

XI. Work Program

The City Welfare Department may require a recipient of general assistance to participate in the City's Work Program for all or any portion of assistance it provides, at a job that is within his or her capacity, as a condition of continued eligibility for assistance. The person will not be paid cash wages for such work, but rather will work off the cash value of assistance given at the rate of exchange equivalent to the prevailing wage for the kind of work performed in the City as determined by the municipality's pay schedules prevailing at the time of application for assistance. The amount an assisted person may be required to reimburse the City for aid received shall be reduced by the credits received from participation in the Work Program ([RSA 165: 31](#)).

The Work Program will be structured so as to allow the person time to look for work, to schedule interviews for possible employment, and to make and keep appointments with other service or welfare agencies. The Welfare Official may require recipients to provide documentation of their attendance at a conflicting interview or appointment.

A recipient working on the Work Program will be expected to abide by the Work Program rules as given in writing and acknowledged by the recipient. Failure to abide by the rules will mean suspension of assistance for seven days and fourteen days if the recipient has had a prior suspension within the past six months. Sanctions will remain in place until such time as the recipient has completed the work program hours.

A recipient of General Assistance cannot refuse to work for the City unless he/she:

- Has a conflicting interview for a job possibility that could be scheduled for no other time than the hours scheduled on the Work Program.
- Has a conflicting interview at a service, employment, or welfare agency.
- Lacks adequate means of transportation to the job site if not within walking distance and the City fails to provide transportation.
- Lacks adequate means of child care and the City fails to provide it.
- Has a medical appointment that could not be scheduled or rescheduled to accommodate the Work Program Schedule.
- Is ill as verified in writing by a physician.
- Must care for their minor children not in school when no other care provider is available or must remain at home because of illness or disability to another member of the household verified in writing by a physician.
- Doesn't have the tools or materials required to do the job and the City fails to provide them.