

**AMENDMENTS TO THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE PURCHASE OF EYEGLASSES AND LENSES FOR CHILDREN**

1. The Financial Assistance Program for the Purchase of Eyeglasses and Lenses for Children entrusted to the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec by way of Order in Council 856-2019 dated 21 August 2019 is amended, by the addition of the following paragraph at the end of paragraph 5:

“Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the preceding paragraph, the person is also eligible for the program if he or she turns 18 between March 16, 2020 and September 1, 2020 and was an insured person during this period.”

2. Section 10 of that program is amended by the addition, at the end of the first paragraph, of “or in the case of the person referred to in the second paragraph of section 5, no later than 24 January 2022”.

3. These amendments to the come into effect on 12 August 2021.

105209

Gouvernement du Québec

**O.C. 1043-2021, 7 July 2021**

Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux  
(chapter M-19.2)

**Program Respecting Certain Temporary Measures Related to Certain Medical, Optometry and Dental Services Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

CONCERNING the Program Respecting Certain Temporary Measures Related to Certain Medical, Optometry and Dental Services Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic entrusted to the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec

WHEREAS, under paragraph (h) of section 3 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (chapter M-19.2), the Minister of Health and Social Services shall promote the development and implementation of programs and services according to the needs of individuals, families and other groups;

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 2 of the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (chapter R-5), the function of the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (“the Board”) is to administer and implement the programs of the health insurance plan instituted by the Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29) and any other program entrusted to it by law or by the Government;

WHEREAS, by way of Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a health emergency and took certain measures to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS in the period of 16 March 2020 to 1 June 2020, only emergency optometry and dental services could be dispensed to the population;

WHEREAS, during this period, certain insured persons were unable to benefit from certain insured medical, optometry and dental services referred to in the Health Insurance Act whose cost is assumed by the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec due to the circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS the application of sanitary measures resulted in exceptional economic consequences and that it is necessary to mitigate those consequences brought about by the loss of insurance coverage of those services and financially compensate insured persons for this loss;

WHEREAS under the fifteenth paragraph of section 3 of the Health Insurance Act, the Board shall assume the cost of services and goods provided under the programs it administers by virtue of the first paragraph of section 2 of the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec according to the terms and conditions provided for under those programs;

WHEREAS under the first paragraph of section 2.1. of the Act respecting the Board shall recover, from the department or body concerned, the cost of services and goods it assumes under a program entrusted to it by law or by the Government, to the extent provided for under that program;

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Board be entrusted with the Program Respecting Certain Temporary Measures Related to Certain Medical, Optometry and Dental Services Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity:

THAT the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec be entrusted with the Program Respecting Certain Temporary Measures Related to Certain Medical, Optometry and Dental Services Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the text of which is attached to this Order in Council.

YVES OUELLET  
*Clerk of the Conseil exécutif*

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**PROGRAM RESPECTING CERTAIN  
TEMPORARY MEASURES RELATED TO  
CERTAIN MEDICAL, OPTOMETRY AND  
DENTAL SERVICES DUE TO  
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**DIVISION I  
INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS**

1. The Program Respecting Certain Temporary Measures Related to Certain Medical, Optometry and Dental Services Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic is intended to offset the economic consequences brought about by the loss of insurance coverage of certain medical, optometry or dental services due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. The Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec ("the Board") shall administer, apply and assume the cost of the Program Respecting Certain Temporary Measures Related to Certain Medical, Optometry and Dental Services Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic according to the according to the terms and conditions provided for under that program.

**DIVISION II  
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

3. A person who was an insured person within the meaning of subparagraph (g.1) of the Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29) between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2020 is eligible for the program if he or she meets one the following conditions, subject to the provisions of paragraphs (j) and (k) of section 22 and section 36.1 of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29, r. 5):

(1) the person reached age 18 between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2020 or the person is age 18 or over and under 65 and held for 12 consecutive months, sometime between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2020 a valid claim booklet issued pursuant to section 71 or 71.1 of the Act and received an optometry service referred to in section 34 or in section 34.1.1 of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act between 1 June 2020 and 26 October 2021;

(2) the person reached age 16 between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2020 and received an optometry service referred to in section 34.1 of the of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act between 1 June 2020 and 26 October 2021;

(3) the person is age 18 or over and under 65 and held for 12 consecutive months, sometime between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2020 a valid claim booklet issued pursuant to section 71 or 71.1 of the Act and received from a physician between 1 June 2020 and 26 October 2021 a service not related a pathology for a colour blindness or refraction problem for the purpose of obtaining or renewing a prescription for eyeglasses or contact lenses;

(4) the person reached age 10 between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2020 and received between 1 June 2020 and 26 October 2021 any of the following services:

(a) a service pertaining to the surgical extraction of a tooth or dental fragment performed by a physician in a facility maintained by an institution which operates a hospital centre;

(b) an oral surgery service referred to in section 31 of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act, rendered by a dentist;

(c) a dental service referred to in section 35 of that Regulation, rendered by a dentist.

