law requires that the municipal officers conduct a ***notice and hearing*** prior to the adoption of the Ordinance and/or Appendices. Seven days posted notice is recommended, unless local law (or practice) provides otherwise.

At the hearing, the municipal officers should:

- 1) Allow all interested members of the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed ordinance;
- 2) End public discussion, close the hearing; and
- 3) Move and vote to adopt the ordinance and/or appendices either in its posted form or as amended in light of public discussion.

Municipalities May Establish Their Own Maximums

Municipalities may establish their own maximum levels of assistance provided that the proposed levels of assistance are reasonable and meet adequate standards sufficient to maintain the health and safety of applicants in the municipality. The municipality must submit to the Department documentation to justify these levels of assistance and verify that the figures developed are appropriate to maintain health and decency.

A municipality's maximum assistance level for Food may not be below the Department provided figures which are issued by the USDA and published annually following a study of cost of food for various family sizes. A market basket survey may be used to establish food maximums if the maximums provided by the USDA are insufficient to maintain health in the municipality. (C.M.R. 10-144, Chapter 323, Section V).

Filing of GA Ordinance and/or Appendices

Please remember that General Assistance law requires each municipality to send DHHS a copy of its ordinance once adopted, should that ordinance differ from the MMA Model. Any changes or amendments, such as new Appendices, must also be submitted to DHHS. DHHS will accept the enclosed "adoption sheet" as proof that your Municipal Officers have adopted the current MMA Model GA maximums and/or ordinance.

[For use when adopting updated appendices only without amending the body of an existing GA ordinance]

MUNICIPALITY OF Lumington
GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE

Pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(1), the municipal officers of the Municipality of Lumington, after notice and hearing, hereby amend the municipal General Assistance Ordinance by repealing and replacing appendices A through G of the existing ordinance with the attached appendices A through G, which shall be in effect from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. This amendment will be filed with the Maine Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(4), and a copy of the ordinance and amended appendices shall be available for public inspection at the municipal office along with a copy of the 22 M.R.S. chapter 1161.

Signed this 30th day of March, 2023 by the municipal officers:

STANLEY HACKETT
(Print Name)

[Signature]
(Signature)

PETE TARGET
(Print Name)

[Signature]
(Signature)

Michael Barden
(Print Name)

[Signature]
(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Signature)

[Please send a copy of the enactment page only to DHHS, 109 Capitol Street, SHS 11, Augusta, ME 04330-0011]

CHAPTER 1161

MUNICIPAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE

§4301. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

1. Basic necessities. "Basic necessities" means food, potable water, clothing, shelter, fuel, electricity, nonelective medical services as recommended by a physician, nonprescription drugs, telephone where it is necessary for medical reasons and any other commodity or service determined essential by the overseer in accordance with the municipality's ordinance and this chapter. "Basic necessities" do not include security deposits for rental property, except for emergency purposes. For the purposes of this subsection, "emergency purposes" means any situation in which no other permanent lodging is available unless a security deposit is paid. [PL 2019, c. 126, §2 (AMD).]

1-A. Direct costs. "Direct costs" means the total value of general assistance benefits paid out by a municipality that is in compliance with this chapter and the municipality's general assistance ordinance. [PL 1991, c. 9, Pt. U, §2 (NEW).]

2. Dwelling unit. "Dwelling unit" means a building or part thereof used for separate living quarters for one or more persons living as a single housekeeping unit. [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

3. Eligible person. "Eligible person" means a person who is qualified to receive general assistance from a municipality according to standards of eligibility determined by the municipal officers whether or not that person has applied for general assistance. "Eligible person" does not include a person who is a fugitive from justice as defined in Title 15, section 201, subsection 4. Beginning July 1, 2015, in accordance with 8 United States Code, Section 1621(d), "eligible person" means a person who is lawfully present in the United States or who is pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief, except that assistance for such a person may not exceed 24 months. [PL 2015, c. 324, §1 (AMD).]

4. Emergency. "Emergency" means any life threatening situation or a situation beyond the control of the individual which, if not alleviated immediately, could reasonably be expected to pose a threat to the health or safety of a person. [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

5. General assistance program. "General assistance program" means a service administered by a municipality for the immediate aid of persons who are unable to provide the basic necessities essential to maintain themselves or their families. A general assistance program provides a specific amount and type of aid for defined needs during a limited period of time and is not intended to be a continuing "grant-in-aid" or "categorical" welfare program. This definition shall not in any way lessen the responsibility of each municipality to provide general assistance to a person each time that the person has need and is found to be otherwise eligible to receive general assistance. [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

5-A. Homelessness. "Homelessness" means a situation in which a person or household is:

- A. Living in a place that is not fit for human habitation; [PL 2019, c. 515, §1 (NEW).]
- B. Living in an emergency shelter; [PL 2019, c. 515, §1 (NEW).]

payment of funeral or burial expenses for a family member; reasonable travel costs related to the illness or death of a family member; repair or replacement of essentials lost due to fire, flood or other natural disaster; repair or purchase of a motor vehicle essential for employment, education, training or other day-to-day living necessities; repayments of loans or credit, the proceeds of which can be verified as having been spent on basic necessities; and payment of bills earmarked for the purpose for which the lump sum is paid. All income received by the household between the receipt of the lump sum payment and the application for assistance is added to the remainder of the lump sum. The period of proration is then determined by dividing the remainder of the lump sum payment by the verified actual monthly amounts for all of the household's basic necessities. That dividend represents the period of proration determined by the administrator to commence on the date of receipt of the lump sum payment. The prorated sum for each month must be considered available to the household for 12 months from the date of application or during the period of proration, whichever is less.

[PL 2013, c. 551, §1 (AMD).]

