

SOCIAL AID
SOCIAL AID REGULATIONS 1984
GN 48/84 - section 11 - 1 December 1983

1. These regulations may be cited as the Social Aid Regulations 1984.
2. In these regulations -
 - "Act" means the Social Aid Act;
 - "application" means an application for social aid under section 3 of the Act;
 - "approved form" means a form approved by the Minister;
 - "income" means income derived from any source;
 - "institution" means any charitable institution to which a grant is made in accordance with these regulations;
 - "premises" -
 - (a) means any place where the Social Security Officer has reason to believe that a person-
 - (i) is or has been employed;
 - (ii) derives or has derived any income; and
 - (b) includes a dwelling house;
 - "Social Security Officer" means a public officer designated as such by the Minister.

[133/85]
3. (1) No social aid shall be granted to a person unless he is a citizen of Mauritius residing in Mauritius.
(2) No social aid shall be paid to a claimant who is -
 - (a) an in-patient of a hospital and the cost of whose maintenance either in part or in full is met from Government funds;
 - (b) a resident of an institution which is in receipt of a grant from the Government;
 - (c) in a reform institution or detained in lawful custody;
 - (d) absent from Mauritius.

[133/85]
4. (1) Every application shall be submitted to the Permanent Secretary for determination.
(2) The Permanent Secretary shall, where required, before determining an application, seek the advice of any advisory committee established under section 10(c) of the Act.
(3) An application shall be made on an approved form at such place and times and in such manner as the Permanent Secretary may determine.
(4) Where the Permanent Secretary is satisfied that there is an immediate need for payment, he may direct that social aid be paid to a person pending the determination of his application.
(5) The determination of the Permanent Secretary under paragraph (1) shall be communicated to the applicant in writing.

(6) Where the Permanent Secretary is satisfied that there has been -

(a) material change in the circumstances of the applicant; or

(b) a mistake relating to a material fact,

he shall amend the decision, and any amended decision, together with the reason, shall be communicated in writing to the applicant.

[133/85]

5. The Permanent Secretary shall specify the period for which social aid shall be allowed.

6. (1) Social aid shall not be paid in respect of any month before the date on which the application is received by the Permanent Secretary.

(2) Except where good cause is shown to the satisfaction of the Permanent Secretary, no social aid shall be paid after the lapse of 3 months from the date on which it became due.

[133/85]

7. The Permanent Secretary shall issue to each person whose application has been allowed a social aid card which -

(a) shall remain the property of the Government; and

(b) shall, on demand, be produced or surrendered to the Permanent Secretary.

[133/85]

8. (1) Where social aid is payable, the Permanent Secretary shall specify -

(a) the place at which;

(b) the time and the day of the month on which; and

(c) the manner in which,

payment shall be made.

(2) Subject to regulation 4(4), no social aid shall be paid to an applicant other than in accordance with paragraph (1).

(3) Social aid shall be paid to an applicant on production to the paying officer of the social aid card issued to him under regulation 7.

(4) Where an applicant is unable to receive payment of social aid in person, the social aid may be paid to any person not below the age of 18 whom the paying officer is satisfied has been duly authorised by the applicant to receive the payment and on production by that person of the social aid card issued to the applicant.

[133/85]

9. Where a determination of the Permanent Secretary is amended under regulation 4(6) and, by reason of that amendment, a person has received an amount of money to which he is not entitled, the Permanent Secretary shall, unless he is satisfied that the person acted in good faith in receiving that amount of money, require repayment of

that amount of money and may recover it in such manner as he thinks fit from any benefit or allowance payable to that person under the National Pensions Act, the Unemployment Hardship Relief Act or the Family Allowance Act.

