

General Assistance Ordinance
APPENDICES A - I



Town of York, Maine

Most Recently Amended: November 2, 2015

Prior Dates of Amendment: December 8, 2014

Date of Original Enactment: December 8, 2014

(For amendments prior to enactment date, see General Assistance Ordinance)

ENACTMENT BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date of the vote to amend this Ordinance: November 2, 2015.

Certified by the Town Clerk:

Mary Anne Symons
(signature)

on

2/3/16
(date)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE APPENDICES A-D 2015-2016

The Municipality of **YORK** adopts the MMA Model Ordinance GA Appendices (A-C) for the period of Oct. 1, 2015—September 30, 2016. These appendices are filed with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in compliance with Title 22 M.R.S.A. §4305(4).

Signed the 2ND of **NOVEMBER, 2015** by the municipal officers:

ROBERT E. PALMER, JR.

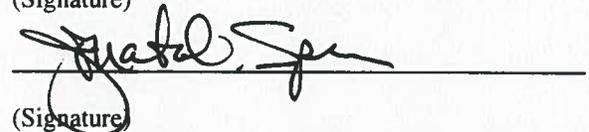
(Print Name)



(Signature)

JONATHAN O. SPEERS

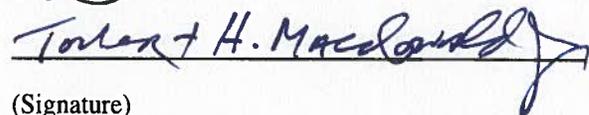
(Print Name)



(Signature)

TORBERT MACDONALD

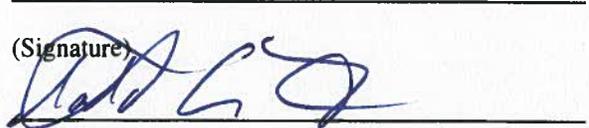
(Print Name)



(Signature)

DAWN SEVIGNY WATSON

(Print Name)



(Signature)

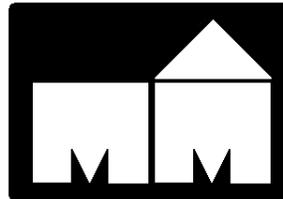
TODD A. FREDERICK

(Print Name)



(Signature)

**GENERAL
ASSISTANCE
ORDINANCE
APPENDICES**



**Prepared by Maine Municipal Association
September 2013**

GA Overall Maximums

Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Bangor HMFA: Bangor, Brewer, Eddington, Glenburn, Hampden, Hermon, Holden, Kenduskeag, Milford, Old Town, Orono, Orrington, Penobscot Indian Island Reservation, Veazie	628	734	916	1,141	1,326
Penobscot County HMFA: Alton, Argyle UT, Bradford, Bradley, Burlington, Carmel, Carroll plantation, Charleston, Chester, Clifton, Corinna, Corinth, Dexter, Dixmont, Drew plantation, East Central Penobscot UT, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Etna, Exeter, Garland, Greenbush, Howland, Hudson, Kingman UT, Lagrange, Lakeville, Lee, Levant, Lincoln, Lowell town, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medway, Millinocket, Mount Chase, Newburgh Newport, North Penobscot UT, Passadumkeag, Patten, Plymouth, Prentiss UT, Seboeis plantation, Springfield, Stacyville, Stetson, Twombly UT, Webster plantation, Whitney UT, Winn, Woodville	590	618	733	1,025	1,185
Lewiston/Auburn MSA: Auburn, Durham, Greene, Leeds, Lewiston, Lisbon, Livermore, Livermore Falls, Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland, Sabattus, Turner, Wales	549	650	849	1,070	1,136
Portland HMFA: Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Chebeague Island, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Frye Island, Gorham, Gray, Long Island, North Yarmouth, Portland, Raymond, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, Yarmouth; Buxton, Hollis, Limington, Old Orchard Beach	803	956	1,181	1,563	1,641
York/Kittery/S.Berwick HMFA: Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, York	958	964	1,245	1,684	1,833
Cumberland County HMFA: Baldwin, Bridgton, Brunswick, Harpswell, Harrison, Naples, New Gloucester, Pownal, Sebago	638	773	1,025	1,466	1,747

