



Living Organ Donor Reimbursement Policy

What is the Living Organ Donor Reimbursement Policy?

The policy removes financial barriers to living organ donation by helping to reimburse living organ donors for some of their out of pocket expenses. The policy applies to people who choose to be a living organ donor and choose to donate to a resident of Nova Scotia, or to someone in the Living Donor Paired Exchange Registry. **Donors must submit their application for reimbursement no more than 90 days post-transplant.**

What is the Living Donor Paired Exchange Registry?

The registry is operated by Canadian Blood Services and allows for incompatible donor-recipient pairs, or a single non-directed anonymous donor, to enter a registry to increase the chances of finding compatible donor matches for organ transplantation.

How much is covered under the policy?

The policy will cover limited reimbursement up to a maximum of \$5,500 for out of pocket expenses, per living organ donor. There are limits for travel, accommodations, meals, parking, and loss of wages.

What travel expenses are covered?

Travel expenses are covered up to a maximum of \$1,500 per living organ donor for travel by plane, train, car, taxi, subway, or bus travel costs. In the case of car mileage for actual distance travelled, reimbursement is based on the current Department of Health and Wellness rate per kilometer up to the maximum.

What expenses are covered for accommodation?

There is a maximum of \$125 per night for dates corresponding to donation procedures. This does not include assistance with accommodation in a private residence.

Is anything else covered under the policy?

In addition to travel and accommodation expenses, meals, parking and loss of income are included. For meals, there is a maximum of \$38 per day, up to a maximum total of \$266 per living organ donor.

For income loss, is it the full loss of income that a living organ donor is reimbursed for?

The maximum reimbursement is the lesser of, \$400/week (or pro-rated daily), or 55% of net weekly earnings for up to eight weeks, to a maximum of \$3,200 per donor.

Who can I contact for more information on the policy?

For more information please call the Multi-Organ Transplant Program at 1-888-362-8555.

Living Organ Donor Expense Reimbursement Guidelines

Maximum Claim:

- A total maximum of \$5,500 CAD per Living Organ Donor for assistance with the specified eligible expenses.
- The claim for reimbursement must be approved by MOTP and contain the following:
 - donor's name and address
 - date and confirmation of organ donation, dates for travel and/or accommodation
 - address of accommodation
 - official travel receipts, boarding passes for both departures; or actual distance travelled if requesting assistance with kilometres driven by car; parking receipts
 - total amount paid, including HST/GST/PST
 - any other specified documentation

Travel:

- Maximum of \$1,500 CAD per Living Organ Donor for travel by plane, train, car, taxi, subway or bus travel costs. The most economical method of travel is recommended. HopeAir should be considered, if possible, for air travel assistance.
- Original receipts are required for reimbursement.
- Car mileage for actual distance travelled is reimbursed based on the current DHW rate/Km, up to the \$1,500 CAD maximum per Living Organ Donor.

Accommodation:

- Maximum of \$125 CAD per night for dates corresponding to donation procedures.
- Receipts and address of the accommodation are required. Assistance with accommodation in a private residence is not provided.

Parking:

- Receipts are required for reimbursement of parking costs.

Meals:

- Maximum of \$38 per day, up to a maximum total of \$266 per Living Organ Donor.
- Receipts for meal costs are not required.

Loss of Income:

- Maximum reimbursement is the lesser of, \$400/week (or pro-rated daily), or 55% of net weekly earnings for up to 8 weeks, to a maximum of \$3,200 per donor.
- All other income sources should be accessed prior to requesting assistance. Living Organ Donors who are unemployed, receiving long term disability, government assistance or a Canada Pension are not eligible for loss of income assistance.
- Documentation required to claim assistance for loss of income must include:
 - proof of income
 - physician documentation of time required away from work
 - statement that another source of income is unavailable