8. Just cause. "Just cause" means a valid, verifiable reason that hinders an individual in complying with one or more conditions of eligibility.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

8-A. Lump sum payment. "Lump sum payment" means a one-time or typically nonrecurring sum of money issued to an applicant or recipient. Lump sum payment includes, but is not limited to, retroactive or settlement portions of social security benefits, workers' compensation payments, unemployment benefits, disability income, veterans' benefits, severance pay benefits, or money received from inheritances, lottery winnings, personal injury awards, property damage claims or divorce settlements. A lump sum payment includes only the amount of money available to the applicant after payment of required deductions has been made from the gross lump sum payment. A lump sum payment does not include conversion of a nonliquid resource to a liquid resource if the liquid resource has been used or is intended to be used to replace the converted resource or for other necessary expenses.

[PL 2001, c. 571, §2 (AMD).]

9. Municipality of responsibility. "Municipality of responsibility" means the municipality which is liable for the support of any eligible person at the time of application.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

10. Need. "Need" means the condition whereby a person's income, money, property, credit, assets or other resources available to provide basic necessities for the individual and the individual's family are less than the maximum levels of assistance established by the municipality.

[PL 1985, c. 489, §§2, 14 (AMD).]

11. Net general assistance costs. "Net general assistance costs" means those direct costs incurred by a municipality in providing assistance to eligible persons according to standards established by the municipal officers and does not include the administrative expenses of the general assistance program.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

12. Overseer. "Overseer" means an official designated by a municipality to administer a general assistance program. The municipal officers shall serve as a board of overseers if no other persons are appointed or elected.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

12-A. Pooling of income. "Pooling of income" means the financial relationship among household members who are not legally liable for mutual support in which there occurs any comingling of funds or sharing of income or expenses. Municipalities may by ordinance establish as a rebuttable presumption that persons sharing the same dwelling unit are pooling their income. Applicants who are requesting that the determination of eligibility be calculated as though one or more household members are not pooling their income have the burden of rebutting the presumption of pooling income.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

3. Emergencies. In any case when an applicant is unable, due to illness, disability, lack of transportation, lack of child care or other good cause, to apply in person for assistance or unable to appoint a duly authorized representative, the overseer shall accept an application by telephone subject to verification by mail and a visit to the applicant's home with the consent of the applicant. Municipalities may arrange with emergency shelters for the homeless to presume eligible for municipal assistance persons to whom the emergency shelter provides shelter services.

[PL 1989, c. 322, §2 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 322, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 699 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 209, §1 (AMD).

§4305. Municipal ordinance required

1. Program required; ordinance. A general assistance program shall be operated by each municipality and shall be administered in accordance with an ordinance enacted, after notice and hearing, by the municipal officers of each municipality.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

2. Availability of ordinance. The ordinance and a copy of this chapter must be available in the town office and be easily accessible to any member of the public. Notice to that effect must be posted. A copy of this chapter must be distributed by the department to each municipality.

[PL 1991, c. 209, §2 (AMD).]

3. Standards of eligibility. Municipalities may establish standards of eligibility, in addition to need, as provided in this chapter. Each ordinance shall establish standards which shall:

A. Govern the determination of eligibility of persons applying for relief and the amount of assistance to be provided to eligible persons; [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

B. Provide that all individuals wishing to make application for relief shall have the opportunity to do so; and [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

C. Provide that relief shall be furnished or denied to all eligible applicants within 24 hours of the date of submission of an application. [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

3-A. Maximum levels of assistance. Municipalities may establish maximum levels of assistance by ordinance. The maximum levels of assistance must set reasonable and adequate standards sufficient to maintain health and decency. A maximum level of assistance established by municipal ordinance is subject to a review by the department, upon complaint, to ensure compliance with this chapter.

[PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §2 (AMD).]

3-B. Temporary maximum levels. Notwithstanding subsection 3-A, municipalities shall establish an aggregate maximum level of assistance that is 110% of the applicable existing housing fair market rents as established by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 888.115, applying the zero-bedroom level for one person, the one-bedroom level for 2 persons, the 2-bedroom level for 3 persons, the 3-bedroom level for 4 persons and the 4-bedroom level for 5 persons. For each additional person, the aggregate maximum level increases by \$75. For the purposes of this subsection, municipalities with populations greater than 10,000 are deemed Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas in those counties for which there are 2 fair market rent values and the aggregate maximum level of assistance for all Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas is the average of the fair market rental values for the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas and areas that are not Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas for each county in which there are 2 fair market rental values.

6. Assistance by vouchers or contract. Except when determined impractical by the administrator for good cause shown, assistance is provided in the form of a voucher payable to vendor or vendors or through direct municipal contract with a provider of goods or services.
[PL 1991, c. 209, §3 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 209, §4 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1985, c. 489, §§3,4,14 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 9, §U4 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 209, §§2,3 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 209, §4 (AFF). PL 1991, c. 622, §M23 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 780, §I1 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 410, §§AAA2-5 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §B6 (REV). PL 2005, c. 231, §1 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. R, §1 (AMD). PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §7 (AMD).

§4306. Records; confidentiality of information

The overseer shall keep complete and accurate records pertaining to general assistance, including the names of eligible persons assisted and the amounts paid for their assistance. Records, papers, files and communications relating to an applicant or recipient made or received by persons charged with responsibility of administering this chapter are confidential and no information relating to a person who is an applicant or recipient may be disclosed to the general public, unless expressly permitted by that person. [PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).

§4307. Municipality of responsibility; residency

1. General assistance required. Municipalities shall provide general assistance to all eligible persons at the expense of that municipality, except as provided in section 4311.

A municipality may not move or transport a person into another municipality to avoid responsibility for general assistance support for that person. A municipality that illegally moves or transports a person, or illegally denies assistance to a person that results in that person's relocation, in addition to the other penalties provided in this chapter, shall reimburse twice the amount of assistance to the municipality that provided the assistance to that person. That reimbursement must be made in accordance with subsection 5.