10. (1) For the purposes of section 3(4)(b) of the Act, the resources of a claimant shall, subject to paragraph (2), consist of -
- (a) 20 per cent of the total monthly income of all his children, after deduction of a sum of 100 rupees from that income; and
 - (b) 50 per cent of his total monthly income and that of his spouse.
- (2) Where the children of a claimant do not derive any monthly income or derive a monthly income which is less than 100 rupees, the resources of the claimant shall consist of 50 per cent of his total income and that of his wife, after deduction of a sum of 100 rupees or such amount as represents the difference between 100 rupees and the income of those children.
11. (1) A Social Security Officer may enter at all reasonable times any premises to make such examination and enquiry as he thinks fit in order to ascertain whether -
- (a) any social aid ought to be paid to an applicant;
 - (b) any provision of the Act and of these regulations have been contravened.
- (2) Any person -
- (a) who is the occupier of any premises;
 - (b) whom the Social Security Officer has reasonable cause to believe is or has been employing a claimant, his spouse or child;
 - (c) from whom the Social Security Officer has reasonable cause to believe the claimant, his spouse or child is deriving any income;
 - (d) who is the employee or agent of a person specified in subparagraphs (a) to (c), shall give such information or produce such documents for inspection as the Social Security Officer may reasonably require for the purpose of examination or inquiry under paragraph (1).
- [133/85]
12. Any person who -
- (a) wilfully obstructs a Social Security Officer in the exercise of his functions under these regulations; or
 - (b) without sufficient cause or justification, refuses to answer any question or give any information or produce any document when required to do so under regulation 11, shall commit an offence.
13. No grant or contribution shall be made by the Permanent Secretary to an institution undertaking the free board and lodging of persons unable to maintain themselves unless the following conditions are complied with -
- (a) the building and site of the institution and its accommodation have previously been approved by the Permanent Secretary, on the report of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health.
 - (b) such books and accounts as the Permanent Secretary may direct are kept by the manager of the institution;

- (c) diet sheets approved by the Permanent Secretary are prepared by the institution and applied to the satisfaction of the Permanent Secretary.
14. (1) An orphan in need of residential care shall be placed in an institution for children or entrusted to a foster parent and shall remain under the guardianship of the Permanent Secretary until the child has reached the age of 18.
- (2) Every orphan under paragraph (1) shall, in the light of his mental and physical development, receive an appropriate full time education.
15. For the purposes of section 3(6) of the Act, the Minister may, subject to such conditions as he thinks fit to impose, grant to -
- (a) an applicant the social aid specified in Part I of the Schedule;
 - (b) an applicant who -
 - (i) is in receipt of the basic retirement pension under the National Pensions Act,
 - (ii) lives alone and pays a rent; and
 - (iii) is temporarily or permanently incapable of earning adequately his livelihood and has insufficient means to support himself,the social aid specified in Part II of the Schedule;
 - (c) an applicant, the spouse of an applicant or any dependant of an applicant, as the case may be, where the applicant -
 - (i) is in receipt of any benefit under the National Pensions Act; and
 - (ii) is temporarily or permanently incapable of earning adequately his livelihood and has insufficient means to support himself and his dependants,the social aid specified in Part III of the Schedule;
 - (d) an applicant who is in receipt of hardship relief under the Unemployment Hardship Relief Act, the social aid specified in Part III of the Schedule in respect of his child;
 - (e) an applicant who has been entrusted with the care of an orphan or abandoned child or both and who -
 - (i) is not in receipt of guardian's allowance under the National Pensions Act, the social aid specified in Part IV of the Schedule in respect of his child;
 - (ii) is in receipt of a guardian's allowance under the National Pensions Act, the social aid specified in items 2 and 3 of Part IV of the Schedule;
 - (f) any parent -
 - (i) who has one child who under 18 years of age who has -
 - (A) Diabetes Mellitus type 1;
 - (B) Complicated Systemic Lupus Erythematosus(SLE);
 - (C) Cancer of any type;
 - (D) Cerebral palsy or muscular Dystrophy;
 - (E) a severe mental, physical or sensory disability (to include diseases such as Autism, Total Blindness, Severe Deafness, Grand Mal Epilepsy with frequent fits, Severe Bronchial Asthma) requiring frequent admissions;

