

**Reasons for Decision:**

**Order # AP1920-0452**

On <date removed>, the appellant filed an appeal respecting the Director's calculation of his Rent Assist subsidy. The decision letter was dated <date removed>.

The appellant was accompanied at the hearing by a support person.

At the hearing, the appellant described to the Board his employment and financial circumstances. They told the Board that their expenses exceed their level of income. The appellant stated that they are having difficulty paying their rent as a result, and requested they receive the amount of rent assist they have been eligible for in the previous year.

The Department stated that the subsidy amount is based on income. The previous subsidy amount received by the appellant was based on their <year removed> income. When they reapplied for the subsidy in <date removed> the appellant's <year removed> income had increased, which resulted in them receiving less subsidy amount.

In response to a question from the Board, the appellant indicated the amount of income used to calculate their subsidy was correct.

In response to a question from the Board, the Department indicated that if financial circumstances change part way through the year, the subsidy provided would still be based on the <year removed> income.

After careful consideration of the written and verbal evidence submitted to it, the Board determines that the Department assessed the appellant's application correctly according to the legislation and regulations, and that there is no provision in the legislation for discretion. The Board confirms the Director's decision calculating the Rent Assist subsidy.

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