A. [PL 1987, c. 349, Pt. H, §15 (RP).]

B. [PL 1987, c. 349, Pt. H, §15 (RP).]

[RR 2021, c. 2, Pt. B, §198 (COR).]

2. Municipality of responsibility. Except as provided in subsection 4, a municipality is responsible for the general assistance support of the following individuals:

A. A resident of the municipality. For the purposes of this section, a "resident" means a person who is physically present in a municipality with the intention of remaining in that municipality to maintain or establish a home and who has no other residence; and [PL 1987, c. 349, Pt. H, §15 (NEW).]

B. Eligible persons who apply to the municipality for assistance and who are not residents of that or any other municipality. If a person is not a resident of any municipality, the municipality where that person first applies shall be responsible for support until a new residence is established. [PL 1987, c. 349, Pt. H, §15 (NEW).]

[PL 1987, c. 349, Pt. H, §15 (RPR).]

3. Durational residency requirement prohibited. No municipality may establish a durational residency requirement for general assistance.

[PL 1987, c. 349, Pt. H, §15 (RPR).]

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1987, c. 349, §H15 (RPR). RR 2009, c. 2, §§58, 59 (COR). PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. II, §1 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 130, §1 (AMD). RR 2021, c. 2, Pt. B, §198 (COR).

§4308. Applications

In order to receive assistance from any municipality, the applicant or a duly authorized representative must file a written application with the overseer, except as provided in section 4304, subsection 3. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §6 (AMD).]

1. Initial and subsequent applications. Except as provided in section 4316-A, subsection 1-A, a person who makes an application for assistance, who has not applied for assistance in that or any other municipality must have that person's eligibility determined solely on the basis of need. All applications for general assistance that are not initial applications are repeat applications. The eligibility of repeat applicants must be determined on the basis of need and all other conditions of eligibility established by this chapter and municipal ordinance.
[PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §6 (AMD).]

1-A. Limit on housing assistance. Except as provided in subsections 1-B and 2, housing assistance provided pursuant to this chapter is limited to a maximum of 9 months during the period from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.
[PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. R, §2 (NEW).]

1-B. Extension of housing assistance due to hardship. An applicant is eligible for housing assistance under this chapter beyond the limit established in subsection 1-A if the applicant has a severe and persistent mental or physical condition warranting such an extension or has an application for assistance pending with the federal Social Security Administration.
[PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. R, §2 (NEW).]

2. Emergencies. A person, including a person experiencing or facing homelessness, who does not have sufficient resources to provide one or more basic necessities in an emergency is eligible for emergency general assistance, even when that applicant has been found ineligible for nonemergency general assistance, except as provided in this subsection.

A. A person who is currently disqualified from general assistance for a violation of section 4315, 4316-A or 4317 is ineligible for emergency assistance under this subsection. [PL 1985, c. 489, §§5, 14 (NEW).]

B. Municipalities may by standards adopted in municipal ordinances restrict the disbursement of emergency assistance to alleviate emergency situations to the extent that those situations could not have been averted by the applicant's use of income and resources for basic necessities. The person requesting assistance shall provide evidence of income and resources for the applicable time period. [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. OOO, §1 (AMD); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. OOO, §1 (AMD).]

A municipality may provide emergency assistance when the municipality determines that an emergency is imminent and that failure to provide assistance may result in undue hardship and unnecessary costs. [PL 2019, c. 515, §2 (AMD).]

3. Initial applicant. Notwithstanding section 4301, subsection 7, the household of an initial applicant that is otherwise eligible for emergency assistance may not be denied emergency assistance to meet an immediate need solely on the basis of the proration of a lump sum payment. Upon subsequent applications, that household's eligibility is subject to all the standards established by this chapter.
[PL 2001, c. 571, §3 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

reside in a dwelling maintained by a parent or other adult relative as that parent's or relative's own home or in a foster home, maternity home or other adult-supervised supportive living arrangement unless:

- A. The person has no living parent or the whereabouts of both parents are unknown; [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW).]
- B. No parent will permit the person to live in the parent's home; [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW).]
- C. The department determines that the physical or emotional health or safety of the person or dependent child would be jeopardized if that person and dependent child lived with a parent; [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW).]
- D. The individual has lived apart from both parents for a period of at least one year before the birth of any dependent child; or [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW).]
- E. The department determines, in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to this section, which must be in accordance with federal regulations, that there is good cause to waive this requirement. [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. SS, §3 (NEW).]

For the purposes of this subsection, "parent" includes legal guardian.
[PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §8 (AMD).]

5. Presumptive eligibility. The overseer in a municipality shall presume eligibility to receive general assistance of a person who is provided shelter in an emergency shelter for the homeless located in that municipality. After 30 days, that person's eligibility must be redetermined. When presumptive eligibility is determined under this subsection, no other municipality may be determined to be the municipality of responsibility during that 30-day period.
[PL 2019, c. 515, §3 (NEW).]

6. Eligibility; recovery residence; exception. The overseer in a municipality may not deny general assistance to a person for the sole reason that the person is residing in a recovery residence. Beginning July 1, 2022, a municipality may not provide housing assistance to a person residing in a recovery residence that has not been certified in accordance with Title 5, section 20005, subsection 22, except that the person may receive housing assistance while residing in an uncertified recovery residence for one 30-day period only and the overseer shall inform the person of the requirements of this subsection. A person who is ineligible for housing assistance under this subsection may remain eligible to receive general assistance for other basic necessities.
[PL 2021, c. 472, §3 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 840, §§4-6 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 528, §RRR (AFF). PL 1991, c. 528, §SS3 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 591, §SS3 (AMD). PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §8 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 515, §3 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 472, §3 (AMD).

