

**Title: Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons
Transportation Benefits**

Policy No: 5102

**Approval: County Council
Effective Date: January 16, 2018**



Amended: April 17/12, Jan 21/14, Nov 4/14

Policy Statement: To enhance the quality of life of senior citizens and disabled persons (who reside(s) in Woodlands County).

1. Definition

- 1.1. Senior citizen is a person who is sixty-five (65) years of age or older.
- 1.2. Physically disabled person is a person who can either produce their parking placard or obtain a letter from their physician stating they are permanently physically disabled.
- 1.3. Developmentally disabled person is a person who experiences difficulties in certain areas of life, especially in "language, mobility, learning, self-help, and independent living" and can obtain a letter from their psychologist/physician stating they have a significant limitation in intellectual capacity or in adaptive skills.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. Applicants must be a senior citizen or a permanently physically/ mentally disabled person who reside(s) in Woodlands County.
- 2.2. First time senior citizen applicants must provide photo ID which includes date of birth.

3. Snow Flags

- 3.1. The County will provide up to five free snow flags per year.
- 3.2. If applying for a free snow flag they must complete a snowplow waiver (Schedule A).

4. Transportation Grant

- 4.1. The County will reimburse health care related transportation expenses at the rate of \$0.50 per kilometer to a maximum of \$300.00 per year.

- 4.2. Health care related appointments include (but are not limited to: general physician, specialist, surgeon, dental, vision, paramedical, counselling, lab testing). Health care appointments do not include: pharmacy.
- 4.3. The County will reimburse transportation expenses related to attending the Healthy Living Program in Whitecourt (registered through the Whitecourt Healthcare Centre) at the rate of \$0.50 per kilometer to a maximum of \$300.00 per year.
- 4.4. The County will pay transportation grants twice per year ending June 30 and December 31. Application deadline will be one week following end dates.
- 4.5. If applying for the transportation grant, the applicant must submit a completed and signed Woodlands County Transportation Grant form (Appendix 'A') that itemizes health care related transportation costs by either private vehicle or public transportation system.

5. **Dust Control**

- 5.1. Residents who have a medical and financial need may qualify for a waiver of their dust control fees charged under Policy 3203 - Dust Control.
 - 5.1.1. An application or letter requesting this waiver must be completed yearly;
 - 5.1.2. Each new application will be reviewed by Council on its own merits.
 - 5.1.3. If Council has approved a waiver for dust control fees in the past, administration has the authority to approve the request on the same merits that Council gave a prior approval.