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Sagadahoc HMFA: Arrowsic, Bath, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Georgetown, Perkins UT, Phippsburg, Richmond, Topsham, West Bath, Woolwich	762	810	960	1,245	1,579
York County HMFA: Acton, Alfred, Arundel, Biddeford, Cornish, Dayton, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Lebanon, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Parsonsfield, Saco, Sanford, Shapleigh, Waterboro, Wells	695	796	1,009	1,370	1,418

*Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Non-Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Aroostook County	603	620	747	946	1,036
Franklin County	630	658	780	971	1,382
Hancock County	647	733	933	1,228	1,246
Kennebec County	570	659	843	1,057	1,126
Knox County	736	741	913	1,170	1,298
Lincoln County	666	739	932	1,161	1,245
Oxford County	567	618	758	1,023	1,324
Piscataquis County	578	659	814	1,033	1,105
Somerset County	659	690	821	1,117	1,121
Waldo County	649	737	873	1,189	1,265
Washington County	572	629	749	955	1,158

* Please Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Appendix B
Effective: 10/01/15-09/30/16

Food Maximums

Please Note: The maximum amounts allowed for food are established in accordance with the U.S.D.A. Thrifty Food Plan. As of October 1, 2015, those amounts are:

Number in Household	Weekly Maximum	Monthly Maximum
1	45.12	194
2	83.02	357
3	118.84	511
4	150.93	649
5	179.30	771
6	215.12	925
7	237.67	1,022
8	271.86	1,169

Note: For each additional person add \$146 per month

GA Housing Maximums (Heated & Unheated Rents)

NOTE: NOT ALL MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD ADOPT THESE SUGGESTED HOUSING MAXIMUMS! Municipalities should ONLY **consider** adopting the following numbers, if these figures are consistent with local rent values. If not, a market survey should be conducted and the figures should be altered accordingly. The results of any such survey must be presented to DHHS prior to adoption. **Or, no housing maximums should be adopted and eligibility should be analyzed in terms of the Overall Maximum—Appendix A. (See *Instruction Memo for further guidance.*)**

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Aroostook County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	108	464	128	550
1	108	464	130	561
2	127	546	158	679
3	164	705	202	868
4	176	758	223	957
<u>Franklin County</u>				
	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	114	491	134	577
1	114	491	139	599
2	135	579	166	712
3	170	730	208	893
4	257	1,104	303	1,303
<u>Hancock County</u>				
	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	112	480	136	584
1	124	534	154	663
2	161	691	198	851
3	218	937	263	1,133
4	218	937	264	1,136
<u>Kennebec County</u>				
	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	94	403	118	507
1	107	460	137	589
2	140	601	177	761
3	178	766	224	962
4	181	778	236	1,016

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Knox County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	132	569	157	673
1	132	569	157	673
2	156	671	193	831
3	204	879	250	1,075
4	221	950	276	1,188
<u>Lincoln County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	119	513	141	607
1	126	540	156	669
2	160	690	198	850
3	202	870	248	1,066
4	209	897	264	1,135
<u>Oxford County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	93	400	117	504
1	101	420	128	549
2	120	516	157	676
3	170	732	216	928
4	227	976	282	1,214
<u>Piscataquis County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	103	443	115	496
1	115	493	128	552
2	142	613	158	681
3	184	792	202	870
4	192	827	211	906
<u>Somerset County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	120	517	141	606
1	121	519	147	631
2	143	615	175	753
3	202	869	241	1,038
4	202	869	241	1,038

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Waldo County</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	Monthly
0	116	497	137	590	
1	125	538	155	667	
2	147		184	791	
3	631	664	254	1,094	
4	209	898	269	1,155	
	213	917			

<u>Washington County</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	Monthly
0	94	405	118	509	
1	100	430	130	559	
2	118	507	155	667	
3	154	664	200	860	
4	188	810	244	1,048	