§4310. Emergency benefits prior to full verification

Whenever an eligible person becomes an applicant for general assistance and states to the administrator that the applicant is in an emergency situation and requires immediate assistance to meet basic necessities, the overseer shall, pending verification, issue to the applicant either personally or by mail, as soon as possible but in no event later than 24 hours after application, sufficient benefits to provide the basic necessities needed immediately by the applicant, as long as the following conditions are met. [PL 2015, c. 494, Pt. A, §24 (AMD).]

compliance with all requirements of this chapter during the fiscal year for which reimbursement is sought. The amount of reimbursement to each municipality must be an amount equal to:

- A. Fifty percent of all general assistance granted by that municipality below the .0003% of all state valuation amount; or [PL 1991, c. 9, Pt. U, §8 (AMD).]
- B. Ten percent of all general assistance granted. [PL 1991, c. 9, Pt. U, §8 (AMD).]

Each municipality shall elect to be reimbursed under paragraph A or B at the beginning of the fiscal year for which reimbursement is sought.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this subsection takes effect on July 1, 1989. [PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. SSSS, §1 (AMD).]

1-C. Indian tribe reimbursement. The department shall reimburse each Indian tribe for the costs of a portion of the direct costs of paying benefits through its general assistance program if the department finds that the Indian tribe was in compliance with all requirements of this chapter during the fiscal year for which those benefits are sought.

The amount of reimbursement must be calculated for each fiscal year by adding 10% of all general assistance granted up to the threshold amount to 100% of all general assistance granted above the threshold amount.

For the purposes of this subsection, "Indian tribe" has the same meaning as in section 411, subsection 8-A. For purposes of this subsection, "threshold amount" means 0.0003 of the Indian tribe's most recent state valuation, as determined by the State Tax Assessor in the statement filed as provided in Title 36, section 381, relative to the year for which reimbursement is being issued. [PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §10 (NEW).]

2. Submission of reports. Each municipality shall report on a schedule determined by the department through rulemaking the direct cost of paying benefits through the general assistance program on forms for reimbursement provided by the department.

- A. [PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. SSSS, §1 (RP).]
- B. [PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. SSSS, §1 (RP).]

Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

[PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. SSSS, §1 (AMD).]

3. Claims. The Department of Health and Human Services may refuse to accept and pay any claim for reimbursement that is not submitted by a municipality to the department within 90 days of the payment on which that claim is based or at the end of the reporting period for which reimbursement is sought unless just cause exists for failure to file a timely claim.

[PL 1991, c. 9, Pt. U, §10 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1983, c. 824, §X4 (AMD). PL 1985, c. 567 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 833 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 9, §§U8-10 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 410, §AAA7 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 696, §A39 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §B6 (REV). PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §§10, 11 (AMD). PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. SSSS, §1 (AMD).

§4312. Unorganized territory

Residents of the unorganized territory shall be eligible for general assistance in the same manner as provided in this chapter. The commissioner shall establish standards of eligibility for the unorganized territory and shall have the same responsibilities with regard to the unorganized territory as apply to overseers in a municipality. The commissioner may appoint agents to administer the general

and a written request signed by the overseer of any municipality or its agents, or by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's agents or by the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management or the commissioner's agents, disclose to that overseer or the Department of Health and Human Services or the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services the amount deposited in the corporation or association to the credit of the named depositor granting the release, who is a charge upon the municipality or the State, or who has applied for support to the municipality or the State. When the named depositor who is a charge upon the municipality is deceased and the municipality or its agents are acting in accordance with section 4313, subsection 2, the officer shall disclose the amount deposited in the corporation or association upon receipt of a written request from the municipality or its agents and a notarized affidavit signed by the overseer of the municipality or its agents stating that the named depositor is deceased.

[PL 2017, c. 28, §1 (AMD); PL 2019, c. 377, §6 (REV).]

3. Verification of employment. The applicant has responsibility for providing documentary verification of benefits received during the period for which assistance is requested, or in the month immediately prior to the application for assistance when those wages and benefits are expected to be the same during the period for which assistance is requested.

The overseer shall give the applicant written notice that if the applicant does not provide the documentary verification within one week of the application, the employer will be contacted.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, every employer shall, upon written request of the overseer, release information regarding any wages or other financial benefits paid to the applicant or a member of the applicant's household. No employer may discharge or otherwise adversely affect an employee because of any request for information pursuant to this section.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

4. Confidentiality. Any person who seeks and obtains information under this section is subject to the same rules of confidentiality as the person who is caretaker of the information which is by law confidential.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

5. Refusal. Any person who refuses to provide any information to an overseer who requests it in accordance with this section shall state in writing the reasons for the refusal within 3 days of receiving the request.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW).]

6. Refusal; penalty. A person who refuses upon request to provide information under this section without just cause commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$25 and not more than \$100 may be adjudged.

[PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. K, §25 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. X, §2 (AFF).]

7. False information; penalty. A person who intentionally or knowingly renders false information under this section to an administrator commits a Class E crime.

[PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. K, §26 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. X, §2 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1991, c. 626, §4 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 86, §2 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 455, §§8,32 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 452, §§K25,26 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 452, §X2 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 689, §§B6,7 (REV). PL 2017, c. 28, §1 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 377, §6 (REV).

