

CITY OF PORTLAND  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

**IMPACT OF UNDOCUMENTED INDIVIDUALS ON  
GENERAL ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT  
BY THE STATE OF MAINE  
FY2015**

	July, 2014 to September, 2014
General Assistance Expenditures	<u>\$2,555,446</u>
LESS: Undocumented Cases (not eligible for reimbursement)	<u>(\$842,966)</u>
General Assistance Expenditures Billed to State	\$1,712,480
LESS: Anticipated Reimbursement By State	\$856,239
<b>Cost to City</b>	<b><u>\$1,699,207</u></b>
<b>Monthly Impact:</b>	
Monthly Average \$ Granted Assistance to Undocumented Cases	\$281,000
Average # Cases	438
Average # Individuals	735
Average # Families	110
Average # Singles	328

**Change in Status:**

The monthly cost for undocumented cases could also increase if iadditional visa holders apply for asylum, thus changing their status to undocumented.

**Reimbursement Impact:**

Once the threshold of \$2,265,485 of eligible expenditures has been reached, the reimbursement rate by the State changes from 50% to 90%. If all expenditures were eligible, the 90% rate would have been reached by mid-September; due to the expenditures related to Undocumented Cases, this will not occur until the end of October, or early November.

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	FY15 BUDGET	NEW REGULATION
General Assistance Expenditures Including Shelter GA Operating Costs	\$10,667,600	\$10,667,600
LESS: Undocumented Cases (not eligible for reimbursement)	N/A	(\$3,598,000)
General Assistance Expenditures Billed to the State	\$10,667,600	\$7,069,600
LESS: Anticipated Reimbursement By State	\$8,694,621	\$5,456,421
Cost to City	\$1,972,979	\$5,211,179

**Anticipated Increase to the City: \$3.24 Million**

**Monthly impact:**

Monthly Average # Undocumented Cases Granted Assistance	\$291,500
(Additional Expenditures added to July—unpaid June Expenditures)	+ \$100,000 (July Only)

**Impact from other areas:**

The monthly cost of undocumented cases could increase based on policy decisions by other municipalities, such as Lewiston, etc. Clients may move to Portland where they would be considered eligible for GA.

**Change in status:**

The monthly costs for undocumented cases could also increase if additional visa holders apply for asylum, thus changing their status to undocumented.

City of Portland  
 General Assistance  
 Summary Lawful/Unlawful

FY15 GA Threshold: \$2,265,485

Month	Gross		Gross Total	Actual Reimbursement		Reimbursement		Not Reimbursed
	Lawful	Unlawful		Reimbursement	Including Unlawful	Reimbursed	Not Reimbursed	
July, 2014	559,221.81	296,756.82	855,978.63	279,610.90	427,989.31	148,378.41		
August, 2014	583,090.95	284,379.03	867,469.98	291,545.47	433,734.99	142,189.52		
Sept, 2014*	570,167.00	261,830.00	831,997.00	285,083.00	531,983.00	246,900.00		
Total	1,712,479.76	842,965.85	2,555,445.61	856,239.37	1,393,707.30	537,467.93		

NOTE: Based on total General Assistance granted, we normally would reach the threshold in mid-September, 2014 if everything was billable. Now, the billable amount of General Assistance will delay reaching the 90% threshold until October or November, 2014. The Threshold for FY15 is \$2,265,485.