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Bangor HMFA</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	Monthly
0	107	461	131	565	
1	124	535	154	664	
2	157	674	194	834	
3	198	850	243	1,046	
4	227	978	283	1,216	

<u>Penobscot County HMFA</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	Monthly
0	99	427	123	531	
1	99	427	127	548	
2	114	491	151	651	
3	171	734	216	930	
4	195	837	250	1,075	

<u>Lewiston/Auburn MSA</u>		<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	Monthly
0	89	382	113	486	412
1	105	451	135	580	
2	141	607	178	767	
3	181	779	227	975	
4	183	788	239	1,026	

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Portland HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	148	636	172	740
1	176	757	206	886
2	218	939	256	1,099
3	296	1,272	341	1,468
4	301	1,293	356	1,531
<u>York/Kittery/S. Berwick HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	186	798	210	902
1		671	210	902
2	186	798	270	1,163
3	233	1,003	370	1,589
4	324	1,393	401	1,723
	345	1,485		
<u>Cumberland County HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	111	471	134	575
1	133	574	163	703
2	182	783	219	943
3	273	1,175	319	1,371
4	325	1,399	381	1,637
<u>Sagadahoc County HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	138	603	163	702
1	142	611	172	740
2	167	718	204	878
3	222	954	267	1,150
4	286	1,231	342	1,469
<u>York County HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	126	541	148	637
1	139	597	169	726
2	178	767	216	927
3	251	1,079	297	1,275
4	251	1,079	304	1,308

Appendix D

Effective: 10/01/15-09/30/16

APPENDIX D - UTILITIES

ELECTRIC

NOTE: For an electrically heated dwelling also see “Heating Fuel” maximums below. But remember, an applicant is *not automatically* entitled to the “maximums” established—applicants must demonstrate need.

1) Electricity Maximums for Households Without Electric Hot Water: The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* electric hot water and heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	Monthly
1	\$14.00	\$60.00
2	\$15.70	\$67.50
3	\$17.45	\$75.00
4	\$19.20	\$86.00
5	\$23.10	\$99.00
6	\$25.00	\$107.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$7.50 per month.

2) Electricity Maximums for Households With Electrically Heated Hot Water: The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* heat:

Number in Household	Weekly	Monthly
1	\$19.10	\$82.00
2	\$23.75	\$102.00
3	\$27.70	\$119.00
4	\$32.25	\$139.00
5	\$37.30	\$160.00
6	\$41.00	\$176.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$10.00 per month.

NOTE: For electrically heated households, the maximum amount allowed for electrical utilities per month shall be the sum of the appropriate maximum amount under this subsection and the appropriate maximum for heating fuel as provided below.

Appendix E

Effective: 10/01/15-09/30/16

APPENDIX E - HEATING FUEL

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
September	50	January	225
October	100	February	225
November	200	March	125
December	200	April	125
		May	50

NOTE: When the dwelling unit is heated electrically, the maximum amount allowed for heating purposes will be calculated by multiplying the number of gallons of fuel allowed for that month by the current price per gallon. When fuels such as wood, coal and/or natural gas are used for heating purposes, they will be budgeted at actual rates, if they are reasonable. No eligible applicant shall be considered to need more than 7 tons of coal per year, 8 cords of wood per year, 126,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year, or 1000 gallons of propane.

APPENDIX F - PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1-2	\$10.50	\$45.00
3-4	\$11.60	\$50.00
5-6	\$12.80	\$55.00
7-8	\$14.00	\$60.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$1.25 per week or \$5.00 per month.

SUPPLEMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5

When an applicant can verify expenditures for the following items, a special supplement will be budgeted as necessary for households with children under 5 years of age for items such as cloth or disposable diapers, laundry powder, oil, shampoo, and ointment up to the following amounts:

<u>Number of Children</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1	\$12.80	\$55.00
2	\$17.40	\$75.00
3	\$23.30	\$100.00
4	\$27.90	\$120.00

Appendix G

Mileage Rate

This municipality adopts the State of Maine travel expense reimbursement rate as set by the Office of the State Controller. The current rate for approved employment and necessary medical travel etc. is 44 cents (44¢) per mile.

