

Receiving a Rent Assistance Benefit

Civida provides Rent Assistance Benefit (RAB) in the below municipalities:

- Edmonton
- Vegreville

Residents living in surrounding area municipalities may be eligible for RAB through their local housing management body. Please contact them for further information.

[Meridian Housing Foundation](#) is responsible for Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, and surrounding areas. Please call 780-963-2149 or email RAB@meridianfoundation.ca

[Heartland Housing Foundation](#) is responsible for Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan. Please call 780-400-3511 or email applications@heartlandhousing.ca

[Homeland Housing Foundation](#) is responsible for St. Albert and surrounding areas. To contact Homeland Housing Foundation, please call 780-939-5116.

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

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

RAB 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.
- Rent-geared-to-income housing (community housing)

Eligible recipients living with a roommate will be provide a RAB for the recipient's portion of the rent only.

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

- \$700 for a household who requires a bachelor or 1 bedroom;
- \$800 for a household who requires a 2 bedroom;
- \$900 for a household who requires a 3 bedroom;
- \$900 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](#).