

[For use when adopting a new version of the GA ordinance or amending the body of the ordinance – not solely adoption of updated appendices]

MUNICIPALITY OF ISLAND FALLS  
GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE

Pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(1), the municipal officers of the Municipality of ISLAND FALLS, after notice and hearing, hereby enact the attached General Assistance Ordinance with appendices in its entirety. This Ordinance shall supercede and replace all previous Ordinance versions. A copy of this Ordinance will be filed with the Maine Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(4), and shall be available for public inspection at the municipal office along with a copy of 22 M.R.S. chapter 1161.

Signed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024, by the municipal officers:

Royden Hunt  
(Print Name)

[Signature]  
(Signature)

Rebecca Drew  
(Print Name)

[Signature]  
(Signature)

V.M. PHIBROOK  
(Print Name)

[Signature]  
(Signature)

Michael G. Mathers  
(Print Name)

[Signature]  
(Signature)

JAMES R. LOUD  
(Print Name)

[Signature]  
(Signature)

[Send a copy of the enactment page and ordinance to DHHS, 109 Capitol Street, SHS 11, Augusta, ME 04330-0011]

## 2023-2024 GA MAXIMUMS SUMMARY SHEET

Note: The overall maximums found in *Appendices A, B, C, D, E, and F* are effective from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024.

### APPENDIX A - OVERALL MAXIMUMS

<u>County</u>	<u>Persons in Household</u>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Arroostooke	\$ 766	842	1,043	1,421	1,524	1,599

**NOTE:** For each additional person add \$75 per month.

(The applicable figures from Appendix A, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

### APPENDIX B - FOOD MAXIMUMS Not Updated

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Maximum</u>
1	\$ 67.91	\$ 292.00
2	124.65	536.00
3	178.60	768.00
4	226.74	975.00
5	269.30	1,158.00
6	323.26	1,390.00
7	357.21	1,536.00
8	408.37	1,756.00

**NOTE:** For each additional person add \$220 per month.

### APPENDIX C - HOUSING MAXIMUMS

Number of Bedrooms	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	\$ 144	619	174	748
1	152	654	191	822
2	186	798	237	1,019
3	261	1,123	324	1,393
4	270	1,162	347	1,492

(The applicable figures from Appendix C, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

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## APPENDIX D - UTILITIES

### ELECTRIC

**NOTE:** For an electrically heated dwelling also see “Heating Fuel” maximums below. But remember, an applicant is *not automatically* entitled to the “maximums” established—applicants must demonstrate need.

1) **Electricity Maximums for Households Without Electric Hot Water:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* electric hot water and heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$19.95	\$ 85.50
2	\$22.52	\$ 96.50
3	\$24.97	\$107.00
4	\$27.53	\$118.00
5	\$29.88	\$128.50
6	\$32.55	\$139.50

**NOTE:** For each additional person add \$10.50 per month.

2) **Electricity Maximums for Households With Electrically Heated Hot Water:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$29.63	\$127.00
2	\$34.07	\$146.00
3	\$39.67	\$170.00
4	\$46.32	\$198.50
5	\$55.65	\$238.50
6	\$58.68	\$251.50

**NOTE:** For each additional person add \$14.50 per month.

**NOTE:** For electrically heated households, the maximum amount allowed for electrical utilities per month shall be the sum of the appropriate maximum amount under this subsection and the appropriate maximum for heating fuel as provided below.

## APPENDIX E - HEATING FUEL

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
September	50	January	225
October	100	February	225
November	200	March	125
December	200	April	125
		May	50

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**NOTE:** When the dwelling unit is heated electrically, the maximum amount allowed for heating purposes will be calculated by multiplying the number of gallons of fuel allowed for that month by the current price per gallon. When fuels such as wood, coal and/or natural gas are used for heating purposes, they will be budgeted at actual rates, if they are reasonable. No eligible applicant shall be considered to need more than 7 tons of coal per year, 8 cords of wood per year, 126,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year, or 1000 gallons of propane.

**APPENDIX F - PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES**

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1-2	\$10.50	\$45.00
3-4	\$11.60	\$50.00
5-6	\$12.80	\$55.00
7-8	\$14.00	\$60.00

**NOTE:** For each additional person add \$1.25 per week or \$5.00 per month.

**SUPPLEMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5**

When an applicant can verify expenditures for the following items, a special supplement will be budgeted as necessary for households with children under 5 years of age for items such as cloth or disposable diapers, laundry powder, oil, shampoo, and ointment up to the following amounts:

<u>Number of Children</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1	\$12.80	\$55.00
2	\$17.40	\$75.00
3	\$23.30	\$100.00
4	\$27.90	\$120.00

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## **2024-2025 Mileage Rate**

This municipality adopts the State of Maine travel expense reimbursement rate as set by the Office of the State Comptroller. The current rate for approved employment and necessary medical travel etc. is 50 cents (50¢) per mile.

Please refer to the Office of the State Controller for changes to this rate at 626-8420 or visit <http://www.state.me.us/osc/>

### **Cremation Maximums**

The maximum amount of assistance granted for a cremation shall be \$1,125.

The municipality's obligation to provide funds for cremation purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable cremation expenses are limited to:

- removal and transportation of the body from a local residence or institution
- professional fees
- crematorium fees
- a secured death certificate or obituary
- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator where there is an actual cost, for:

- a cremation lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery
- a reasonable cost for a burial urn not to exceed \$55
- transportation costs borne by the funeral director at a reasonable rate per mile for transporting the remains to and from the cremation facility.

