Reasons for Decision:

Order #AP1718-0349

The appellant appealed the effective date of the income assistance benefits and the amount the appellant is receiving.

Effective date

The appellant was in receipt of income assistance when the appellant informed the worker that the appellant had obtained a seasonal job at a <text removed> in <location removed>. The appellant had requested that the appellant's income assistance file be kept open as the appellant would require assistance when the appellant's job was over in <month removed>. The program closed the appellant's income assistance file as the appellant had sufficient income to support the appellant. At the time of case closure the appellant's monthly income assistance benefits were <amount removed> per month.

The appellant stated the appellant could not finish the summer employment due to a <text removed> injury. The appellant earned <amount removed> in the month of <month removed>. The appellant contacted the income assistance program on <date removed>. The appellant had an intake appointment on <date removed> but could not be enrolled on that date as the appellant did not have a Record of Employment (ROE). The appellant provided an ROE on <date removed>. A new intake appointment was booked for <date removed> and the appellant was enrolled on that date.

At the hearing the appellant indicated that the appellant was more concerned about the amount the appellant was paid than the effective date. If the case had been kept open as the appellant requested, the appellant would not be having these problems.

After carefully reviewing the written and verbal information, the Board has determined that the Employment and Income Assistance program correctly enrolled the appellant effective the date that the appellant provided all the information that was required to establish eligibility. The Board also confirms that the program was correct in closing the appellant's income assistance file when the appellant obtained full time employment as the appellant was no longer residing in the province of Manitoba and was earning sufficient income to support the appellant. The decision of the Director has therefore been confirmed on this issue.

Budget amount

The appellant had previously been receiving an income assistance budget of <amount removed> per month. This consisted of basic needs of <amount removed>, rent of <amount removed>, and a job seeker's allowance of <amount removed>. When the appellant reapplied for assistance, the appellant's landlord (a parent) indicated on the Rental Information Form that the appellant was in a Room & Board

situation and was required to pay <amount removed> per month. The appellant's budget was therefore set up to reflect the program's Board and Room rate when residing with a relative. This new budget consisted of basic needs of $66.40, board and room of $252, job seeker's allowance of $25 and a Rent Assist supplement of $140 per month, for a total of $483.

From the information provided at the hearing, it appears the appellant's parent incorrectly completed the Rental Agreement Form, and had never intended to indicate that the appellant was in a Board and Room situation. It was the parent's expectation that the appellant pay <amount removed> a month for the room, and contribute to the cost of food.

After carefully considering the written and verbal information, the Board has determined that the Employment and Income Assistance program processed the appellant's income assistance budget in accordance with the signed documentation provided to them. In order to have the appellant's budget adjusted, a new signed statement from the appellant's landlord will need to be provided to the income assistance program in order to calculate the budget as a straight rental situation. The decision of the director has therefore been confirmed.