



Date: October 7, 2002

To: Directors  
Employment & Income Assistance

From: Pam Goulet and John Petersen  
Directors, Field Services  
Employment and Income  
Assistance  
305 – 114 Garry Street  
Winnipeg MB R3C 4V7

Telephone:

**Subject: Eligibility of Applicants/Participants Engaged in Legal Strike**

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Effective immediately the following provisions are to be applied to all Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) applicants/participants who are engaged in legal strike action:

- (1) EIA will provide assistance to citizens who are engaged in legal strike action based on the financial eligibility criteria applied to all applicants.
- (2) The current policy related to excess personal property and liquid asset provisions will continue to be applied to all citizens applying for EIA, regardless of whether they are engaged in legal strike action.
- (3) Citizens engaged in legal strike action who are in receipt of EIA will be subject to work expectations based on categorical eligibility in the same manner as any other participant. Work expectations may include partaking in all available picket duty as well as seeking out and accepting any employment opportunities, including temporary employment that may be available to them.
- (4) Any income derived from picket duty will be treated as unearned income.
- (5) Participants engaged in picket duty will be provided with an exemption on income for child care costs when required in the same manner that is afforded to other participants.
- (6) Basic needs will be provided to participants engaged in legal strike action on a bi-weekly basis.
- (7) Shelter assistance will be provided to participants engaged in legal strike action in a manner consistent with the current general practice of providing the full month of shelter assistance for the first of the month.

A policy manual amendment will be completed shortly to reflect the implementation of these steps in providing service to applicants/participants engaged in legal strike action.

**Original signed by Pam Goulet**  
Director, Field Services, Winnipeg

**Original signed by John Petersen**  
Director, Field Services,  
Rural and Northern

cc: Distribution List