

Application — Renters

Canada-Nova Scotia Targeted Housing Benefit (CNSTHB)

The Canada-Nova Scotia Targeted Housing Benefit (CNSTHB) provides eligible renters with a monthly allowance to help them afford their rent. The benefit you can receive is based on your household size and income, as well as the average market rent in your area. This program is jointly funded by the Government of Nova Scotia and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) under the National Housing Strategy and delivered by Housing Nova Scotia.

Housing Nova Scotia will accept applications for the CNSTHB until the program for 2021/22 is fully subscribed. Funding for the CNSTHB is subject to annual provincial budget appropriations and compliance with Bilateral Agreement requirements. Recipients must submit an annual renewal application to confirm that they remain eligible for the program.

As long as you remain eligible, you will continue receiving the CNSTHB subject to budget availability and criteria under the Bilateral Agreement until the program ends.

How to submit your application

You must complete all required fields of this application and submit all required documents to Housing Nova Scotia:

By Mail:

Housing Nova Scotia
Attn: Housing Benefit Unit
P.O. Box 702 Stn. Central
Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

By Email:

housingsupplements@novascotia.ca

Section 1. Are you eligible?

To receive a renter benefit under the CNSTHB program you must meet the following eligibility criteria:

Program Eligibility Requirements	Yes	No
• Is each member of your household a resident of Nova Scotia with status in Canada?		
• Do you spend more than 30 per cent of your total pre-tax household income on rent and utilities?		
• Is your total pre-tax household income within household income limits* based on where you live and the size of your household?		
• Does your household live in public housing or in receipt of a rent supplement?		
• Do you or any member of your household owe money to Housing Nova Scotia or a regional Housing Authority? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>If you do, that balance must be paid in full or you must make arrangements to pay the debt before you can be eligible for the benefit.</i> 		

Did you know?

Low-income post-secondary students with dependents or a physical disability, or in need of an accessible unit to attend school, may be eligible for this benefit. If you are unsure about your situation, contact us or submit an application.

*Household Income Limits for 2021/22 are available [here](#).

Section 2. Applicant Information

Please tell us about yourself and who currently lives with you

The amount of the monthly benefit you can receive is based, in part, on how many people live in your house. Please provide information about **yourself, your spouse, and all other adults and children** who currently live with you. If you need more space to add other members, please use a separate sheet.

Your spouse is the person you are married to or live with in a marriage-like relationship (common-law). Your spouse is your co-applicant.

Name <i>(First, Middle, and Last)</i>	Date of Birth <i>(dd/mm/yyyy)</i>	Gender <i>(f-m-x)</i>	Relationship to Applicant	Marital Status	Social Insurance Number	Full-time Student <i>(Yes/No)</i>
			Applicant			

Current Address

Street No.	Street Name	Apt. No.	City/Town
Postal Code	County	Nova Scotia	
Email	Home Telephone	Work/Daytime Telephone	

Mailing Address *(if different than current address)*

Street No.	Street Name	Apt. No.	City/Town
Postal Code	County	Nova Scotia	
Email	Home Telephone	Work/Daytime Telephone	

How do you prefer to be contacted?

- Phone
- Email
- Mail

Alternative Contact:

Name _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

What is this person's relationship with you? _____

What is your current housing situation? (check one)

Rent

Homeless

Shelter

Boarder

Rental Information:

Who is your current landlord?

Landlord's name: _____

Phone#: _____

What is the size of your current unit?

Number of bedrooms: _____

How much do you currently pay for rent?

Monthly Rent: \$ _____

Self-Identification (optional):

Please check all the boxes that best describe how you and people who live in your household self-identify. This will help us better understand the diversity of the population and communities we serve.

Indigenous (anyone who considers themselves to be Mi'kmaw/other First Nations, Metis, or Inuit)

Individual at risk of homelessness

Person of African Descent

Visible minority (a person or community who faces systemic or other barriers in historical and contemporary society based on racial prejudice of society)

Immigrants or refugees who have been in Canada for fewer than 5 years

Person with a disability

Individual with mental health and addiction issues

Seniors (58 years old and over)

Veterans (person who has served in the military)

Women and children fleeing domestic violence

Young adults (under 25 years old)

Section 3. Income Information

The amount of benefit you can receive is based, in part, on your household income. Please tell us about the current income for all earners of your household. State all MONTHLY income received by all persons/family members in the household BEFORE tax deductions.

