

# BREAST PUMP DISCRETIONARY BENEFIT

## Information Sheet

### Eligibility

If you receive Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefits you may be eligible to receive funding to rent or purchase a breast pump, if needed.

A breast pump may be helpful for the following reasons:

- To provide breast milk/human milk\* for your baby if you are separated
- To keep up your breastmilk production during routine separations (shared custody, work, school)
- To help increase milk production if needed
- If your baby is not able to breastfeed well, or if your baby was born prematurely

### You Will Need To

1. First, be seen by a Health Care Professional who will:

- Assess your need for a breast pump
- Decide what kind of breast pump you need and whether you need to rent or purchase a pump

Health Care Professionals approved to assess and submit applications to OW/ODSP: Medical Doctor, Nurse, (NP, RN, RPN, PHN), International Board Certified Lactation Consultant, Midwife, Registered Social Worker

2. Your Health Care Professional will provide you with telephone contact for Health Connection should you require further breastfeeding support, 1-800-361-5653

3. If you are renting a breast pump, you will also need a breastmilk collection kit

- You can obtain a kit free of charge during a York Region Public Health breastfeeding clinic visit.
- If you are not attending the breastfeeding clinic, please ensure you include the cost of a collection kit in your quote.

4. Your Health Care Professional will fill out an Application for Breast Pump Discretionary Benefits and ask you to sign it or obtain verbal consent via telephone assessment

- This form gives your Health Care Professional permission to send your application to OW/ODSP

5. Your Health Care Professional will fax the application to your case coordinator for approval

6. **You must provide a quote to your case coordinator**

- The information required for the quote will be discussed with you by your Health Care Professional during your assessment and application process

### PUBLIC HEALTH

1-800-361-5653

TTY: 1-866-512-6228

[york.ca/breastfeeding](http://york.ca/breastfeeding)

7. Your case coordinator will review and approve your application (usually in 2 business days) and will contact you to let you know where to pick up your pump and how it will be paid for
8. If you are renting a breast pump, you will be reassessed monthly by your Health Care Professional
  - If you are no longer under the care of the person who filled out your initial application, please call Health Connection for reassessment 1-800-361-5653
  - You need to speak to a Health Care Professional each month either in person or by phone to see if you still need the pump
9. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your OW/ODSP case worker or Health Connection for assistance **1-800-361-5653**

Disclaimer\*

The terms breast milk/breastfed/breastfeeding are widely used, but human milk/chestfed/chestfeeding can be used interchangeably.

The terms mother/maternal are meant to be inclusive of all parents, caregivers and significant others.



*Scan me*

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