§4315. False representation

Whoever knowingly and willfully makes any false representation of a material fact to the overseer of any municipality or to the department or its agents for the purpose of causing that or any other person to be granted assistance by the municipality or by the State is guilty of a Class E crime and shall

- A. Refuses to search for employment when that search is reasonable and appropriate; [PL 1985, c. 489, §§7, 14 (NEW).]
- B. Refuses to register for work; [PL 1985, c. 489, §§7, 14 (NEW).]
- C. Refuses to accept a suitable job offer under this section; [PL 1985, c. 489, §§7, 14 (NEW).]
- D. Refuses to participate in a training, educational or rehabilitation program that would assist the applicant in securing employment; [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]
- E. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (RP).]
- F. Refuses to perform or willfully fails to perform a job assigned under subsection 2; or [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]
- G. Willfully performs a job assigned under subsection 2 below the average standards of that job. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]
- H. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (RP).]

If a municipality finds that an applicant has violated a work-related rule without just cause, under this subsection or subsection 1-A, it is the responsibility of that applicant to establish the presence of just cause.

[PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]

1-A. Period of ineligibility. An applicant, whether an initial or repeat applicant, who quits work or is discharged from employment due to misconduct as defined in Title 26, section 1043, subsection 23, is ineligible to receive assistance for 120 days after the applicant's separation from employment. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (NEW).]

2. Municipal work program. A municipality may require that an otherwise eligible person who is capable of working be required to perform work for the municipality or work for a nonprofit organization, if that organization has agreed to participate as an employer in the municipal work program, as a condition of receiving general assistance. The municipality may also require recipients, as a part of the municipal work program, to participate in a training, educational or rehabilitative program that would assist the recipient in securing employment. The municipal work program is subject to the following requirements.

- A. A person may not, as a condition of general assistance eligibility, be required to do any amount of work that exceeds the value of the net general assistance that the person would otherwise receive under municipal general assistance standards. Any person performing work under this subsection must be provided with net general assistance, the value of which is computed at a rate of at least the State's minimum wage. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]
- B. A person may not be required to work under this subsection for a nonprofit organization if that work would violate a basic religious belief of that person. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]
- C. An eligible person performing work under this subsection may not replace regular municipal employees or regular employees of a participating nonprofit organization. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]
- D. An eligible person in need of emergency assistance may not be required to perform work under this subsection prior to receiving general assistance. An applicant who is not in need of emergency assistance may be required to satisfactorily fulfill a workfare requirement prior to receiving the nonemergency assistance conditionally granted to that applicant. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]

G. Inability to arrange for necessary child care or care of an ill or disabled family member; [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]

H. Any reason found to be good cause by the Department of Labor; and [PL 1985, c. 489, §§7, 14 (NEW).]

I. Any other evidence that is reasonable and appropriate. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]

The overseer may not require medical verification of medical conditions that are apparent or are of such short duration that a reasonable person would not ordinarily seek medical attention. In any case in which the overseer requires medical verification and the applicant has no means of obtaining such verification, the overseer shall grant assistance for the purpose of obtaining that verification.

[PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 489, §§7,14 (NEW). PL 1991, c. 9, §§U11-14 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 528, §§OOO3,4 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 528, §RRR (AFF). PL 1991, c. 591, §§OOO3,4 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 622, §§M25,26 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 410, §AAA10 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §B6 (REV).

§4317. Use of potential resources

An applicant or recipient must make a good faith effort to secure any potential resource that may be available, including, but not limited to, any state or federal assistance program, employment benefits, governmental or private pension programs, available trust funds, support from legally liable relatives, child-support payments and jointly held resources where the applicant or recipient share may be available to the individual. Assistance may not be withheld pending receipt of such resource as long as application has been made or good faith effort is being made to secure the resource. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §11 (AMD).]

An individual applying for or receiving assistance due to a disability must make a good faith effort to make use of any medical and rehabilitative resources that may be recommended by a physician, psychologist or other professional retraining or rehabilitation specialist that are available without financial burden and would not constitute further physical risk to the individual. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §11 (AMD).]

An applicant who refuses to utilize potential resources without just cause, after receiving a written 7-day notice, is disqualified from receiving assistance until the applicant has made a good faith effort to secure the resource. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §11 (AMD).]

An applicant who forfeits receipt of or causes reduction in benefits from another public assistance program because of fraud, misrepresentation or a knowing or intentional violation of program rules or a refusal to comply with program rules without just cause is not eligible to receive general assistance to replace the forfeited assistance for the duration of the forfeiture. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §11 (AMD).]

An applicant who is found to be ineligible for unemployment compensation benefits because of a finding of fraud by the Department of Labor pursuant to Title 26, section 1051, subsection 1 is ineligible to receive general assistance to replace the forfeited unemployment compensation benefits for the duration of the forfeiture established by the Department of Labor. [PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §12 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 410, §AAA11 (AMD). PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §12 (AMD).

§4318. Recovery of expenses

the municipality finds that the rental arrangement has existed for 3 months prior to the application for assistance and is necessary to provide the relative with basic necessities. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §12 (AMD).]

3. Recovery of assistance provided. A municipality or the State, after providing general assistance to a dependent of a legally responsible parent or to a person's spouse who is financially capable of providing support, may then seek reimbursement or relief for that support by initiating a complaint to the Superior Court or District Court, including by small claims action, located in the division or county where the legally responsible parent or spouse resides. The court may cause the legally responsible parent or spouse to be summoned and upon hearing or default may assess and apportion a reasonable sum upon those who are found to be of sufficient ability for the support of the eligible person and shall issue a writ of execution. The assessment may not be made to pay any expense for relief provided more than 12 months before the complaint was filed. Any action brought under this section is governed by the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure. The court may, from time to time, make any further order on complaint of an interested party and, after notice is given, alter the assessment or apportionment.

[PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §12 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1983, c. 701, §5 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 370 (RPR). PL 1991, c. 622, §M28 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 410, §AAA12 (AMD).

