



Department of
Housing Preservation
& Development
nyc.gov/hpd

ANSWERS TO THE MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT SCRIE BENEFITS

1. WHAT IS SCRIE?

SCRIE is the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption program. If you are eligible, HPD provides a subsidy to cover most rent increases. To learn more about the program, visit us at:

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/hpd/services-and-information/scrie.page>

2. WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SCRIE?

- A. You (or your spouse) must be 62 years or older at the time of the increase and the tenant/ shareholder of record.
- B. You (or your spouse) lived in the apartment at the time of the increase.
- C. The total household income did not exceed the income maximum of \$50,000 annually.
- D. Your monthly basic rent/ carrying charge was more than or equal to one-third of your total annual household income.
- E. You are **NOT** on any other rent/carrying charge assisted program (**e.x: Section 8, Senior Citizen Homeowners Exemption program, Disability Rent Increase Exemption program, Rental Assistance Program, etc.**)

3. WHAT IS THE CURRENT INCOME REQUIREMENT FOR SCRIE?

Starting on July 1, 2014, the maximum income threshold increased from \$29,000 to \$50,000 per household.

4. WHAT IS CONSIDERED INCOME?

All financial income sources are required to be reported for all persons living in the household at the time of the increase. **(Ex: ALL Social Security (Supplemental Security Insurance, Social Security Disability, Social Security Retirement), salary, pension, gross business income, public assistance benefits, unemployment benefits, workers compensation, and all other sources of income). For more information on the documentation required, see our Visual Guide.**

5. CAN I APPLY TODAY?

Yes, if there is a rent/maintenance increase in place and you meet all the requirements at the time of the increase, you may apply.

6. IF MY HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS LESS THAN \$50,000, WILL I BE APPROVED FOR SCRIE?

Not necessarily, you must meet **ALL FIVE** requirements mentioned in **#2.** above.

7. MY INCOME IS BELOW \$50,000 AND I RECENTLY TURNED 62, CAN I APPLY FOR SCRIE?

Yes, but you must have been 62 years or older at the time of the most recent increase.

8. MY SCRIE WAS RECENTLY TERMINATED BECAUSE MY INCOME WAS OVER \$50,000 AND/OR MY INCOME WAS MORE THAN 1/3 OF MY MAINTENANCE/RENT, MY INCOME HAS RECENTLY DECREASED CAN I RE-APPLY?

You can only re-apply if there is a **NEW** increase. Most SCRIE benefits are not linked to a lease, they are provided according to the development's increase effective date. Please note, HPD considers all income at the time of the increase. Even though your income may have decreased, you cannot re-apply to an increase you were already found ineligible for. You must re-apply as a new applicant to a new increase.

9. MY SCRIE BENEFITS WERE RECENTLY TERMINATED BECAUSE MY INCOME WAS MORE THAN 50,000 AND/OR MY INCOME WAS MORE THAN 1/3 OF MY MAINTENANCE/RENT, CAN I APPEAL THAT DECISION?

Yes, you have the right to appeal SCRIE’s decision and provide proof to support your claim.

10. MY SCRIE WAS TERMINATED BECAUSE I DID NOT RE-CERTIFY BEFORE THE DEADLINE. CAN MY SCRIE BENEFITS BE RE-INSTATED?

Yes, only if there have been no changes to your household income and/or family composition. For more information, please contact our office at SCRIE@HPD.NYC.GOV

11. THE SCRIE SUBSIDY WAS IN MY SPOUSE’S NAME AND THEY HAVE RECENTLY PASSED, OR VACATED AND/OR DIVORCED. WILL THE SCRIE BE CHANGED TO MY NAME?

Maybe. The SCRIE may be changed to your name if you meet the following requirements:

- a. You were included on the initial application.
- b. You were included on subsequent recertification forms.
- c. You provide a copy of the death certificate/divorce decree or proof of new residency for your spouse (**e.x. utility bill and/or bank account or SS award letter at new address for date in question**)

12. WHAT DO YOU MEAN THAT MY RENT HAS TO BE MORE THAN 1/3 OF MY INCOME?

Below is a chart that shows examples of Annual Household Income, Monthly Household Income, and the minimum amount the rent/maintenance seniors must be paying to qualify for SCRIE.

*Annual Household Income	*Monthly Household Income	**Minimum amount of senior’s rent/maintenance
\$20,000.00	\$1,666.67	\$555.56
\$30,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$833.33
\$40,000.00	\$3,333.33	\$1,111.11
\$50,000.00	\$4,166.67	\$1,388.89

***Annual/Monthly Household Income:** NOT adjusted gross income

****Current monthly rent/maintenance:** EXCLUDING utilities, parking, dishwasher, and all other expenses charged with rent/maintenance fee