



AAMJIWNAANG FIRST NATION
CHIPPEWAS OF SARNIA
Health Centre

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Department: Health	Effective Date: July 4, 2017
Subject: Health Fund Policy	Revision Date: March 23, 2026

Purpose

1. To fund medically necessary expenses that are not covered through any other federal, provincial or private health or social program
2. To ensure coverage for urgent medical expenses while seeking approval
3. This is not intended to replace primary health care coverage

Eligibility: Aamjiwnaang First Nation band members

Benefit Criteria

1. Item or service is not available through any other funding source including but not limited to OHIP, Non-Insured Health Benefits, Ontario Drug Benefit, Ontario Works, employee health plans
2. Item or service is prescribed and deemed medically necessary by a licensed health professional licensed to prescribe
3. Provided by a recognized provider
4. Maximum of \$500 per person, per year

What is covered:

- Prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test
- Digital optometry scans for those at significant risk of eye disease (ie diabetics)
- Occupational therapy assessment for medical equipment
- Orthopedic braces and boots
- Rental, purchase and maintenance of medical equipment
- Administrative fees such as doctor's notes, medical exams, treatment centre fees, etc.
- Equipment, tests and supplies required during a hospital stay
- Meals on Wheels for individuals requiring assistance with meal preparation but have limited PSW support
- Other expenses will be considered case-by-case

What is NOT covered:

- Vaccinations for travel
- Standard over the counter medications, vitamins, herbal supplements
- Fitness programs
- Transportation
- Out of province or out of country medical insurance or emergency expenses
- Home renovations

Prescription Eyewear

- Prescription eyewear covered by Non-Insured Health Benefits
 - Additional cost of lenses
 - Additional cost of frames not to exceed \$300
- Repair or replacement
 - The least expensive of repair or replacement
 - Cost of frames up to \$300 and cost of lenses
 - Replacement limited to once per lifetime

Exceptions for Patients Undergoing Treatment for Cancer and Dialysis:

- Prescribed over the counter medications
- Parking for inner city travel
- Wigs or other necessary items which may be deemed cosmetic by other providers
- Prescribed treatment services required for relief of significant pain or other related symptoms

Cannabis for Medical Purposes

1. Must be authorized with a prescription from a health care provider to purchase cannabis for medical reasons
2. Cannabis must be purchased from a federally licensed retailer authorized to sell cannabis for medical purposes

Alternative Treatments

Individuals without access to an extended health benefits plan, are eligible to submit receipts for treatments provided by registered health professionals. The list includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical therapy, chiropractic, therapeutic massage therapy
- Naturopathy, homeopathy
- Acupuncture
- Hypnosis

Missed Appointments

Canceling scheduled appointments should be done in a timely manner to avoid missed appointment fees. In cases where this is not possible or where missed appointment fees will prevent an individual from receiving essential care, they may be considered on a one-time basis.

Emergency Travel to Support Family Members in Hospital

- Maximum \$250 per claim
- Eligibility includes band members traveling to support an immediate family member during an extended hospital stay, high risk procedure or emergency. Immediate family includes spouse, parent/guardian and children.
- Expenses will be covered at the approved Community Rates, which is 60% of the Chief and Council rate, and include:
 - Accommodations up to a maximum of \$100/night
 - Mileage
 - Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Supper
- Shared transportation and accommodations will be expected when possible

Members Living Outside of Canada

This fund is not intended to replace primary health care coverage. Recognizing that members living outside of Canada may not be able to access services provided through Non-Insured Health Benefits, this fund may provide up to \$500 in Canadian funds to assist with the cost of dental, vision and medication.

Chairlift Repairs

Ongoing maintenance costs resulting from normal wear and tear. These expenses are not included in a member's \$500 annual limit.

Application Process

1. Members should make reasonable efforts to seek coverage through Non-Insured Health Benefits or other plans before seeking assistance from the Health Fund.
2. Members will submit a fully complete Request Form with accompanying documentation for review:
 - a. Prescription or letter from prescribing provider as to why this product/service is needed
 - b. Signed Consent to Release Information form if required
 - c. Proof that other funding sources have been denied (where applicable)
3. Requests will be reviewed and submitted for processing within two weeks. Missing information may result in delays.
4. Payments will be submitted for processing through one of the following methods:
 - a. Items that are eligible through Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) will be sent to NIHB for client reimbursement. Health staff will follow up with the client every two weeks to ensure payment is received.
 - b. Items that are not immediately eligible through NIHB will be reimbursed to the client, while Health staff assist in meeting NIHB requirements to seek reimbursement from NIHB to the Band.
 - c. Items that are not eligible through other means will be paid to the client or directly to the vendor upon request.

Signing authority to release funds is as follows:

- Director of Health Services up to \$500 Canadian

Payment Information

Payments will be released directly to the provider. Clients may be reimbursed upon providing proof of payment.

Grievances

If a client does not agree with a decision that has been made, grievances can be submitted in writing to the Band Manager.