§4320. Liens on real estate

A municipality or the State may claim a lien against the owner of real estate for the amount of money spent by it to provide mortgage payments on behalf of an eligible person under this chapter on any real estate that is the subject of a mortgage, whether land or buildings or a combination thereof. In addition, a municipality may claim a lien against the owner of real estate for the amount of money spent by it to make capital improvements to the real estate, whether land or buildings or a combination of land and buildings, on behalf of an eligible person under this chapter. [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. OOO, §5 (AMD); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. OOO, §5 (AMD).]

The municipal officers, their designee or the State shall file a notice of the lien with the register of deeds of the county wherein the property is located within 30 days of making a mortgage payment or, if applicable, payment for capital improvements. That filing secures the municipality or State's lien interest for an amount equal to the sum of that mortgage or capital improvement payment and all subsequent mortgage or capital improvement payments made on behalf of the same eligible person. Not less than 10 days prior to the filing, the municipal officers, their designee or the State shall send notification of the proposed action by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner of the real estate and any record holder of the mortgage. The lien notification must clearly inform the recipient of the limitations upon enforcement contained in this section; it shall also contain the title, address and telephone number of the municipal official who granted the assistance. A new written notice including these provisions must be given to the recipient each time the amount secured by the lien is increased. The lien is effective until enforced by an action for equitable relief or until discharged. [PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. OOO, §6 (AMD); PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. RRR (AFF); PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. OOO, §6 (AMD).]

Interest on the amount of money secured by the lien may be charged by the State or a municipality, but in no event may the rate exceed the maximum rate of interest allowed by the Treasurer of State, pursuant to Title 36, section 186. For the State, the rate of interest shall be established by the department. For a municipality, the rate of interest shall be established by the municipal officers. Interest shall accrue from and including the date the lien is filed. [PL 1983, c. 697, §3 (RPR).]

The costs of securing and enforcing the lien may be recoverable upon enforcement. [PL 1983, c. 697, §3 (RPR).]

shall pay costs for preparing any transcripts required to pursue an appeal of a fair hearing authority's decision. [RR 2009, c. 2, §60 (COR).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW). PL 1983, c. 697, §4 (AMD). PL 1985, c. 489, §§10,14 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 737, §§C66,C106 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,C10 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 410, §AAA13 (AMD). RR 2009, c. 2, §60 (COR).

§4323. Department of Health and Human Services; responsibilities

The Department of Health and Human Services shall, in accordance with this section, share responsibility with municipalities for the proper administration of general assistance. [PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. AAA, §13 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

1. Review. The department shall review the administration of general assistance in each municipality for compliance with this chapter. This review shall be made on a regular basis and may be made in response to a complaint from any person as necessary.

The department shall inspect the municipality's records and discuss the administration of the program with the overseer. The overseer or the overseer's designee shall be available during the department's review and shall cooperate in providing all necessary information.

The department shall report the results of its review in writing to the municipality and, when applicable, to the complainant. The written notice shall set forth the department's findings of whether the municipality is in compliance with this chapter.

[RR 2021, c. 2, Pt. B, §202 (COR).]

2. Violation; penalty. If the department finds any violation of this chapter after review, it shall notify the municipality that it has 30 days in which to correct that violation and specify what action shall be taken in order to achieve compliance. The municipality shall file a plan with the department setting forth how it will attain compliance. The department shall notify the municipality if the plan is acceptable and that it will review the municipality for compliance within 60 days of accepting the plan. Any municipality which fails to file an acceptable plan with the department or which is in violation of this chapter at the expiration of the 60-day period shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$500. The Department of Health and Human Services shall enforce this section in any court of competent jurisdiction. Every 30-day period that a municipality is in violation of this chapter after review and notification shall constitute a separate offense. In addition to the civil penalty, the department shall withhold reimbursement to any municipality which is in violation of this chapter until it reaches compliance.

[PL 1983, c. 577, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

3. Departmental assistance. Whenever the department finds that a person in immediate need of general assistance has not received that assistance as a result of a municipality's failure to comply with the requirements of this chapter, the department shall, within 24 hours of receiving a request to intervene and after notifying the municipality, grant this assistance in accordance with regulations adopted by it. The expense of that assistance granted, including a reasonable proportion of the State's administrative cost that can be attributed to that assistance, shall be billed by the department to the municipality. Should that bill remain unpaid 30 days after presentation to the municipality, the department shall refer the bill to the Treasurer of State for payment from any taxes, revenue, fines or fees due from the State to the municipality.

A municipality may not be held responsible for reimbursing the department for assistance granted under this subsection if the department failed to intervene within 24 hours of receiving the request to intervene or if the department failed to make a good faith effort, prior to the intervention, to notify the municipality of the department's intention to intervene.

[PL 1989, c. 840, §7 (AMD).]

2022-2023 GA Overall Maximums

Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5
Bangor HMFA: Bangor, Brewer, Eddington, Glenburn, Hampden, Hermon, Holden, Kenduskeag, Milford, Old Town, Orono, Orrington, Penobscot Indian Island Reservation, Veazie	826	955	1,219	1,515	2,071
Cumberland County HMFA: Baldwin, Bridgton, Brunswick, Harpswell, Harrison, Naples, New Gloucester, Pownal, Sebago	1,016	1,075	1,409	1,865	1,991
Lewiston/Auburn MSA: Auburn, Durham, Greene, Leeds, Lewiston, Lisbon, Livermore, Livermore Falls, Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland, Sabattus, Turner, Wales	795	859	1,099	1,427	1,728
Penobscot County HMFA: Alton, Argyle UT, Bradford, Bradley, Burlington, Carmel, Carroll plantation, Charleston, Chester, Clifton, Corinna, Corinth, Dexter, Dixmont, Drew plantation, East Central Penobscot UT, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Etna, Exeter, Garland, Greenbush, Howland, Hudson, Kingman UT, Lagrange, Lakeville, Lee, Levant, Lincoln, Lowell town, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medway, Millinocket, Mount Chase, Newburgh Newport, North Penobscot UT, Passadumkeag, Patten, Plymouth, Prentiss UT, Seboeis plantation, Springfield, Stacyville, Stetson, Twombly UT, Webster plantation, Whitney UT, Winn, Woodville	789	792	1,043	1,302	1,420
Portland HMFA: Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Chebeague Island, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Frye Island, Gorham, Gray, Long Island, North Yarmouth, Portland, Raymond, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, Yarmouth; Buxton, Hollis, Limington, Old Orchard Beach	1,263	1,463	1,893	2,415	2,958
Sagadahoc HMFA: Arrowsic, Bath, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Georgetown, Perkins UT, Phippsburg, Richmond, Topsham, West Bath, Woolwich	874	1,031	1,253	1,650	1,880

