

Order 216-11/12
Given first reading 6/4/12
Passed as Emergency 9-0 6-18-12

MICHAEL F. BRENNAN (MAYOR)
KEVIN J. DONOGHUE (1)
DAVID A. MARSHALL (2)
EDWARD J. SUSLOVIC (3)
CHERYL A. LEEMAN (4)

CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL

JOHN R. COYNE (5)
JOHN M. ANTON (A/L)
JILL C. DUSON (A/L)
NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES (A/L)

**AMENDMENT TO PORTLAND CITY CODE
CHAPTER 13 (GENERAL ASSISTANCE)
RE: LEVELS OF ASSISTANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE
IN CITY COUNCIL ASSEMBLED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. *That Section 13-9 (Basic Necessities) of the Portland City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:*

Sec. 13-9. Basic necessities.

(a) *Overall maximum levels of assistance.* Notwithstanding any of the maximum levels of assistance for specific basic necessities listed in this section, an applicant's eligibility for general assistance will be first determined by subtracting his total income, less voluntary deductions mandated by state, federal or local law, from the overall maximum level of assistance established by 22 M.R.S.A. Sec. 4305(3-B) and published by Maine Municipal Association for the applicable household size. Except on initial applications, applicants must apply their income to basic necessities. Applicants whose income exceeds the overall maximum level of assistance and/or applicants who have not applied their income toward basic needs as required shall not be eligible for general assistance, unless they are in an emergency.

The overall maximum levels of assistance shall be periodically adjusted to conform to 22 M.R.S.A. Sec. 4305(3-B) as published in Maine Municipal Association's General Assistance Manual. A copy of the maximum levels of assistance shall be on file in, and available from the city's general assistance office.

Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter for the period from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013, to comply with 22

Formatted: Left: 1", Right: 1", Top: 1",
Bottom: 1"

M.R.S.A. §4305(3)(C) as enacted by the State's supplemental budget for FY13, the overall maximum allowed shall be:

Persons in Household

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5*</u>
731	868	1124	1416	1517

*Note: Add \$68 for each additional person.

(b) *Maximum levels of assistance for specific basic necessities.* The municipality will grant assistance to eligible applicants for basic necessities according to the maximum levels for specific types of assistance set forth below. The administrator, in consultation with the applicant, may apply the amount of the applicant's deficit toward assistance with any one (1) or combination of necessities not to exceed the total deficit. In all cases, either the actual expenses the applicant incurs for basic necessities or the maximum amount allowed in each category, whichever is less, will be used in determining need. The maximum levels will be strictly adhered to although, if the administrator determines that there are exceptional circumstances and an emergency is shown to exist, these absolute levels will be waived in order to meet immediate needs.

Formatted: Indent: First line: 0.5"

No assistance will be granted to an applicant for any expense which has been or will be paid by another person, or which has been incurred in another person's name.

(c) *Necessary expenses.* Assistance will be granted pursuant to the provisions of this section except that for the period from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 the Administrator will provide rent or mortgage payments that are reasonable within the allowed maximum levels and in accordance with the housing assistance limits and exceptions provided in Title 22 M.R.S.A, Section 4308, subsections 1-A and 1-B, as enacted by the State's supplemental budget for FY13 and as shown below: ~~Necessary expenses will be defined as follows:~~

Formatted: Indent: First line: 0.5"

<u>Bedrooms</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
<u>0</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>431</u>	<u>112</u>	<u>481</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>507</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>572</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>648</u>	<u>172</u>	<u>739</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>765</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>879</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>966</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>1134</u>

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that these amendments are enacted as an Emergency, pursuant to Article II, Section 8 of the Portland City Charter, in order to be in compliance when the law goes into effect on July 1, 2012.