



Paul R. LePage, Governor Ricker Hamilton, Acting Commissioner

Department of Health and Human Services
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TO: Municipal Officials/Welfare Directors/General Assistance Administrators

FROM: Ian Miller, General Assistance Program Manager

RE: 2017 – 2018 General Assistance Ordinance Maximums

DATE: 8-21-2017

Enclosed please find the following items:

- MMA's new (October 1, 2017–September 30, 2018) “**General Assistance Ordinance Appendix**” (A - D).
- “**GA Maximums Summary Sheet**” which consolidates GA maximums into one document. Municipalities do have to insert individual locality maximums from Appendix A and C in the summary sheet where indicated in order to complete the information. The “summary” does not have to be adopted, as it is not an Appendix but a tool for municipal officials administering GA.
- “**GA Maximums Adoption Form**” which was developed so that municipalities may easily send DHHS proof of GA maximums adoption. Once the selectpersons or council adopts the new maximums, the enclosed form should be signed and submitted to DHHS. (*see “Filing of GA Ordinance and/or Appendices” below for further information*).

Appendix A - D

The enclosed Appendices A - D have been revised for your municipality's General Assistance Ordinance. These new Appendices, **once adopted**, should replace the existing Appendices A – D. Even if you have already adopted MMA's model General Assistance Ordinance, **the municipal officers must approve/adopt the new Appendices yearly.**

The Adoption Process

The **municipal officers (i.e., selectpersons/council)** adopt the local **General Assistance Ordinance and yearly Appendices**, even in town meeting communities. The law requires that the municipal officers adopt the ordinance and/or Appendices ***after notice and hearing***. Seven days posted notice is recommended, unless local law (or practice) provides otherwise.

At the hearing, the municipal officers should:

- 1) Allow all interested members of the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed ordinance;
- 2) End public discussion, close the hearing; and
- 3) Move and vote to adopt the ordinance either in its posted form or as amended in light of public discussion.

Filing of GA Ordinance and/or Appendices

Please remember that General Assistance law requires each municipality to send DHHS a copy of its ordinance once adopted. *(For a copy of the GA model ordinance, please call MMA's Publication Department, or visit their web site www.memun.org).* In addition, any changes or amendments, such as new Appendices, must also be submitted to DHHS. DHHS will accept the enclosed "adoption sheet" as proof that a municipality has adopted the current GA maximums.

2017-2018 GA Housing Maximums (Heated & Unheated Rents)

NOTE: NOT ALL MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD ADOPT THESE SUGGESTED HOUSING MAXIMUMS! Municipalities should ONLY **consider** adopting the following numbers, if these figures are consistent with local rent values. If not, a market survey should be conducted and the figures should be altered accordingly. The results of any such survey must be presented to DHHS prior to adoption. **Or, no housing maximums should be adopted and eligibility should be analyzed in terms of the Overall Maximum—Appendix A. (See Instruction Memo for further guidance.)**

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Aroostook County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	111	476	130	559
1	111	476	134	578
2	130	558	159	684
3	167	718	204	878
4	177	762	221	949
<u>Franklin County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	117	503	137	587
1	117	503	141	607
2	137	591	167	717
3	173	743	209	898
4	258	1,108	302	1,300
<u>Hancock County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	124	535	147	633
1	139	599	167	720
2	183	788	213	915
3	227	976	270	1,159
4	242	1,041	294	1,264
<u>Kennebec County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	131	564	154	662
1	131	564	158	679
2	168	724	198	851
3	219	943	262	1,126
4	226	971	278	1,194

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Knox County</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	139	596	161	694	
1	139	596	161	694	
2	168	724	198	851	
3	212	913	255	1,096	
4	230	989	282	1,212	
<u>Lincoln County</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	145	625	168	723	
1	150	646	178	767	
2	182	783	212	910	
3	223	961	266	1,144	
4	266	1,144	318	1,367	
<u>Oxford County</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	110	472	133	570	
1	110	472	135	579	
2	132	567	161	694	
3	195	837	237	1,020	
4	237	1,017	288	1,240	
<u>Piscataquis County</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	106	457	126	540	
1	118	508	143	613	
2	147	630	177	759	
3	198	853	235	1,011	
4	198	853	240	1,034	
<u>Somerset County</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	
0	120	517	143	615	
1	121	519	148	637	
2	147	631	176	758	
3	202	869	243	1,043	
4	202	869	243	1,043	

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Waldo County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	121	522	144	620
1	131	563	159	684
2	159	683	188	810
3	217	933	260	1,116
4	222	955	274	1,178

<u>Washington County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	110	472	133	570
1	110	472	134	578
2	130	559	160	686
3	166	712	208	895
4	208	847	249	1,070

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Bangor HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	129	556	152	654
1	140	600	168	721
2	184	790	213	917
3	225	969	268	1,152
4	275	1,180	326	1,403