- (F) undergone amputation; or
 - (G) multiple disabilities;
- and requires constant care and attention as certified by an approved medical practitioner, the social aid specified in Part V of the Schedule, where the income of the parent or the aggregate income of the parents does not exceed 150,000 rupees annually;
- (ii) who has one child under 18 years of age who suffers from -
 - (A) Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS); or
 - (B) is severely handicapped, mentally or physically, and has multiple congenital or traumatic deformities;and requires constant care and attention as certified by an approved medical practitioner, the social aid specified in Part V of the Schedule, where the income of the parent or the aggregate income of the parents does not exceed 250,000 rupees annually;
 - (iii) who has more than one child under 18 years of age who suffers from any of the disabling diseases specified in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) and requires constant care and attention as specified by an approved medical practitioner, the social aid specified in Part V of the Schedule, where the income of the parent or the aggregate income of the parents does not exceed the amount specified in subparagraph (i) or (ii) whichever is higher, increased by an amount of 50,000 rupees for every additional handicapped child.
- (g) an applicant who is in receipt of basic retirement pension under the National Pensions Act and has insufficient means to support himself or his dependants, the social aid specified in Part VI of the Schedule;
- (h) an applicant -
- (i) where the applicant is the spouse of the head of a household who is in Police custody or has been remanded to jail or is serving a term of imprisonment or has been admitted for treatment in a Government hospital; and
 - (ii) who is temporarily or permanently incapable of earning adequately his livelihood and has insufficient means to support himself and his dependants, the social aid specified in Part VI of the Schedule.
- (i) a person of 100 years of age or over, the social aid specified in Part VII of the Schedule.
- (j) an applicant
- (i) who is in receipt of social aid under section 3(3) of the Act and under paragraph (b), (e) and (h); or
 - (ii) who is in receipt of unemployment hardship relief under the Unemployment Hardship Relief Act 1983; or

(iii) who, as at 30 June 2006, was in receipt of a basic pension under the National Pension Act and who would have been eligible to receive social aid under this Act if he were not in receipt of the basic pension, and was in receipt of a social aid under Part VIII of the Schedule; and

(iv) whose average monthly electricity consumption does not exceed 75 KWh, whose name appears on an updated income support list of the Central Electricity Board and who is not in receipt of a social aid under item 1 Part VIII of the Schedule;

(v) who, on or after 2006, is in receipt of a basic pension under the National Pensions Act but who would have been eligible to receive social aid under this Act if he were not in receipt of the basic pension,
the social aid specified in Part VIII of the Schedule.

(k) an applicant the social aid specified in Part IX to meet expenses in case of multiple births during one confinement, subject to the aggregate income of the spouses not exceeding Rs150,000 per year.

(l) an applicant or the spouse of an applicant, as the case may be;

(i) who is in receipt of Basic Retirement Pension under the National Pensions Act;
and

(ii) is temporarily or permanently incapable of earning his livelihood, has insufficient resources, and is eligible to receive social aid under this Act in the absence of a basic pension;

the social aid specified in Part X of the schedule.

(m) an applicant –

(i) whose monthly income or the aggregate monthly income of the spouses, as the case may be, does not exceed 7500 rupees, the social aid specified in paragraphs (1) (a), (b), (c) or (d) of part III of the schedule;

(ii) Who has more than one child sitting for examinations specified in paragraphs (1) (a),(b),(c) and (d) of part III of the Schedule; and whose monthly income or the aggregate monthly income of the spouses, as the case may be, is between 7501 and 10,000 rupees, 50% of the social aid specified in paragraphs (1) (a),(b),(c) or (d) of part III of the Schedule.

16. *[Spent]*

SOCIAL AID

**SCHEDULE
(regulation 15)
PART I**

1. Allowance to a fisherman.....Rs 168 per day
2. Allowance to a cyclone refugee.....Rs 109 per head per night
3. Allowance to a flood victim (subject to a maximum of 3 days).. Rs 109 per day per member of the household
4. Grant to a discharged prisoner.....Rs196
5. Gift to a centenarian.....Rs15000
6. Allowance to fire victims for the purchase of foodstuffsRs1321 per member of the household
7. Allowance to fire victims in respect of -
 - (a) Clothing..... Rs1321 per member of the household
 - (b) Cooking utensils..... Rs1321 per member of the household
 - (c) Furniture..... Rs1321 per member of the household
 - (d) Resettlement allowance..... Rs2592 per household

