



HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE

If an individual is not eligible for regular assistance, they may be eligible for hardship assistance. However, only in special circumstances can hardship assistance be issued. These circumstances include:

Identity Not Established

If a person does not have their Social Insurance Number card, ID, or birth certificate, and it cannot be located on a previously opened Ministry file, then the Ministry may issue hardship. The Ministry takes into consideration that undue hardship will otherwise occur and that the individual is making every effort to supply the social insurance number or proof of identity. This type of hardship is not repayable.

Fail to Provide Sponsorship Information

When an individual is sponsored into Canada, there is an obligation by the sponsor to take care of the necessities of life for that individual. Unfortunately, sponsors will occasionally default on their agreement. If the Ministry is satisfied that the sponsored family is doing everything possible to provide information about their sponsor and the sponsor has failed to provide the necessities of life, then the Ministry may provide hardship assistance. This type of hardship is not repayable.

Awaiting Income from Another Source

If the individual has applied for income from another source, such as Employment Insurance, Workers Compensation Board, Veterans Affairs or Old Age Security, the Ministry may provide hardship assistance until that source of income is secured. This type of hardship is repayable.

Income in Excess

Family units that have had an excess of income but the income could not have reasonably met the family's basic needs may be eligible for hardship assistance. There may only be eligibility if there are dependent children on the file. This type of hardship is repayable.

Assets in Excess

If a family with a dependent child has an asset that results in asset limit being exceeded, the Ministry may provide repayable hardship up until the asset is disposed of or until the family comes under the asset limit. This type of hardship is repayable.

Strike or Lockout

In the event of a strike or lockout, if the union is unable to meet the family's basic needs, the Ministry may provide repayable hardship. This type of hardship is repayable.

Immediate Need

Work Search required clients who have an immediate need of food, shelter, or medical attention but have not satisfied the 3- or 5- week work search requirement may receive hardship assistance from the Ministry. This type of hardship is not repayable.

For more information visit our website at www.AskAnAdvocate.ca