



Mariposa Co-op

RULES CONCERNING ABSENCE FROM THE UNIT



The Social Housing Reform Act (2000) has been replaced with the Housing Services Act, 2011 (HSA) effective January 1, 2012.

Halton Region has delegated responsibility to Housing Providers through the Service Agreement for determining households' on-going eligibility for rent-g geared-to-income (RGI) assistance.

O.Reg.367/11,s.37 gives Consolidated Municipal Service Managers the discretion to create a local policy that limits the consecutive time period a household can be absent from their unit and still be eligible for rent-g geared-to-income (RGI) assistance. The following rule has been established for this purpose.

1. A household receiving RGI Assistance ceases to be eligible for this assistance if all household members have been absent from their unit for a time period of more than 90 consecutive days.
2. If the household consists of only one member: If this member resides elsewhere for medical reasons, the unit is not to be considered vacant.
3. If the household consists of more than one member: if one member of the household resides elsewhere for medical reasons and the other members (usually the children in a single parent household subsequently cannot stay in the unit, the unit is not to be considered vacant.
4. An example of a valid medical reason for absence may be a long stay in hospital, rehabilitation or treatment facility. This must be supported by documentation such as a doctor's note and must be verified by the housing provider.
5. Extenuating circumstances with regard to allowable non-medical absences of more than 90 consecutive days are considered at the discretion of the respective Halton Region Housing Program Administrator upon provider recommendation. A possible extenuating circumstance involves the practical and or cultural requirements following the death of a relative.
6. Housing providers must communicate this policy with their residents. Examples of appropriate media in that regard are the lease and or occupancy agreement, pamphlets, guides and handouts.
7. Households that cease to be eligible for RGI assistance under this policy must receive a 90 day notice to that effect. The household may request a review of the decision.

Your compliance with RGI rules is important to both the co-op and its members. Please inform the co-op office when you are going to be away from your unit for an extended period of time. Your co-operation is appreciated.

Vita Isherwood
On-Site Manager