

# Medical Service Plan (MSP) and Premium Assistance

Canada's health care system offers many services which can be accessed through applying for MSP/a CareCard. If you cannot afford the monthly payments, you can apply for Premium Assistance. Premium Assistance is available to Canadian citizens and permanent residents, who have held that status for the past 12 months. There is a 3 month waiting period before you are eligible for coverage. Make sure to get private, short-term insurance for the first 3 months. To find an insurance company check the phone book under "Insurance," call BCAA at (604) 205-1000 or call Blue Cross at 604 419-2000.

# How do I apply for MSP/a CareCard?

- 1) Visit the following website https://www.health.gov.bc.ca/exforms/msp.html
- 2) Click on 'Forms for B.C. Residents'
- 3) Click on 'Medical Services Plan (MSP) Application for Enrolment' PDF form
- 4) Print out the form and fill it out by hand or fill it out on the computer and then print it out
- 5) Mail to: Health Insurance BC, Medical Services Plan, PO Box 9035 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E3

## How do I apply for Premium Assistance?

- 1) Visit the following website https://www.health.gov.bc.ca/exforms/msp.html
- 2) Click on 'Forms for B.C. Residents'
- 3) Click on the link labelled 'Premium Assistance Forms' and select the '119' PDF
- 4) Fill out the form either by hand or on the computer and then print it out
- 5) Mail to: Health Insurance BC, Medical Services Plan, PO Box 9035 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E3

## How do I add an additional family member or a newborn to my MSP account?

- 1) If the person is not enrolled with MSP visit https://www.health.gov.bc.ca/exforms/msp.html
- 2) Click on 'Forms for B.C. Residents'
- 3) Click on the link labelled 'Account Maintenance Forms' and select '115' PDF
- 4) Fill out the form either by hand or on the computer and then print it out
- 5) Mail to: PO Box 9035 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E3
- 6) If the person is already enrolled with MSP, contact MSP at 604-683-7151.

#### **Healthy Kids Program**

The Healthy Kids Program helps low income families with the cost of basic dental and eyeglasses for their children. Children under 19 years, whose families are receiving premium assistance through MSP, are eligible.

#### How do I apply for the Healthy Kids Program?

Families who have been approved for MSP premium assistance will automatically be signed up for the program. Coverage begins at the start of the next month. No additional application form is needed to apply.

## What does the Healthy Kids Program Cover?

**Dental**: Children are eligible for \$700 of basic dental services per year, such as exams, x-rays, fillings, cleanings and extractions. Emergency treatment is available if the annual limit has been reached. Orthodontic treatments are not covered by this program.

**Optical**: Children are eligible for prescription eyeglasses (lenses and basic frames) once in a 12-month period. All prescriptions must be current and meet the program criteria. Further information is available from your optical supplier. Contact lenses are not covered by this program.

# How do I access services under the BC Healthy Kids Program?

It is important that you show your CareCard at the dental/optical office to confirm that they provide services under the Program and that you check if there are additional charges that the program will not cover.





## How long will my child be covered under the Healthy Kids Program?

Children are covered until they turn 19. Changes with your MSP may affect your child's coverage.

## How do I get more information about the Healthy Kids Program?

- 1) If you receive MSP premium assistance, you can contact your dentist or optical supplier directly.
- 2) You can also call 1-866-866-0800 for more information to see if your children are eligible for financial help.

#### PharmaCare & Fair PharmaCare

PharmaCare provides financial assistance, to families, for prescriptions and medical supplies, based on their net income. If you are eligible, you pay only the costs that are not covered. Fair PharmaCare requires a one-time registration.

#### How do I apply for Fair PharmaCare?

- 1) You can register online at https://pharmacare.moh.hnet.bc.ca/
- 2) Once you have read the information on the page, click on 'Review Checklist' at the bottom of the page
- 3) Make sure that all of the items that are listed on the checklist are available to you and then click on 'Register for Fair PharmaCare' at the bottom of the page.
- 4) Then follow the prompts on the pages by entering the information that is required.
- 5) If you would like further assistance you can call 604-683-7151

## Who can apply for Fair PharmaCare?

Anybody can register. To be eligible you must have valid MSP coverage and filed an income tax return for the relevant taxation year. If you have not filed your income tax return because you are new in Canadian please contact 604-683-7151.

#### **Hospitals**

The following hospitals are located in Surrey:

- Surrey Memorial Hospital 13750 96th Ave, Surrey, V3V 1Z2
- Peace Arch Hospital 15521 Russell Ave, White Rock, V4B 2R4

#### Walk-In Medical Clinics & Doctors/Family Physicians

Patients who need specialized medical care are referred to a specialist. Walk-in clinics do not require appointments. They provide medical care. Don't forget your CareCard when visiting a medical clinic or doctor.

#### HealthLink BC

You can phone HealthLink BC, free of charge, at 8-1-1 to speak to either a nurse, pharmacist or dietician. They will provide free nonemergency information 24 hours a day.

#### How can I find a doctor/dentist in my area or how can I find a doctor/dentist that speaks my native language?

- 1) To find a doctor visit https://www.cpsbc.ca/physician\_search
- 2) You can now use the search feature on the page to select either a male or female doctor, the city that the doctor practices in and additional languages that the doctor speaks.
- 3) To find a dentist, visit http://www.bcdental.org/Find\_a\_Dentist/DentistSearch.aspx
- 4) You can search for a dentist by entering your city or postal code and also select your language.

# Health & Nutrition: How to Pack Healthy School Lunches

Canada's Food Guide helps Canadians make smart choices. You can order a copy at 1-800-926-9105. If your child's school does not have a cafeteria, send your child to school with a lunch, snack and drink, comprised of all 4 food groups. Keep your child's food safe by using clean containers. Sandwiches are a good and healthy choice, since they are easy to make and can contain all 4 food groups. By eating and preparing healthy meals you are setting a good example for your children! For more information on Canada's Food Guide, please visit http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/basics-base/index-eng.php



#### **Health Resources**

Please see below for links to several websites that offer health resources.

#### **Healthy Living**

http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/healthy-living-vie-saine/index-eng.php

## Healthy Living Booklets for Families

http://www.healthyschoolsbc.ca/program/635/healthy-living-for-families

# Fraserhealth

http://www.fraserhealth.ca/

#### Fraserhealth - How to find health services

http://www.fraserhealth.ca/find\_us/services/our\_services?&program\_id=8481

## **Ministry of Health Services**

http://www.gov.bc.ca/health/