Please refer to the Office of State Controller for changes to this rate: Telephone: 626-8420 or visit: <http://www.state.me.us/osc/>

Funeral Maximums

Burial Maximums

The maximum amount of general assistance granted for the purpose of burial is **\$1,125**. Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator, where there is an actual cost, for:

- the wholesale cost of a cement liner if the cemetery by-laws require one;
- the opening and closing of the grave site; and
- a lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery. If the municipality is able to provide a cemetery lot in a municipally owned cemetery or in a cemetery under municipal control, the cost of the cemetery lot in any other cemetery will not be paid by the municipality.

The municipality's obligation to provide funds for burial purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable burial expenses are limited to:

- removal of the body from a local residence or institution
- a secured death certificate or obituary
- embalming
- a minimum casket
- a reasonable cost for necessary transportation
- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Cremation Maximums

The maximum amount of assistance granted for a cremation shall be **\$785**. Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator where there is an actual cost, for:

- a cremation lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery
- a reasonable cost for a burial urn not to exceed \$50
- transportation costs borne by the funeral director at a reasonable rate per mile for transporting the remains to and from the cremation facility.

Appendix I

26 MRSA §1043 (23)

Misconduct. “Misconduct” means a culpable breach of the employee’s duties or obligations to the employer or a pattern of irresponsible behavior, which in either case manifests a disregard for a material interest of the employer. This definition relates only to an employee’s entitlement to benefits and does not preclude an employer from discharging an employee for actions that are not included in this definition of misconduct. A finding that an employee has not engaged in misconduct for purposes of this chapter may not be used as evidence that the employer lacked justification for discharge. [1999, c. 464, §2 (rpr).]

A. The following acts or omissions are presumed to manifest a disregard for a material interest of the employer. If a culpable breach or a pattern of irresponsible behavior is shown, these actions or omissions constitute “misconduct” as defined in this subsection. This does not preclude other acts or omissions from being considered to manifest a disregard for a material interest of the employer. The acts or omissions included in the presumption are the following:

- (1) Refusal, knowing failure or recurring neglect to perform reasonable and proper duties assigned by the employer;
- (2) Unreasonable violation of rules that are reasonably imposed and communicated and equitably enforced;
- (3) Unreasonable violation of rules that should be inferred to exist from common knowledge or from the nature of the employment;
- (4) Failure to exercise due care for punctuality or attendance after warnings;
- (5) Providing false information on material issues relating to the employee’s eligibility to do the work or false information or dishonesty that may substantially jeopardize a material interest of the employer;
- (6) Intoxication while on duty or when reporting to work or unauthorized use of alcohol while on duty;
- (7) Using illegal drugs or being under the influence of such drugs while on duty or when reporting to work;
- (8) Unauthorized sleeping while on duty;
- (9) Insubordination or refusal without good cause to follow reasonable and proper instructions from the employer;
- (10) Abusive or assaultive behavior while on duty, except as necessary for self-defense;
- (11) Destruction or theft of things valuable to the employer or another employee;
- (12) Substantially endangering the safety of the employee, coworkers, customers or members of the public while on duty;
- (13) Conviction of a crime in connection with the employment or a crime that reflects adversely on the employee’s qualifications to perform the work; or
- (14) Absence for more than 2 work days due to incarceration for conviction of a crime.

Appendix I

[1999, c. 464, §2 (new).]

B. “Misconduct” may not be found solely on:

- (1) An isolated error in judgment or a failure to perform satisfactorily when the employee has made a good faith effort to perform the duties assigned;
- (2) Absenteeism caused by illness of the employee or an immediate family member if the employee made reasonable efforts to give notice of the absence and to comply with the employer’s notification rules and policies; or
- (3) Actions taken by the employee that were necessary to protect the employee or an immediate family member from domestic violence if the employee made all reasonable efforts to preserve the employment.

[1999, c. 464, §2 (new).]