

Reasons for Decision:

Order # AP1819-0145

<name removed> appealed that their re-application for the Rent Assist benefit was denied.

<name removed> had a previous application for Rent Assist benefits based on their <year removed> net income of <amount removed>. their application was approved at <amount removed> per month effective <dates removed>. The reapplication and supporting documents were received on <date removed> and denied due to excess income. The Manitoba Assistance Regulation indicates that a single person household is not eligible for the Rent Assist benefit if their annual net income exceeds \$23,040. The Regulation does not allow for eligibility for Rent Assist benefits to be calculated based on current circumstances. Therefore, the program found that <name removed> was not eligible.

<name removed> requested the Board to please consider their current circumstances, as they are currently self employed and actively searching for full time employment. the appellant is having extreme financial difficulties, including not being able to cover their rent and requests the program to assess their eligibility on their <year removed> income.

After carefully considering the written and verbal information, the Board has determined that <name removed> eligibility for the Rent Assist program has been properly assessed in accordance with The Manitoba Assistance Regulation. Eligibility for this program is always based on the amount of income earned in the previous year, or two years previous. Although the Board sympathizes with <name removed> reduction in income, the Regulation does not allow any discretion to review current circumstances and income situations where a person's income is significantly lower than the amount reported in the previous year's income tax return. Therefore, the decision of the Director has been confirmed and this appeal has been dismissed.

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