

DNSSAB Housing Services
Local Housing Policy

LHP - 2020-19

SUBJECT:	Special Needs Housing – Application for Assistance		
DATE of ISSUE TO HOUSING PROVIDER:			
IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	January 1, 2021	APPROVED BY:	DNSSAB Supervisor
REVISION DATE(S):	January 1, 2020	SIGNATURE:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Dee Johnson</i> <small>09F24F2BF3B442F...</small>
ASSOCIATED DOCUMENT(S):			
RELATED POLICY(IES):			
ISSUED TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Section 95 Private Non-Profit Housing Program <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Section 26/27 Housing Program <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Urban Native Non-Profit Housing Program <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Non-Profit Housing Program <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal Non-Profit Housing Program (Pre-1986) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Housing Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable Housing/Investment in Affordable Housing/Social Infrastructure Fund Program <input type="checkbox"/> DNSSAB Rent Supplement Programs <input type="checkbox"/> DNSSAB Housing Access		

PURPOSE

To inform all Special Needs Housing Administrators of the local rule, background and compliance standard under the Housing Services Act, 2011 (HSA) and associated regulations related to special needs housing application for assistance.

BACKGROUND

Under *O. Reg 367/11, s. 72* of the Housing Services Act, 2011, Service Managers are provided with clear guidelines regarding the requirements related to which information/documentation can be requested in an application for special needs housing.

Definitions

Special Needs Housing - is defined as housing that is intended for use by a household with one or more members who require accessibility modifications or provincially funded support services in order to live independently in the community.

Modified Unit – refers to a housing unit with accessibility modifications, allowing tenants with a physical disability to perform daily in-house activities as independently as possible. Some coordinated access centers maintain centralized waiting lists for modified units. In other service areas, Housing Providers keep their own waiting lists.

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Local Housing Policy

LHP - 2020-19

SUBJECT:	Special Needs Housing – Application for Assistance (continued)
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Supportive Housing - generally refers to a combination of housing assistance and supports that enable people to live as independently as possible in their community.

- This definition includes several forms of housing assistance (e.g., rent geared-to-income, rent supplements, housing allowances) and housing types (e.g., dedicated buildings, individual units).
- Supports also take a variety of forms and vary in intensity based on people's unique needs. A few examples of supports include counselling, personal support, case management, income support and assistance with applying for social assistance, assistance with medication, and life skills training.

LOCAL RULE

An application for special needs housing must include:

1. Verifiable reasons why the household requires special needs housing; *and*
2. Any/All information or documents required by the Special Needs Housing Administrator; *and*
3. A signed consent form, allowing for third party disclosure of information required by the Special Needs Housing Administrator to process the application and verify matters such as the eligibility of the household for special needs housing; *and*
4. Appropriate unit type among household project preference selection.

Limitations on what a Special Needs Housing Administrator may require:

1. The Administrator shall not require a person to provide information or documents if the Administrator is satisfied that the person is unable to do so.
2. The Administrator shall not require information or documents with respect to an application that includes a request for inclusion in the special priority household category that relates to the abuse, other than trafficking, of a member of the household, if the member of the household making the request believes that he or she or any other member of the household will be at risk of abuse if he or she attempts to obtain the information or documents.
3. The Administrator shall not require information or documents with respect to an application that includes a request for inclusion in the special priority household category that relates to the trafficking of a member of the household, if the member of the household making the request believes that he or she or any other member of the household will be at risk of abuse if he or she attempts to obtain the information or documents. *O. Reg. 367/11, s. 72; O. Reg. 437/17, s. 19.*



DNSSAB Housing Services
Local Housing Policy

LHP - 2020-19

SUBJECT: Special Needs Housing – Application for Assistance (continued)

ACTION

That Special Needs Housing Administrators implement the new Local Housing Policy - *Special Needs Housing – Application for Assistance* - LHP - 2020-19.

AUTHORIZATION

Original signed by:  Date: 6/10/2021
Stacey Cyopeck
Director, DNSSAB Housing Programs

Replaced By Policy #		Retirement Date:	
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