	Household Member Name	Household Member Name	Household Member Name	Household Member Name
Income Type	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
Gross Employment Income				
Canada Pension Plan (CPP)				
Canada Pension Plan–Disability (CPP-D)				
Capital Gains				
Caregiver Benefit				
Disability Support Program				
Dividends				
Employment Insurance				
Income Assistance				
Interest Income				
Old Age Security (OAS)/Guaranteed Income Supplement				
Spousal Allowance				
Other Income				
Other Pension				
Rental Income				
RRSP/RIF				
Skills Development (SD) Program/ Self-employment Benefit (SEB) Program/ Training Allowances				
Spousal Support (alimony)				
Veterans Benefits				
Workers' Compensation Benefits				

4. Declaration and Consent

This section is your legal agreement with Housing Nova Scotia. Read it carefully, then sign below. **Both the applicant and co-applicant must sign.** A witness must also sign this application form. A witness should have legal capacity, be of legal age, and be able to identify the signatory.

Declaration

I (we), the person(s) who signed below, swear to the following:

1. The information I (we) provided in this application is complete and true; and I (we) can provide documents to prove that.
2. I (we) give permission to Housing Nova Scotia to investigate any or all of the statements I (we) made on this application. If Housing Nova Scotia finds any false or misleading statements, Housing Nova Scotia can cancel this application without penalty (I/we cannot hold Housing Nova Scotia liable for damages).
3. I (we) will use the money from the Renter CNSTHB for housing purposes and understand that I (we) will only receive the benefit as long I (we) and the members of my (our) household remain eligible.
4. I (we) understand that the benefits from this program will be paid on or before the first of every month.
5. I (we) understand that I (we) must renew our application for this benefit with Housing Nova Scotia at least once a year. **If I (we) do not do that, the benefit may be cancelled.**
6. I (we) agree to be removed from the waiting list for the public housing or housing benefit programs. I (we) understand that if I (we) choose to stop receiving the benefit, I (we) can apply or reapply to another program and will be placed on that program's waitlist.
7. I (we) understand that, if I (we) receive the benefit, it must be recorded as part of my net income on my tax return. I (we) understand that HNS will issue a T5007 Statement of Benefits form to me (us) that identifies the CNSTHB as Social Assistance income. I (we) understand that the income shown on the T5007 form is not taxable.
8. I (we) had an opportunity to discuss anything that I (we) did not understand in this application.
9. I (we) have read, understood, and agree to every statement in this declaration.

Consent

I (we), the person(s) who signed below, acknowledge and agree with the following:

1. I (we) must advise Housing Nova Scotia if any of the information (such as address, income, etc.) I (we) gave in this application changes and must provide any supporting materials required for this application.
2. I (we) understand that Housing Nova Scotia will collect, use and share the personal information I (we) provided in this application for the sole purpose of determining my (our) eligibility for the benefit and for managing the CNSTHB program. This usage is covered by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.
3. I (we) authorize the Department of Community Services to verify to Housing Nova Scotia that I (we) receive income from the Income Assistance and/or Disability Support Program. The department may do this either electronically, verbally, or in writing to show that I (we) qualify for the CNSTHB program.

4. I (we) authorize the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to release any information needed for this application, such as income(s) and personal income tax return(s) to Housing Nova Scotia to verify my/our eligibility for the CNSTHB program. The CRA can do this either electronically, verbally, or in writing.
5. I (we) give Housing Nova Scotia and its agents permission to make any necessary inquiries to confirm that the information I (we) provided about my (our) income(s) here is true.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Co-Applicant's Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____ (signature)
_____ (printed name)

Date: _____

Section 5. Required Documents

Please ensure your application is complete and contains all required documents. A list of the documents you need is available at the end of this document.

Please make sure you review the following:

I provided a proof of my/our income(s) (see the list of documents you must provide on pages 8-9).

I provided a copy of my/our lease or statutory declaration outlining the terms of the lease agreement.

I carefully read Section 7 (Declaration and Consent).

I/We have signed this application form.

An eligible witness signed this application form (a witness must have legal capacity, be of legal age, and be able to identify the signatory).

I have completed the EFT form to receive my benefit electronically.

