

Appendix “A”

SHRA - ONTARIO REGULATION 298/01 and 339/01

AREAS OF FLEXIBILITY

AREA OF FLEXIBILITY	CHANGES MADE	APPROVED RULE
Applications for RGI Assistance	The requirement for an application to be signed by each member aged 16 years or older has been removed. The application and consent can now be signed by such members of the household as the service manager may require.	That only those household members who are not dependent children be required to sign the application for affordable housing.
Young dependants signing leases and occupancy agreements	There is a change to subsection 21(1) in O. Reg 339/01 to allow the service manager to determine if everyone over the age of 16 needs to sign a lease.	That only those household members who are not dependent children be required to sign the tenancy agreement or lease for affordable housing.
Eligibility Requirements	A household is now eligible for rent-g geared-to-income (RGI) if they have made ‘reasonable efforts’ to enter into an agreement with a provider to whom they owe arrears.	Reasonable efforts would be defined as, those households who enter into a repayment agreement for a minimum of 10% of arrears owed on a monthly basis. Repayment agreement would be capped at \$100.00 maximum per month unless household members volunteer to pay a higher amount, until full arrears amount is paid in full.
Special Priority Application	The service manager can allow a request for an application for Special Priority to be submitted later than three months if the abused person is living in an emergency shelter or in temporary housing and is receiving treatment or counselling or if any other extenuating circumstances apply.	Extenuating circumstances would be defined as those Special Priority households who are still in jeopardy of being subjected to further abuse (e.g. abuser was incarcerated and is being released)
Special Priority Application	A service manager can require a declaration of truth to accompany the record of abuse prepared by a social worker.	Statement of truth will be requested where there is conflicting information contained within the verification of abuse, the indicators of abuse or cohabitation status of the household.
Occupancy Standards	The service manager can allow an additional bedroom or bedrooms to a household if it is satisfied that extenuating circumstances exist.	Extenuating circumstances would be defined as those households who require an additional bedroom for medically documented reasons as noted in guidelines for a second bedroom.
Waiting List	A service manager can decide not to include a household on a subsidiary waiting list for a housing project if the housing provider has already refused a unit to the household under “refusal to offer” conditions set out in O. Reg. 339/01 s.18	NRH will not include a household on a subsidiary waiting list for a housing project if the housing provider has already refused a unit and NRH is satisfied that the reason is as set out in O. Reg. 339/01 s. 18

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Waiting List	Overhoused households placed on the centralized waiting list must indicate a preference for at least the number of housing projects specified by the service manager within a geographic area.	Households must indicate a preference for at least 3 affordable housing communities. Exception would be if there are less than three affordable housing communities that contain the appropriate sized units based on occupancy standards within the municipality of their choice. Or, for a previous SPP household, if they would be at risk of further abuse in an affordable housing community where their abuser or abuser's family resides.
Waiting List	Overhoused households that indicate a preference for housing projects and are added to the subsidiary waiting lists for those projects cannot request to be removed from any subsidiary waiting list unless the total number of housing projects selected is the same as or greater than the number specified by the service manager.	Overhoused households must remain on three affordable housing subsidiary waiting lists, or as noted above.
Waiting List	An application to be added to the waiting list for special needs housing will be signed by the members of the household as the service manager requires. Reference to 16-yr olds has been removed.	That only those household members who are not dependent children be required to sign the tenancy agreement and application for affordable housing.
Review of RGI Rent Payable	The service manager can decide to review the RGI rent payable by a household less frequently than once in every 12-month period if all members of the household are unemployed, on a fixed income and there are no dependants of any member of the household.	NRH to maintain the current 12-month period.
Notices of Decisions	If an internal review is regarding a request to be included in the Special Priority category and an application for RGI assistance or application for special needs housing, or an internal transfer, the review must take place within 10 business days after the request was received and the result of the decision must be given to the member who made the request within 5 business days. Written notice of the decision of the review will be given to the housing provider, but the reasons for the decision shall not be given. The time frame for all other internal reviews is the same as above, unless the service manager decides to implement a longer time period.	Time period for Internal reviews will remain at 10 business days with results of the decision to be given to the household within 5 business days.
Notices of Decisions	Except in the case of notices regarding Special Priority, a notice can be given to the members of the household as the service manager may require	A notice will be given to all members of household who are signatories to the tenancy agreement
Capital Reserve	The service manager can now approve additional amounts that a provider can contribute to its capital reserve.	This is currently under investigation, in the context of a business case submission by housing providers.