

Receiving a Rent Assistance Benefit

Civida provides Rent Assistance Benefit in the below municipalities:

- Barrhead
- Bon Accord
- Clyde
- Duffield
- Edmonton
- Fort Assiniboine
- Fort Saskatchewan
- Gibbons
- Holden
- Innisfree
- Josephburg
- Legal
- Mannville
- MorinVille
- Redwater
- Ryley
- Sherwood Park
- Smoky Lake
- Spedden
- Spruce Grove
- St. Albert
- Stony Plain
- Tofield
- Vegreville
- Vlina
- Waskatenau

Customers who receive the Rent Assistance Benefit (RAB) or Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit are called "recipients".

- Westlock

Civida will offer Rent Assistance Benefit to applicants with the highest point score in the community they are applying for as benefits are available.

Recipients must live in eligible housing to receive a benefit. Eligible housing is a self-contained, rented home. This means the home has its own kitchen and bathroom. A recipient could live in:

- A basement suite or secondary suite as long as it has been approved by the municipality.
- Co-operatives with a written co-operative agreement.
- Mobile home where the tenant is renting both the mobile home and the pad.
- Detached housing, row/townhouse, duplex or triplex,

or apartments or condos with a written tenancy agreement.

Recipients cannot live in:

- Hotels, motels and vacation rental by owner (VRBO) arrangements
- Illegal basement/secondary suites.
- Owned mobile homes requesting supplement for the rent of the pad.
- Shared living accommodations with the landlord.
- Housing owned by the applicant.

Applicants are not eligible for Rent Assistance Benefit if they live in a building where the rent is based on rent geared-to-income (social housing).

Recipients may live with a roommate – Civida will provide a Rent Assistance Benefit for the recipient's portion of the rent only.

The Rent Assistance Benefit is the difference between affordable rent (30% of the recipient's total household income) and the market rent, up to the maximum amounts.

The maximum amounts are based on the number of bedrooms the household requires:

- \$500 for a household who requires a bachelor or 1 bedroom;
- \$600 for a household who requires a 2 bedroom;
- \$700 for a household who requires a 3 bedroom;
- \$800 for a household who requires 4 or more-bedrooms

Recipients must sign a Rent Assistance Benefit agreement. Civida will commit to provide one year of monthly payments. After one year, the agreement may be renewed if the recipient is still eligible and there is funding available.

Recipients who receive a Rent Assistance Benefit must provide direct deposit information to receive the supplement. This information is available from a bank or credit union.

Recipients who receive a Rent Assistance Benefit must provide their social insurance number. Rent Assistance Benefits are considered a taxable benefit. Recipients will receive a T5007 in each year in February for tax purposes.

Recipients must advise Civida if:

- They move or plan to move
- Someone moves in or out of their household
- A roommate moves in

- Their income changes
- They rent out a room in their home to someone who is not part of their household

These changes may impact a recipient's Rent Assistance Benefit amount or eligibility. If recipients do not tell Civida about these changes, their supplement may be cancelled. For more information, visit our website.