Albertan

Policy Manual Update

Income Support

Subject:	Indexing of Income Support Benefit Rates
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Effective Date:	January 1, 2023
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BACKGROUND:

Through an amendment to the Income Support, Training and Health Benefits Regulation, Income Support benefits will be indexed annually to inflation.

The benefit rates have been increased by 6% effective January 1, 2023.

The following rates are not indexed:

- The accommodation portion for clients living in long term care facilities, as these rates are outlined in the Nursing Homes Operation Regulation. These rates are indexed annually by Alberta Health.
- Any supplementary benefit rates that are a payment for an actual cost.

INTENT:

To update benefit rates to reflect the 6% increase effective January 1, 2023. No other changes have been made.

POLICY:

Indexing

The following policies have been updated: Indexing of Benefits

Rounding Benefits

Core Essential Benefit

The following policies have been updated: <u>Core Essential</u> <u>18 and 19 Year Old Dependents</u> <u>Shelters For Those Fleeing Abusive Relationships</u>

Core Shelter Benefit

The following policies have been updated: <u>General Policy</u> <u>Private Housing</u> <u>Social Housing</u> <u>One Adult Living in Community, Spouse/Partner Living in Facility</u>

Supplemental Benefits

The following policies have been updated:

Continuous Needs: <u>Additional Shelter</u> <u>Child Supplement Allowance</u> <u>Childcare</u> <u>Earnings Replacement Allowance</u> <u>Handicap Benefit</u> <u>Isolated Community Allowance</u> <u>Personal Needs Allowance</u> <u>Prenatal Needs Payment</u> Transportation to Day or Employment Program

Non-Continuous Needs: <u>Children's School Expenses</u> <u>Community Living Start-Up Allowance</u> <u>Emergency Allowance</u> <u>Employment Training and Transition Supports</u> <u>Escaping Abuse Benefit (Household Start-up)</u> <u>Natal and Adoptive Needs Payment</u> <u>Personal Benefit – Telephone and Transportation – Leaving Abusive Situation</u> <u>Funeral Benefits for Income Support Households</u> Funeral Benefits for Low Income Albertans General Policy

Supplemental Health Benefits: <u>Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) Devices</u> <u>Medical Extraordinary Transportation</u> <u>Medical and Surgical Supplies</u>

Special Diets

FORMS:

The following forms have been updated: <u>EMP 0433 Financial Benefits Summary</u> <u>EMP 12950 Funeral Benefits Application for Albertans with Low Income</u> <u>EMP 12961 Funeral Benefits Application for IS Clients</u> <u>Funeral Benefits - Payment Direction</u> <u>Funeral Benefits - Request for an Exceptional Amount</u>

GUIDES:

The following guides have been updated: <u>Guide to Completing the Income Support Funeral Benefits Application</u> <u>Guide to Completing the SCSS Funeral Benefits Application</u> <u>Provider's Guide to the Funeral Benefits Application</u>