Source of Income	Required documents
------------------	--------------------

<p>Employment: Regular full-time and/or part-time employment income</p>	<p>A minimum of 4 weeks' worth of paystubs or a year-to-date paystub. If weekly, paystubs must be current and for back-to-back weeks. Paystubs must show your name, employer's name and address, and which pay periods are covered.</p> <p>If you do not receive pay stubs, send us a letter from your employer stating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the date you were hired • your gross annual income including any overtime pay or bonuses, or rate of pay, • hours scheduled to work each week, and • gross monthly salary. <p>This letter must be on company letterhead, recently dated, and contain the telephone number and signature of the letter writer.</p>
<p>Employment: Commissions, tips, gratuities, or bonuses</p>	<p>A document showing the gross amount (before tax deduction) received during the past 12 months. You must swear to this document.</p>
<p>Employment: Fluctuating employment income (contract, short-term, intermittent)</p>	<p>For the first year of fluctuating employment income, provide current, back-to-back paystubs every 3 months. Paystubs must show your name, your employer's name and address, and which pay periods are covered.</p> <p>After the first full year, provide most recent notice of assessment from the Canada Revenue Agency.</p>
<p>Employment: Self-employment Income</p>	<p>If you have been self-employed for less than one year, provide an unaudited financial statement every 3 months.</p> <p>If self-employed for one year or longer and your business is not incorporated, provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the most recent working copy of Canada Revenue Agency personal income tax return (T1 General), AND • Statement of business activities, AND • Notice of assessment. <p>If self-employed for one year or longer and business <u>is</u> incorporated, provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T4 and T5 slips for the individual employment income and/or dividend income you received from the business, OR • a copy of most recent Canada Revenue Agency personal income tax return AND your notice of assessment.
<p>Canada or Provincial Pension (CPP, CPP-D) Old Age Security (OAS) Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) Spousal Allowance Veterans Benefits Long-term disability payments from private insurance company Other pensions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of a current cheque stub that shows the gross amount of income and how often it is paid, OR • A slip issued for income tax purposes showing the most recent annual amount of the pension, disability, or annuity income (e.g., T4A, T4A, OAS, T5007), OR • A letter from the pension or allowances income manager stating the amount of the monthly gross payment, OR • Most recent notice of assessment from Canada Revenue Agency, if it covers the full pensions received for a full year.
<p>Capital Gains</p>	<p>Documents that verify capital transaction.</p>
<p>Caregiver Benefit</p>	<p>Current copy of benefit statement.</p>
<p>Dividends</p>	<p>Copy of T5, T4PS, or T3 tax forms.</p>
<p>Employment Insurance (EI)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current benefit statement or letter showing gross weekly amount received, OR • EI statement printout from your web account showing the weekly gross amount (before deductions) and period covered.
<p>Income Assistance (IA) Disability Support Program (DSP)</p>	<p>Current copy of benefit summary.</p>

Interest Income	<p>For interest-bearing bank/trust/credit union accounts (personal chequing account and/or savings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of all current passbooks or monthly bank statements showing total • Copy of all current passbooks or monthly bank statements showing total interest earned in the past 12 months (must show the account number and name of the account holder), • T3 or T5 slips issued by a bank or credit union for tax purposes, OR • A letter from a bank or credit union describing the amount of interest earned in the past year. <p>For investment income:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheque stubs or copies of cheques, OR • Copy of most recent T5 tax form or investment statements • Mutual fund company statements with value of investment. <p>For guaranteed income certificates (GIC), term deposits, treasury bills, bonds, debentures, and similar savings investments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from a bank or credit union, OR • Documents or certificates from bank or credit union showing principal amount of investment, interest rate, amount of interest earned, date of issue, and term and identifying serial number, • Most recent T3 or T5 slips issued for tax purposes.
Other Income	<p>For annuities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A slip issued for income tax purposes showing the most recent annual amount of the annuity income (T4A). <p>For immigration sponsorship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A statement from Citizenship and Immigration Canada and a statement from your sponsor showing the amount of support, OR • A letter from your sponsor specifying the monthly amount of financial support being provided. <p>For other country social security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A current copy of your benefit statement.
RRSP/RRIF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A current statement from the RRIF fund holder (bank or investment firm) showing the gross amount of monthly/annual withdrawals, OR • The T4RIF slip issued for the most recent year's income tax return.
Skills Development (SD) Program, Self-employment Benefit (SEB) Program, Training Allowances	<p>A copy of the full agreement showing all benefits you received during the agreement.</p>
Spousal Support Payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of the support agreement prepared and signed by a lawyer and both • A copy of the support agreement prepared and signed by a lawyer and both parties, OR • A copy of the court order, OR • A letter from a lawyer if there is no support agreement or court order, OR • A sworn statement of how much financial support you currently receive and how often you receive it.
Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A current letter from WCB stating the gross payment amount, OR • A current cheque stub showing the covered gross amount of payment.