



Durham Social Housing Directives

Housing Services Division | Financial Housing Services

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Subject:	SUPPORT INCOME – SECTION 7 EXPENSES
Directive Number:	RGI 2013-02
Date:	January 2, 2013

Purpose

To exclude child support received under section 7 of the Child Support Guidelines for special or extraordinary expenses from the calculation of rent-geared-to-income (RGI).

Background

The Child Support Guidelines are set out in Ontario Regulation 391/97 of the *Family Law Act*. They establish a fair standard of support for children to ensure that they benefit from the financial means of both parents.

Section 7 of the Child Support Guidelines permits payments for special or extraordinary expenses in addition to the basic amount of child support. Special or extraordinary expenses include:

- child care expenses incurred as a result of the custodial parent's employment, illness, disability or education or training for employment
- health-related expenses for the child including payment of medical and dental insurance premiums
- expenses for the child's educational programs including post-secondary school
- expenses for the child's extracurricular activities.

The guiding principle in determining orders for section 7 expenses is that the special or extraordinary expense is shared by both parents in proportion to their respective incomes.

Section 7 payments may be made directly by the non-custodial parent toward the special or extraordinary expense or they may be paid to the custodial parent for the payment of the expense.

Excluded Income

Section 7 expense payments are not included in the calculation of RGI regardless of whether they are paid directly by the non-custodial parent or paid to the custodial parent for the payment of the expense.

Regular support income continues to be included for the calculation of RGI.

Verification

Section 7 expense payments are normally set out in a court order or written agreement for support, as intended for the specific expense.

Payments of Section 7 Expenses

Section 7 payments made by RGI tenants or co-op members do not reduce gross income for the calculation of RGI.

Regular support income that is paid under a court order or registered agreement continues to be included to reduce gross income for the calculation of RGI.

Effective Date

This directive comes into effect January 1, 2013.

Legislative Authority

Housing Services Act, s. 50