



Housing Tip Sheet

Financial Supports for Housing Stability

The Family Navigation Hub aims to share information and resources with families related to social needs such as stable housing, food and income security, access to childcare and more. For more information contact: familynavigation@hollandbloorview.ca

Please note: The information provided in this tip sheet is for reference only. It is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement of organizations, agencies or private businesses, or as a comprehensive resource list.

Housing in Toronto and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) can be very expensive. Here are some suggestions for financial supports to help you pay for your housing.

If You Are Receiving OW or ODSP

The following are resources that can help you with rent payments and utility payments if you are receiving Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).

Housing Stabilization Fund (HSF)

The Housing Stabilization Fund (HSF) is available to those who are receiving either OW or ODSP. The money can be used for the following purposes:

- Last month's rent (when signing a new lease)
- Establishing a residence (example: buying furniture)
- Rental arrears
- Energy arrears (help paying for hydro, gas, fuel)
- Moving costs within Ontario
- Bed and encasement issuances (buying a bed for a new child joining your family, or for a child who has outgrown their current bed)
- Purchasing beds and soft furniture when there is verification of bed bug treatment

Contact:

Contact your OW or ODSP case worker to ask them about accessing the Housing Stabilization Fund (HSF).

Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

150 Kilgour Road, Toronto ON Canada M4G 1R8 **T** 416 425 6220 **T** 800 363 2440 **F** 416 425 6591 hollandbloorview.ca

A teaching hospital fully affiliated with the University of Toronto.

More information here:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/employment-social-support/housing-support/financial-support-for-renters/housing-stabilization-fund/>

Home Energy Conservation Supplies – Ontario Works

People receiving Ontario Works (OW) can receive a one-time payment of up to \$50 for the cost of items relating to energy conservation (e.g. insulation for pipes, water conserving shower heads, etc.)

Talk to your OW worker for more information.

If You Do Not Receive OW or ODSP

Toronto Rent Bank

Toronto Rent Bank provides support to Toronto residents who are behind on their rent or need help with a rental deposit.

Contact:

416-397-RENT (7368) Monday to Friday between 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM

More information here:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/employment-social-support/housing-support/financial-support-for-renters/toronto-rent-bank/>

Emergency Energy Fund (EEF)

The Emergency Energy fund (EEF) can help with energy-related emergencies such as preventing a disconnection, or reconnecting hydro, gas, or oil services. To apply for the EEF, contact Neighbourhood Information Post at the number below.

Contact:

647-727-8988 Monday to Friday between 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM

More information here:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/employment-social-support/support-for-people-in-financial-need/assistance-through-ontario-works/policies-and-procedures/emergency-energy-fund-eef/>

Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) is available to those who are not receiving OW or ODSP. This program will help you to pay for energy costs if you have overdue bills or a disconnection notice.

More information here:

<https://www.hydroone.com/saving-money-and-energy/residential/financial-assistance/low-income-assistance-program>

Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP)

This program provides a monthly electricity credit to those who qualify, based on household income.

More information here:

<https://www.torontohydro.com/for-home/financial-assistance>

Energy Affordability Program (EAP)

This program provides free home energy-efficient upgrades to your home if you qualify (e.g. LED light bulbs, insulation, etc.). This could help lower your energy bill.

More information here:

<https://www.saveonenergy.ca/For-Your-Home/Energy-Affordability-Program>

Enbridge Gas Winter-proofing Program

Eligible Enbridge customers can receive free energy efficient upgrades, including insulation and draft proofing.

More information here:

<https://www.enbridgegas.com/residential/rebates-energy-conservation>



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