Appendix A

Effective: 10/01/22-09/30/23

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5
York County HMFA: Acton, Alfred, Arundel, Biddeford, Cornish, Dayton, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Lebanon, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Parsonsfield, Saco, Sanford, Shapleigh, Waterboro, Wells	1,072	1,082	1,355	1,717	1,984
York/Kittery/S.Berwick HMFA: Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, York	1,237	1,293	1,699	2,194	2,934

*Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Non-Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5
Aroostook County	692	754	881	1,185	1,353
Franklin County	728	774	909	1,229	1,566
Hancock County	890	925	1,110	1,397	1,529
Kennebec County	819	835	1,038	1,360	1,451
Knox County	844	848	1,038	1,378	1,471
Lincoln County	925	941	1,178	1,463	1,912
Oxford County	814	815	993	1,400	1,627
Piscataquis County	701	752	926	1,227	1,477
Somerset County	755	790	1,017	1,323	1,416
Waldo County	970	972	1,155	1,441	1,970
Washington County	756	758	982	1,228	1,343

* Please Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Appendix B

Effective: 10/01/22 to 09/30/23

2022-2023 Food Maximums

Please Note: The maximum amounts allowed for food are established in accordance with the U.S.D.A. Thrifty Food Plan. As of October 1, 2022, those amounts are:

Number in Household	Weekly Maximum	Monthly Maximum
1	\$ 65.35	\$ 281.00
2	120.00	516.00
3	172.09	740.00
4	218.37	939.00
5	259.53	1,116.00
6	311.40	1,339.00
7	344.19	1,480.00
8	393.26	1,691.00

Note: For each additional person add \$211 per month.

2022-2023 GA Housing Maximums (Heated & Unheated Rents)

NOTE: NOT ALL MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD ADOPT THESE SUGGESTED HOUSING MAXIMUMS! Municipalities should **ONLY consider** adopting the following numbers, if these figures are consistent with local rent values. If not, a market survey should be conducted and the figures should be altered accordingly. The results of any such survey must be presented to DHHS prior to adoption. **Or**, no housing maximums should be adopted and eligibility should be analyzed in terms of the Overall Maximum—Appendix A. (See *Instruction Memo for further guidance.*)

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

Aroostook County				
Bedrooms	Unheated		Heated	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	123	528	157	676
1	126	541	171	735
2	140	604	200	859
3	197	846	270	1,159
4	218	935	308	1,323
Franklin County				
Bedrooms	Unheated		Heated	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	131	564	165	712
1	131	564	176	755
2	147	632	206	887
3	207	890	280	1,203
4	267	1,148	357	1,536
Hancock County				
Bedrooms	Unheated		Heated	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	176	755	204	875
1	176	755	211	908
2	205	883	253	1,089
3	260	1,120	319	1,373
4	276	1,187	349	1,500
Kennebec County				
Bedrooms	Unheated		Heated	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	159	684	187	804
1	159	684	190	818
2	189	811	237	1,017
3	252	1,083	311	1,336
4	258	1,109	331	1,422

Appendix C

Effective: 10/01/22-09/30/23

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

Knox County		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	165	709	193	831	
1	157	673	193	831	
2	189	811	237	1,017	
3	256	1,101	315	1,354	
4	263	1,129	335	1,442	
Lincoln County					
Lincoln County		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	184	790	212	910	
1	184	790	215	924	
2	221	951	269	1,157	
3	276	1,186	335	1,439	
4	365	1,570	438	1,883	
Oxford County					
Oxford County		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	158	679	186	799	
1	158	679	186	799	
2	178	766	226	972	
3	261	1,123	320	1,376	
4	299	1,285	372	1,598	
Riscataquis County					
Riscataquis County		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	125	537	159	685	
1	125	539	171	733	
2	151	649	210	904	
3	206	888	279	1,201	
4	246	1,059	336	1,447	
Somerset County					
Somerset County		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	144	620	172	740	
1	144	620	180	773	
2	184	790	232	996	
3	243	1,046	302	1,299	
4	250	1,074	322	1,387	

Appendix C
Effective: 10/01/22-09/30/23

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

Waldo County		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	194	835	222	955	
1	194	835	222	955	
2	216	928	264	1,134	
3	271	1,164	329	1,417	
4	379	1,628	451	1,941	

Washington County		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	144	621	172	741	
1	144	621	172	741	
2	176	755	224	961	
3	221	951	280	1,204	
4	233	1,001	306	1,314	

Metropolitan FMR Areas

Bangor HMFA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	161	691	189	811	
1	181	780	218	938	
2	231	992	279	1,198	
3	288	1,238	347	1,491	
4	402	1,729	475	2,042	

Cumberland Cty. HMFA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	205	881	233	1,001	
1	209	900	246	1,058	
2	275	1,182	323	1,388	
3	369	1,588	428	1,841	
4	383	1,649	456	1,962	

Lewiston/Auburn MSA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	153	660	181	780	
1	159	684	196	842	
2	203	872	251	1,078	
3	267	1,150	326	1,403	
4	322	1,386	395	1,699	