<u>Penobscot Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	104	447	127	545
1	115	494	143	615
2	149	643	179	770
3	191	822	234	1,005
4	219	943	271	1,166

<u>Lewiston/Auburn MSA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	112	483	135	581
1	125	538	153	659
2	165	711	195	838
3	208	896	251	1,079
4	249	1,071	301	1,294

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Portland HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	196	844	219	942
1	219	943	247	1,064
2	285	1,227	315	1,354
3	386	1,658	428	1,841
4	412	1,771	464	1,994
<u>York/Kittery/S. Berwick HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	192	824	214	922
1	195	837	223	958
2	263	1,129	292	1,256
3	335	1,441	378	1,624
4	430	1,847	481	2,070
<u>Cumberland Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	140	603	163	701
1	144	619	172	740
2	202	868	231	995
3	299	1,288	342	1,471
4	338	1,454	390	1,677
<u>Sagadahoc Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	145	623	168	721
1	157	675	185	796
2	185	795	214	922
3	243	1,045	286	1,228
4	296	1,274	348	1,497
<u>York Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	136	587	159	685
1	159	684	187	805
2	203	875	233	1,002
3	275	1,184	318	1,367
4	269	1,156	320	1,374

2017-2018 Food Maximums

Please Note: The maximum amounts allowed for food are established in accordance with the U.S.D.A. Thrifty Food Plan. As of October 1, 2017, those amounts are:

Number in Household	Weekly Maximum	Monthly Maximum
1	44.65	192
2	81.86	352
3	117.21	504
4	148.84	640
5	176.74	760
6	212.33	913
7	234.65	1,009
8	268.14	1,153

Note: For each additional person add \$144 per month.

2017-2018 GA MAXIMUMS SUMMARY SHEET

Note: The overall maximums found in *Appendices A, B, C, D, E, and F* are effective from **October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018.**

APPENDIX A - OVERALL MAXIMUMS

<u>County</u>	<u>Persons in Household</u>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<p>NOTE: For each additional person add \$75 per month.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(The applicable figures from Appendix A, <i>once adopted</i>, should be inserted here.)</p>						

APPENDIX B - FOOD MAXIMUMS

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Maximum</u>
1	44.65	192
2	81.86	352
3	117.21	504
4	148.84	640
5	176.74	760
6	212.33	913
7	234.65	1,009
8	268.14	1,153
<p>NOTE: For each additional person add \$144 per month.</p>		

APPENDIX C - HOUSING MAXIMUMS

<u>Number of Bedrooms</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0				
1				
2				
3				
4				
<p>(The applicable figures from Appendix C, <i>once adopted</i>, should be inserted here.)</p>				

FOR MUNICIPAL USE ONLY

APPENDIX D - UTILITIES

ELECTRIC

NOTE: For an electrically heated dwelling also see “Heating Fuel” maximums below. But remember, an applicant is *not automatically* entitled to the “maximums” established—applicants must demonstrate need.

1) **Electricity Maximums for Households *Without Electric Hot Water*:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* electric hot water and heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$14.00	\$60.00
2	\$15.70	\$67.50
3	\$17.45	\$75.00
4	\$19.90	\$86.00
5	\$23.10	\$99.00
6	\$25.00	\$107.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$7.50 per month.

2) **Electricity Maximums for Households *With Electrically Heated Hot Water*:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$20.65	\$89.00
2	\$23.75	\$102.00
3	\$27.70	\$119.00
4	\$32.25	\$139.00
5	\$38.75	\$167.00
6	\$41.00	\$176.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$10.00 per month.

NOTE: For electrically heated households, the maximum amount allowed for electrical utilities per month shall be the sum of the appropriate maximum amount under this subsection and the appropriate maximum for heating fuel as provided below.

APPENDIX E - HEATING FUEL

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
September	50	January	225
October	100	February	225
November	200	March	125
December	200	April	125
		May	50

FOR MUNICIPAL USE ONLY

NOTE: When the dwelling unit is heated electrically, the maximum amount allowed for heating purposes will be calculated by multiplying the number of gallons of fuel allowed for that month by the current price per gallon. When fuels such as wood, coal and/or natural gas are used for heating purposes, they will be budgeted at actual rates, if they are reasonable. No eligible applicant shall be considered to need more than 7 tons of coal per year, 8 cords of wood per year, 126,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year, or 1000 gallons of propane.

APPENDIX F - PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1-2	\$10.50	\$45.00
3-4	\$11.60	\$50.00
5-6	\$12.80	\$55.00
7-8	\$14.00	\$60.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$1.25 per week or \$5.00 per month.

SUPPLEMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5

When an applicant can verify expenditures for the following items, a special supplement will be budgeted as necessary for households with children under 5 years of age for items such as cloth or disposable diapers, laundry powder, oil, shampoo, and ointment up to the following amounts:

<u>Number of Children</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1	\$12.80	\$55.00
2	\$17.40	\$75.00
3	\$23.30	\$100.00
4	\$27.90	\$120.00

FOR MUNICIPAL USE ONLY

2017-2018 GA Overall Maximums

Metropolitan Areas

COUNTY	Persons in Household				
	1	2	3	4	5*
Bangor HMFA: Bangor, Brewer, Eddington, Glenburn, Hampden, Hermon, Holden, Kenduskeag, Milford, Old Town, Orono, Orrington, Penobscot Indian Island Reservation, Veazie	714	788	994	1,242	1,506
Penobscot County HMFA: Alton, Argyle UT, Bradford, Bradley, Burlington, Carmel, Carroll plantation, Charleston, Chester, Clifton, Corinna, Corinth, Dexter, Dixmont, Drew plantation, East Central Penobscot UT, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Etna, Exeter, Garland, Greenbush, Howland, Hudson, Kingman UT, Lagrange, Lakeville, Lee, Levant, Lincoln, Lowell town, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medway, Millinocket, Mount Chase, Newburgh Newport, North Penobscot UT, Passadumkeag, Patten, Plymouth, Prentiss UT, Seboeis plantation, Springfield, Stacyville, Stetson, Twombly UT, Webster plantation, Whitney UT, Winn, Woodville	605	682	847	1,095	1,269
Lewiston/Auburn MSA: Auburn, Durham, Greene, Leeds, Lewiston, Lisbon, Livermore, Livermore Falls, Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland, Sabattus, Turner, Wales	641	726	915	1,169	1,397
Portland HMFA: Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Chebeague Island, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Frye Island, Gorham, Gray, Long Island, North Yarmouth, Portland, Raymond, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, Yarmouth; Buxton, Hollis, Limington, Old Orchard Beach	1,002	1,131	1,431	1,931	2,097
York/Kittery/S.Berwick HMFA: Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, York	982	1,025	1,333	1,714	2,173
Cumberland County HMFA: Baldwin, Bridgton, Brunswick, Harpswell, Harrison, Naples, New Gloucester, Pownal, Sebago	761	807	1,072	1,561	1,780

Appendix A
Effective: 10/01/17-09/30/18

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Sagadahoc HMFA: Arrowsic, Bath, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Georgetown, Perkins UT, Phippsburg, Richmond, Topsham, West Bath, Woolwich	781	863	999	1,318	1,600
York County HMFA: Acton, Alfred, Arundel, Biddeford, Cornish, Dayton, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Lebanon, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Parsonsfield, Saco, Sanford, Shapleigh, Waterboro, Wells	745	872	1,079	1,457	1,477

*Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Non-Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Aroostook County	618	642	760	965	1,049
Franklin County	646	671	793	985	1,400
Hancock County	693	787	992	1,249	1,367
Kennebec County	722	746	928	1,216	1,297
Knox County	754	755	928	1,186	1,315
Lincoln County	783	834	987	1,234	1,470
Oxford County	630	646	771	1,110	1,343
Piscataquis County	595	672	828	1,090	1,125
Somerset County	675	704	835	1,133	1,146
Waldo County	680	751	887	1,206	1,281
Washington County	630	645	763	985	1,173

* Please Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Oct 1, 2017 to Sept 30, 2018

OVERALL MAXIMUMS

Persons in Household				
1	2	3	4	5
595	672	828	1,090	1,125

Household of 6 = 1,200
* Add \$75 for each additional person

Housing Maximums

BEDROOM	UNHEATED		Heated	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	106	457	126	540
1	118	508	143	613
2	147	630	177	759
3	198	853	235	1,011
4	198	853	240	1,034

ELECTRIC

NOTE: For an electrically heated dwelling also see "Heating Fuel" maximums below. But remember, an applicant is not automatically entitled to the "maximums" established applicants must demonstrate need.
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4	\$19.90	\$86.00
5	\$23.10	\$99.00
6	\$25.00	\$107.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$7.50 per month.

FOOD MAXIMUMS

Persons	Weekly	Monthly
1	44.65	192
2	81.86	352
3	117.21	504
4	148.84	640
5	176.74	760
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7	234.65	1,009
8	268.14	1,153

Add \$144 per month for each + person

PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

Number in Household	Weekly Amount	Monthly Amount
1-2	\$10.50	\$45.00
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HEATING FUEL

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		May	50

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4	\$27.90	\$120.00

2) Electricity Maximums for Households With Electrically Heated Hot Water: The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses excluding heat:

Number in Household	Weekly	Monthly
1	\$20.65	\$89.00
2	\$23.75	\$102.00
3	\$27.70	\$119.00
4	\$32.25	\$139.00
5	\$38.75	\$167.00
6	\$41.00	\$176.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$10.00 per month.

1-800-442-6003

Revised 10-1-17