

## 11.8 Rent and Home Mortgage Interest Assistance

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1. Rent payments shall only be made only to property owners of record, or their designees. Rent shall not be paid to property owners who live at the same residence for which rent assistance is requested unless the property is assessed as a multi-family conversion. Property ownership and assessment classification shall be verified by the General Assistance Office and an agreement to accept assistance in lieu of rent shall be signed by the property owner or their designee prior to any rent payments being made. A contract purchaser of rental property may provide verification of their ownership interest by presenting to the General Assistance Office a copy of the recorded contract of purchase. Rent shall not be paid to parents, grandparents, siblings, children, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nephews or nieces of any member of the applying household.
  - a. The rental property the applicant is seeking assistance for must include a toilet, shower, stove, refrigerator, and sink in order to be eligible for rent assistance for the actual monthly payment amount, not to exceed \$350 per month.
  - b. Rent shall be paid only for housing that is currently occupied by the applying household. Temporary absence from the residence of a member of the applying household due to health problems shall not disqualify the applying household from receiving assistance.
  - c. Applicants participating in a transitional housing program shall be deemed eligible for room rental assistance provided the provider of the transitional living services owns the property and provides a lease agreement. Individuals renting rooms are not eligible for utility assistance.
    - i. Room Rental Assistance related to transitional housing pursuant to 11.7 and 11.8 shall be provided to eligible applying applicants for the actual monthly payment amount, not to exceed \$200 per month.
  - d. Rent shall be paid for rooms for applicants who are renting from landlords with room rental properties approved by the General Assistance Advisory Committee. The property and rooms shall be inspected by the General Assistance Office on an annual basis to ensure integrity of the program. Individuals renting rooms are not eligible for utility assistance.
    - i. Room Rental Assistance pursuant to 11.7 and 11.8 shall be provided to eligible applying applicants for the actual monthly payment amount, not to exceed \$200 per month.
  - e. Rent shall not be paid for housing units that are subsidized by the federal government or other programs where rent paid by the applying household is based on income unless the applying household is applying for assistance under section 11.3(2).

- f. Lot Rent Assistance pursuant to 11.7 and 11.8 shall be provided to eligible applying households for the actual monthly payment amount, not to exceed \$350 per month.
  - g. Vouchers issued for rent assistance will be paid out typically 15 days from the date the voucher was issued.
- 2. Home mortgage interest shall be paid only for the interest currently due for the applying household's primary residence. Temporary absence from the residence of a member of the applying household due to health problems shall not disqualify the applying household from receiving assistance.
  - e. Home Mortgage interest payments shall be made only to the mortgage holder or their designee and only upon verification by the division of the identity of the mortgage holder. Home mortgage interest payments shall not be paid to parents, grandparents, siblings, children, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nephews, or nieces of any member of the applying household.
  - f. The amount of assistance available for home mortgage interest and the guidelines for assistance eligibility shall be the same as for rent assistance not to exceed \$350.