

ADDITIONAL LIVING EXPENSES

ALSO REFERRED TO AS LOSS OF USE

Additional living expense (ALE) or loss of use coverage reimburses the insured for the cost of maintaining a comparable standard of living, if their property is deemed “unlivable.” Only expenses above and beyond the insured’s normal expenditures will be covered.

LIKELY COVERED

- Temporary accommodations (Short and long-term)
- Food (above usual expenditures)
- Moving expenses
- Travel (above usual expenditures)
- Storage costs

EXAMPLE

A family from Fort McMurray has lost their home due to a wildfire. While their home is being rebuilt, the family stays at a hotel and eventually rents a comparable home. The cost of rent and the hotel should be covered under the ALE section of their policy.

LIKELY NOT COVERED

- Lost wages
- Mortgage payments
- Usual expenses (cell phone, gym membership, etc.)
- Household expenses (hydro, phone, etc.)

EXAMPLE

A family from northern BC is unwilling to return home, after it has been rebuilt, because it is the middle of winter. Their rebuilt home is liveable, yet the family incurs an extra month’s cost for their rental home. This expense would likely not be covered.

I DON'T HAVE CASH, BUT I HAVE INSURANCE...

Contact your insurer and ask for a cash advance. Insurance companies are obligated to ensure their customers do not fall under financial stress due to an insurance claim. The advance will be deducted from your settlement.