

Schedule of Possible Eligible Expenses under the Extraordinary Medical Assistance Fund ("EMAF")

Confirmed Canadian Thalidomide Survivors have access to the Extraordinary Medical Assistance Fund ("EMAF") which is intended to help cover the cost of extraordinary health support costs of Canadian Thalidomide Survivors who have needs such as specialized surgeries or home or vehicle adaptations.

Survivors are able to submit requests to the EMAF to help cover the cost of home or vehicle adaptations even if the province or territory in which he or she resides has a similar program to assist with these expenses. As such, if a Survivor has applied to a provincial or territorial program for help with the cost of an extraordinary home or vehicle adaptation and are waiting to learn if it will be covered, the Survivor can choose to submit his or her claim to the EMAF for consideration instead.

The list of expenses below is a general list. This list is not all inclusive. There may be expenses not contemplated that may be eligible so please submit your EMAF application anyway if unsure. Some province or territorial plans may provide coverage for the expenses listed below. If you are unsure if your province or territorial plan covers a specific type of expense, please click [here](#) to check.

Category
Ambulance services may be considered depending upon application of service
Automatic turning beds, containment beds, hospital beds and mattresses
Automobile modifications
Dental services including anesthesia depending upon the application, NOT used on an ongoing basis
Environmental Control Units may be considered depending upon application
Equipment for short term use may be considered depending upon equipment and application
Experimental or research program procedures
Gastric stapling or gastric bypass (stomach stapling) may be considered depending upon application of service
Highly specialized examinations
Home adaptations (e.g. ramps, elevators, porch lifts, chair lifts, kitchen modifications, bathroom adaptations etc.)
Otoplasty (correction of prominent ears) for those over 18 years of age;
Oxygen therapy programs
Preventive services and screening tests not supported by evidence of medical effectiveness (for example, whole body CT scans, prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests);
Private nursing/attendant care NOT used on an ongoing basis
Prosthetic devices or appliances, and artificial limbs
Services provided in private non-approved Canadian diagnostic imaging facilities (e.g. MRI, CT, X-ray, etc.)
Services such as examinations, laboratory tests, x-rays and other procedures related to uninsured services
Specialized mobility devices (e.g. all terrain wheel chairs, geriatric wheelchairs, back up wheelchairs, scooters, seats on walkers, lift chairs, environmental controls on wheelchairs or an elevated seat in a wheelchair, stand up wheelchairs, tricycles)
Ventilators

Expenses which are not eligible under the EMAF include, but are not limited to:
The cost of medically necessary insured hospital or physician services because this is prohibited under the Canada Health Act
Medications used on a recurring basis
Ongoing/regular treatments (e.g. massage or chiropractic treatments)
Ongoing/regular services (e.g. home or garden maintenance)
Ongoing/regular assistance (e.g. attendant care, cleaning services)
Routine eye exams or annual eye glass prescription renewals
Routine dental check-ups
Requests for funding for the same expense will not be permitted within 5 years of the previous request. For example, if funding is provided for fully adapting the main floor bathroom in your home, you may not request funding to make the same changes to that same bathroom within the next 5 years unless there is an urgent need.