The Art of Welfare

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How to Participate Today

- Open and close your Panel
- Submit text questions
- Q&A addressed during and at the end of today’s session
- Quiz questions throughout the presentation
Duty to Provide Assistance

• Basic Legal Duty: RSA 165:1

• Humanitarian Goal
Welfare Administration

• Who?
• Availability
• Liability?
“Absolute discretion is a ruthless master.”*  

Guidelines are **mandatory**! 

- Application process 
- Criteria for determining eligibility 
- Appeal process 
- Process for the application of rents (if used) 
- Statement if qualified state assistance reductions are deemed as income 

Determining Eligibility

- Be Flexible
- Get Releases
- Necessary information
- Accurate Records
- Interim verification
NEED less INCOME/AVAILABLE ASSETS equals AMOUNT of Assistance.
An individual comes to you and tells you he’ll be evicted from his apartment tomorrow unless he pays several months of back rent plus the current month’s rent. The rental amount exceeds your guidelines.

Which statement is true?

A. You are prohibited from providing the requested assistance because it exceeds guidelines.
B. You may provide the requested assistance.
C. You must provide the requested assistance because it is what the applicant needs.
A resident comes into your office and requests assistance in the form of repairs to his car. Your town does not have any public transportation. He has a list: one tire; brakes and calipers; and front end differential. The first two are not issues, but the second is a major repair.

Must the town pay for the repairs?
Can an applicant’s criminal record be taken into consideration when making a welfare decision?

A. Yes  
B. No
Income that can be counted

Child Support

Income from Other Sources

Social Security Disability Claim

Veterans Benefits

Unemployment Benefit Claim
Income that should not be counted

What about OAA and APTD?
Applying Welfare Payments to Landlord’s Delinquent Accounts
PROVIDING THE ASSISTANCE

• Mathematical
• No limits
• Use vouchers
• Set conditions
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

Use common sense
72 hours
UTILITY PAYMENTS
Which one is a permissible condition?

A. The continued receipt of aid is conditioned on the recipient producing results of his weekly job search efforts.

B. The receipt of aid is conditioned on the applicant moving into an apartment building in town with the least expensive rent.

C. Neither one is appropriate under the law.
Financial Disclosures

IMPOSE CONDITIONS

Apply for aid

Work search/program (RSA 165:31)
Disqualification, RSA 165:1-b

1. Notice of conditions
2. 7-day notice
3. Suspension Notice
Other reasons for disqualification:

- Voluntary quit without good cause, RSA 165:1-d
- QSAR, RSA 165:1-e
- Transfers of property, RSA 165:2-b
Quiz Time!

Have you ever received repayment from a prior welfare recipient?

A. Yes!
B. No, never.
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<th>Recovery</th>
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<td>Liens on real estate, RSA 165:28</td>
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<td>Legally liable relatives, RSA 165:19</td>
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<td>Repayment by assisted person, RSA 165:20-b</td>
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