**Funeral Maximums**

**Burial Maximums**

The maximum amount of general assistance granted for the purpose of burial is **\$1,620**. The municipality's obligation to provide funds for burial purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable burial expenses are limited to:

- removal of the body from a local residence or institution
- a secured death certificate or obituary
- embalming
- a minimum casket
- a reasonable cost for necessary transportation
- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator, where there is an actual cost, for:

- the wholesale cost of a cement liner if the cemetery by-laws require one;
- the opening and closing of the grave site; and
- a lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery. If the municipality is able to provide a cemetery lot in a municipally owned cemetery or in a cemetery under municipal control, the cost of the cemetery lot in any other cemetery will not be paid by the municipality.

# 2024-2025 GA Housing Maximums

## Recovery Residences

The following Recovery Residence maximums are in effect from 10/1/2024- 9/30/2025

### Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Aroostook County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$133.70	\$575.40

<u>Franklin County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$142.10	\$611.10

<u>Hancock County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$176.40	\$758.10

<u>Kennebec County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$151.20	\$648.90

<u>Knox County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$151.20	\$648.90

<u>Lincoln County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$172.20	\$739.90

<u>Oxford County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$144.90	\$623.70

<u>Piscataquis County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$136.50	\$588.00

<u>Somerset County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$148.40	\$638.40

<u>Waldo County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$173.60	\$746.20

<u>Washington County</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$134.40	\$578.90

### Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Bangor HMFA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$170.80	\$734.30

<u>Cumberland Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$205.10	\$882.70

<u>Lewiston/Auburn MSA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$154.00	\$662.20

<u>Penobscot Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$140.70	\$605.50

<u>Portland HMFA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$267.40	\$1,150.80

<u>Sagadahoc Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$185.50	\$798.00

<u>York Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$202.30	\$869.40

<u>York/Kittery/S Berwick HMFA</u>	<u>Recovery Residence Rates</u>	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
	\$231.70	\$997.50



## Appendix A

Effective: 10/01/24-09/30/25

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
<b>York County HMFA:</b> Acton, Alfred, Arundel, Biddeford, Cornish, Dayton, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Lebanon, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Parsonsfield, Saco, Sanford, Shapleigh, Waterboro, Wells	1,192	1,261	1,567	2,039	2,297
<b>York/Kittery/S.Berwick HMFA:</b> Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, York	1,371	1,444	1,905	2,589	3,305

\*Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

### Non-Metropolitan Areas

#### Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
<b>Aroostook County</b>	766	842	1,043	1,421	1,524
<b>Franklin County</b>	807	893	1,174	1,558	1,764
<b>Hancock County</b>	1,096	1,102	1,307	1,734	1,740
<b>Kennebec County</b>	943	946	1,214	1,529	1,784
<b>Knox County</b>	935	946	1,163	1,550	1,657
<b>Lincoln County</b>	1,037	1,076	1,332	1,733	2,154
<b>Oxford County</b>	902	910	1,185	1,575	1,869
<b>Piscataquis County</b>	777	860	1,131	1,398	1,689
<b>Somerset County</b>	897	931	1,140	1,487	1,612
<b>Waldo County</b>	1,075	1,085	1,305	1,620	2,219
<b>Washington County</b>	838	846	1,101	1,508	1,598

\* Please Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

## Appendix B

Effective: 10/01/24 to 09/30/25

### 2024-2025 Food Maximums

Please Note: The maximum amounts allowed for food are established in accordance with the U.S.D.A. Thrifty Food Plan. As of October 1, 2024, those amounts are:

Number in Household	Weekly Maximum	Monthly Maximum
1	67.91	292.00
2	124.65	536.00
3	178.60	768.00
4	226.74	975.00
5	269.30	1,158.00
6	323.26	1,390.00
7	357.21	1,536.00
8	408.37	1,756.00

**Note: For each additional person add \$220 per month.**

**Appendix C**

Effective: 10/01/24-09/30/25

**2024-2025 GA Housing Maximums  
(Heated & Unheated Rents)**

**NOTE: NOT ALL MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD ADOPT THESE SUGGESTED HOUSING MAXIMUMS! ONLY consider adopting the following numbers if these figures are consistent with local rent values. If not, a market survey should be conducted, and the figures altered accordingly. The results of any such survey must be presented to DHHS prior to adoption. Or, no housing maximums should be adopted and eligibility should be analyzed in terms of the Overall Maximum—Appendix A. (See *Instruction Memo for further guidance.*)**

**Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas**

<b><u>Aroostook County</u></b>		<b><u>Unheated</u></b>		<b><u>Heated</u></b>	
Bedrooms	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	
0	144	619	174	748	
1	152	654	191	822	
2	186	798	237	1,019	
3	261	1,123	324	1,393	
4	270	1,162	347	1,492	
<b><u>Franklin County</u></b>					
Bedrooms	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	
0	154	660	184	789	
1	164	705	203	873	
2	216	929	267	1,150	
3	293	1,260	356	1,530	
4	326	1,402	403	1,732	
<b><u>Hancock County</u></b>					
Bedrooms	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	
0	224	964	251	1,079	
1	224	964	252	1,083	
2	253	1,087	299	1,284	
3	341	1,467	397	1,707	
4	341	1,467	397	1,707	
<b><u>Kennebec County</u></b>					
Bedrooms	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	
0	189	811	215	926	
1	189	811	216	927	
2	231	994	277	1,191	
3	294	1,262	349	1,502	
4	339	1,459	407	1,752	