

NEW BENEFIT AMOUNTS



Social Assistance Program
and Social Solidarity
Program

**IN EFFECT AS
OF JANUARY 1, 2012**



*Québec's Combat
Against Poverty*

Government Action Plan
for Solidarity and Social Inclusion

INDEXATION OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY BENEFITS

On January 1, 2012, benefits will be indexed by 2.66%.

BENEFIT

Financial assistance consists of a basic benefit, to which may be added:

For recipients under the Social Assistance Program

- a temporarily limited capacity allowance
- adjustments for dependent children
- special benefits

For recipients under the Social Solidarity Program

- adjustments for dependent children
- special benefits

SOLIDARITY TAX CREDIT

Effective July 1, 2011, the solidarity tax credit replaced the amounts paid in particular for the QST credit, which was previously included in the social assistance or social solidarity benefit. To be entitled to the solidarity tax credit, you must file a Québec income tax return. For additional information, call Revenu Québec at **1-800-267-6299** (toll free) or visit its website at the following address:

www.revenuquebec.ca

WORK INCOME

Part of your work income is exempted when your benefit is calculated. For example, if you are an adult, do not have a spouse and are receiving social assistance, you are entitled to earn up to \$200 per month without a reduction in your benefit.

However, any amount in excess of \$200 will be deducted from your benefit. For instance, if you have work income of \$250, your benefit will be reduced by \$50.

The exemption also applies to the following income:

- benefits paid under the Québec Parental Insurance Plan;
- maternity, parental and compassionate care benefits paid under the Employment Insurance plan.

IMPORTANT

You must report all of your income to Emploi-Québec

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Monthly amounts)

	BASIC BENEFIT	TEMPORARILY LIMITED CAPACITY ALLOWANCE	TOTAL AMOUNT	EXEMPTED WORK INCOME
1 adult				
No limited capacity for employment	\$589	\$0	\$589	\$200
Temporarily limited capacity for employment	\$589	\$126	\$715	\$200
1 spouse of a student				
No limited capacity for employment	\$163	\$0	\$163	\$200
Temporarily limited capacity for employment	\$163	\$126	\$289	\$200
1 independent adult living in a shelter or required to live in an institution for social reintegration purposes or 1 minor sheltered with her dependent child	\$191	\$0	\$191	\$200
2 adults				
No limited capacity for employment	\$913	\$0	\$913	\$300
Temporarily limited capacity for employment	\$913	\$216	\$1 129	\$300
2 adults in different situations				
1 adult with no limited capacity for employment and 1 adult with a temporarily limited capacity for employment	\$913	\$126	\$1 039	\$300

The **Social Assistance Program** grants financial assistance to persons who do not have a severely limited capacity for employment or who have a temporarily limited capacity for employment. It also grants assistance to families whose adult members do not have a limited capacity for employment or families of which at least one adult member has a temporarily limited capacity for employment.

You have a temporarily limited capacity for employment if, for example, your health prevents you from engaging in a job preparation or integration activity for a period of at least one month. You must submit a medical report establishing such limitations to the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale.

Note

Except in certain cases, the basic benefit granted under the Social Assistance Program to persons or families who live with one of their parents is reduced by \$100 per month (by \$50 per month in the case of the spouse of a student).

If you participate in an employment-assistance measure or a social assistance and support program, you could receive an employment-assistance allowance or a support allowance in addition to your benefit. However, if you also receive a temporarily limited capacity allowance, it may be cancelled.

SOCIAL SOLIDARITY PROGRAM (Monthly amounts)

	SOCIAL SOLIDARITY BENEFIT	EXEMPTED WORK INCOME
1 adult	\$896	\$100
1 spouse of a student	\$454	\$100
1 independent adult living in a shelter or required to live in an institution for social reintegration purposes or 1 minor sheltered with her dependent child	\$191	\$100
2 adults	\$1 340	\$100

The **Social Solidarity Program** grants financial assistance to persons with a severely limited capacity for employment, as well as to families of which at least one adult member has a severely limited capacity for employment.

You have a severely limited capacity for employment if you have a serious health problem that is permanent, such as a significant disability. If this is your case, you must submit a medical report establishing such limitations to the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale.



NEED HELP FINDING A JOB?

Emploi-Québec offers a variety of measures and services to prepare you to work or help you actively look for a job. These measures and services are available to both social assistance and social solidarity recipients.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Call the Bureau des renseignements et plaintes of the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale at the following toll-free number:

1-888-643-4721

www.mess.gouv.qc.ca

Note

This general information document may not be used for legal interpretation purposes.

A-479 (2011-12)