Appendix C
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Metropolitan FMR Areas

Penobscot Cty. HMEFA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	152	654	180	775	
1	152	654	180	775	
2	190	816	238	1,022	
3	238	1,025	297	1,278	
4	251	1,078	323	1,391	
Portland HMEFA					
Portland HMEFA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	262	1,128	290	1,248	
1	300	1,288	336	1,446	
2	387	1,666	435	1,872	
3	497	2,138	556	2,391	
4	608	2,616	681	2,929	
Sagadahoc Cty. HMEFA					
Sagadahoc Cty. HMEFA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	172	739	200	859	
1	199	856	236	1,014	
2	239	1,026	287	1,232	
3	319	1,373	378	1,626	
4	358	1,538	430	1,851	
York Cty. HMEFA					
York Cty. HMEFA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	218	937	246	1,057	
1	218	937	248	1,065	
2	262	1,128	310	1,334	
3	335	1,440	394	1,693	
4	382	1,642	455	1,955	
York/Kittery/S. Berwick HMEFA					
York/Kittery/S. Berwick HMEFA		Unheated		Heated	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	256	1,102	284	1,222	
1	260	1,118	297	1,276	
2	342	1,472	390	1,678	
3	446	1,917	505	2,170	
4	603	2,592	676	2,905	

2022-2023 GA MAXIMUMS SUMMARY SHEET

Note: The overall maximums found in *Appendices A, B, C, D, E, and F* are effective from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.

APPENDIX A - OVERALL MAXIMUMS

<u>County</u>	<u>Persons in Household</u>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6

NOTE: For each additional person add \$75 per month.

(The applicable figures from Appendix A, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

APPENDIX B - FOOD MAXIMUMS

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Maximum</u>
1	\$ 65.35	\$ 281.00
2	120.00	516.00
3	172.09	740.00
4	218.37	939.00
5	259.53	1,116.00
6	311.40	1,339.00
7	344.19	1,480.00
8	393.26	1,691.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$211 per month.

APPENDIX C - HOUSING MAXIMUMS

<u>Number of Bedrooms</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0				
1				
2				
3				
4				

(The applicable figures from Appendix C, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

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APPENDIX D - UTILITIES

ELECTRIC

NOTE: For an electrically heated dwelling also see "Heating Fuel" maximums below. But remember, an applicant is *not automatically* entitled to the "maximums" established—applicants must demonstrate need.

1) **Electricity Maximums for Households *Without Electric Hot Water*:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* electric hot water and heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$19.95	\$ 85.50
2	\$22.52	\$ 96.50
3	\$24.97	\$107.00
4	\$27.53	\$118.00
5	\$29.88	\$128.50
6	\$32.55	\$139.50

NOTE: For each additional person add \$10.50 per month.

2) **Electricity Maximums for Households *With Electrically Heated Hot Water*:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$29.63	\$127.00
2	\$34.07	\$146.00
3	\$39.67	\$170.00
4	\$46.32	\$198.50
5	\$55.65	\$238.50
6	\$58.68	\$251.50

NOTE: For each additional person add \$14.50 per month.

NOTE: For electrically heated households, the maximum amount allowed for electrical utilities per month shall be the sum of the appropriate maximum amount under this subsection and the appropriate maximum for heating fuel as provided below.

APPENDIX E - HEATING FUEL

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
September	50	January	225
October	100	February	225
November	200	March	125
December	200	April	125
		May	50

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NOTE: When the dwelling unit is heated electrically, the maximum amount allowed for heating purposes will be calculated by multiplying the number of gallons of fuel allowed for that month by the current price per gallon. When fuels such as wood, coal and/or natural gas are used for heating purposes, they will be budgeted at actual rates, if they are reasonable. No eligible applicant shall be considered to need more than 7 tons of coal per year, 8 cords of wood per year, 126,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year, or 1000 gallons of propane.

APPENDIX F - PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1-2	\$10.50	\$45.00
3-4	\$11.60	\$50.00
5-6	\$12.80	\$55.00
7-8	\$14.00	\$60.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$1.25 per week or \$5.00 per month.

SUPPLEMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5

When an applicant can verify expenditures for the following items, a special supplement will be budgeted as necessary for households with children under 5 years of age for items such as cloth or disposable diapers, laundry powder, oil, shampoo, and ointment up to the following amounts:

<u>Number of Children</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1	\$12.80	\$55.00
2	\$17.40	\$75.00
3	\$23.30	\$100.00
4	\$27.90	\$120.00

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Funeral Maximums

Burial Maximums

The maximum amount of general assistance granted for the purpose of burial is **\$1,475**. The municipality's obligation to provide funds for burial purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable burial expenses are limited to:

- removal of the body from a local residence or institution
- a secured death certificate or obituary
- embalming
- a minimum casket
- a reasonable cost for necessary transportation
- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator, where there is an actual cost, for:

- the wholesale cost of a cement liner if the cemetery by-laws require one;
- the opening and closing of the grave site; and
- a lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery. If the municipality is able to provide a cemetery lot in a municipally owned cemetery or in a cemetery under municipal control, the cost of the cemetery lot in any other cemetery will not be paid by the municipality.

Cremation Maximums

The maximum amount of assistance granted for a cremation shall be **\$1,025**.

The municipality's obligation to provide funds for cremation purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable cremation expenses are limited to:

- removal and transportation of the body from a local residence or institution
- professional fees
- crematorium fees
- a secured death certificate or obituary

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- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator where there is an actual cost, for:

- a cremation lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery
- a reasonable cost for a burial urn not to exceed \$55
- transportation costs borne by the funeral director at a reasonable rate per mile for transporting the remains to and from the cremation facility.