PART II

	<i>Amount per month</i>
	Rs
Allowance.....	1147

PART III

1. Examination fees in respect of a child for -
 - (a) Cambridge School Certificate
 - (b) Higher School Certificate
 - (c) General Certificate of Education, London (Ordinary and Advanced)
 - (d) General Certificate of Education Cambridge (Ordinary and Advanced).
 - (e) IVTB examinations conducted by Mauritius Examination Syndicate.
2. Issue of free spectacles to the applicant and his dependants where the spectacles have been prescribed by the Ministry of Health
3. Funeral Grant to -
 - (a) an applicant, in the event of the death of any of his dependants; or
 - (b) an applicant's spouse or any of his dependants in the event of the death of applicant.

3310

PART IV

1. Guardian's Allowance 446
2. Orphan's allowance for every orphan who -
 - (i) is receiving full time education and who is aged 15 years and is over until the end of the school year in which he attains the age of 20, or 522
 - (ii) is between the ages of 15 and 20 and who is unable to earn a living through any physical or mental disability and is not in receipt of a benefit under the National Pensions Act. 880
3. Abandoned Child's Allowance -
 - (a) for every child under the age of 10 342
 - (b) for ever child between the ages of 10 and 15 418
 - (c) for every child who -

(i) is receiving full time education and who is aged 15 years and over and until the end of the school year in which he attains the age of 20; or	522
(ii) is between the ages of 15 and 20 and who is unable to earn a living through any physical or mental disability and is not in receipt of a benefit under the National Pensions Act	880

PART V

	<i>Amount per month</i>
1. Child's Allowance -	
(a) for every child under the age of 10	342
(b) for every child between the ages of 10 and 15	418
(c) for every child between the ages of 15 and 18 and who is not in receipt of an invalid's basic pension under the National Pensions Act	522
2. Compassionate Allowance	Up to a maximum of 522
3. Carer's Allowance, in lieu of Child's Allowance and Compassionate Allowance, for a child between the age of 6 months and 18 years, where the child suffers from disability of at least 60% and is in need of constant care and attention as certified by a medical board.	1647

PART VI

1. Applicant's Allowance	880
2. Spouse's Allowance (limited to one spouse)	880
3. Child's allowance -	
(a) for every child under the age of 10	342
(b) for every child between the ages of 10 and 15	418
(c) for every child who -	
(i) is receiving full time education and who is aged 15 years and over and until the end of the school year in which he attains the age of 20; or	522
(ii) is between the ages of 15 and 20 and who is unable to earn a living through any physical or mental disability and is not in receipt of a benefit under the National Pensions Act	880
4. Compassionate Allowance where the claimant or any of his dependants satisfies the Minister that he is suffering from any serious illness certified by an approved medical practitioner	522
5. Rent allowance	50% of the rent paid by claimant up to a maximum of Rs663
6. Examination fees in respect of a child for -	
(a) Cambridge School Certificate	
(b) Higher School Certificate	
(c) General Certificate of Education, London (Ordinary and Advanced)	
(d) General Certificate of Education, Cambridge (Ordinary and Advanced)	
7. Issue of spectacles to the claimant and his dependants where the spectacles have been prescribed by the Ministry of Health	
8. Assistance in kind where the Minister is satisfied that the claimant deserves it	
9. Funeral grant in the event of the death of the claimant or that of any of his dependants	3310

PART VII

Grant for the purchase of medicines 788

PART VIII

1. Allowance for purchase of rice and flour per member of household in respect of applicants under regulation 15(j)(i), (ii) and (iii) 85

2. Allowance for the purchase of rice and flour for head of household and his dependants in respect of applicants under regulation 15(j),(iv) and (v) 40

PART IX

Allowance payable for a period not exceeding 24 months in case where the applicant or the spouse, as the case may be, gives birth to more than one child during one confinement Rs 1522 for each child until the age of 24 months, over and above one live birth

PART X

One-off grant for the purchase of dentures 2283
