

**Hastings County Community and Human Services  
Housing Services  
Administrative Policies and Procedures**

<b>SUBJECT :</b> Extended Absence Policy		
<b>APPROVED BY :</b> Hastings County Council		
<b>POLICY #:</b> H.P. / H.L.H.C. 3		
<b>ORIGINAL ISSUED</b>	<b>SUPERCEDES</b>	<b>CURRENT VERSION</b>
March 2002	November 2016	June 2020

**PURPOSE**

To determine the length of time a household can be absent from their unit and still maintain their eligibility for rent geared-to-income (RGI) assistance.

**SCOPE**

This policy refers to *Housing Services Act, 2011* Prescribed Housing Programs and the Hastings Local Housing Corporation.

**REQUIREMENT**

A Service Manager may make a local eligibility rule providing for a household to cease to be eligible for rent-geared-to-income assistance if all the members of the household are absent from the unit for which the household receives rent-geared-to-income assistance for more than the maximum number of days specified in the local eligibility rule. A local eligibility rule can be set by the Service Manager to be more than but not less than 60 consecutive days, to a maximum of 90 days in total within a 12 month period.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

A household is not eligible to receive RGI assistance if all members of the household are absent from the unit for more than 60 consecutive days, to a maximum of 90 days in total within a 12 month period.

There are exemptions from the rule such as being absent for medical reasons, employment out of the area, and caring for a family member who does not live in the area.

**REFERENCES**

*Housing Services Act, 2011*

**COMMUNITY AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**Housing Services**  
Postal Bag 6300, 228 Church Street  
Belleville, Ontario K8N 5E2



Phone: 613.966.1311  
Fax: 613.968.3197  
Toll Free: 1.800.267.0575

Ontario Regulation O. Reg. 367/11, s. 37