(5) the person is age 10 or over and held for 12 consecutive months, sometime between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2020 a valid claim booklet pursuant to section 71.1 of the Act and received between 1 June 2020 and 26 October 2021, subject to the provisions of section 36 of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act, any of the following services:

(a) a service pertaining to the surgical extraction of a tooth or dental fragment performed by a physician in a facility maintained by an institution which operates a hospital centre;

(b) an oral surgery service referred to in section 31 of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act, rendered by a dentist;

(c) a dental service referred to in section 35 of that Regulation, rendered by a dentist.

(6) the person held for at least 12 consecutive months, at some time between 16 March and 1 September 2020 a valid claim booklet pursuant to in section 71.1 of the Act and received between 1 June 2020 and 26 October 2021,

subject to the provisions of section 36 of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act, any of the following services:

(a) a service pertaining to the teaching and demonstration of oral hygiene procedures or the cleaning of teeth where rendered by a dentist, if the person is age 12 or over;

(b) a scaling service rendered by a dentist, if the person is age 16 or over;

(c) a service pertaining to the topical application of fluoride rendered by a dentist, if the person is at least age 12 and under age 16;

(7) the person is age 10 or over and held for at least 24 consecutive months, at some time between 16 March and 1 September 2020 a valid claim booklet pursuant to section 71.1 of the Act and received between 1 June 2020 and 26 October 2021, subject to the provisions of section 36 of the Regulation respecting the application of the Health Insurance Act a service pertaining to the fabrication, replacement, repair or relining of an acrylic prosthesis, or the addition of a device to such a prosthesis, where inserted into the mouth.

### **DIVISION III** AMOUNT AND REIMBURSEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4. Subject to the eligibility criteria and terms and conditions provided in this division, the Board shall reimburse the cost required by a health professional for the services referred to in section 3.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the previous paragraph, the amount reimbursed by the Board will be reduced by any amount already paid by the Board for a given service.

5. Any person wishing to obtain a reimbursement for the services referred to in section 3 must apply therefor within the prescribed time limit using the form made available by the Board and provide all required information.

The application must be accompanied by a statement of fees or invoice describing the professional services rendered, their detailed cost and proof of their payment.

The Board shall assess the application in light of the information and documents that it requires, render its decision and, if applicable, determine the reimbursement amount and issue the payment.

An application for reimbursement may be submitted by a responsible person on behalf of a person eligible for such a reimbursement.

6. Where the Board so requires it, the eligible person or the person submitting the application for reimbursement, as the case may be, must provide any document or information that the Board requires for the application of this program or grant the authorizations necessary to obtain them.

In addition, the person must provide the Board with proof of any fact establishing the person's right to a reimbursement.

7. Any application for reimbursement under the provisions of this program must be sent to the Board before 24 January 2022.

The Board may agree to consider an application submitted after this deadline if the eligible person or the responsible person submitting the application on behalf of the eligible person demonstrates that he or she was, in fact, unable to submit the application sooner.

### **DIVISION IV** FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED WITHOUT ENTITLEMENT

8. The Board shall recover any amount unduly paid under this program where a person has received a greater amount than that which he or she was entitled to receive or where the person received a reimbursement without entitlement.

The recovery of amounts unduly paid is prescribed five years after the date of the reimbursement by the Board. In the case of false declarations, recovery is prescribed five years after the date on which the Board became aware of the person's ineligibility for a reimbursement, but no later than 10 years after the date of the reimbursement.

### **DIVISION V** PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

9. The Minister of Health and Social Services shall reimburse the Board, according to the terms and conditions to which they may agree upon, the amounts paid under the terms of this program as well as the actual development and administration costs of this program.

10. The Board shall provide the Minister with periodic reports on the amounts paid and costs incurred within the scope of this program, according to the terms and conditions to which they may agree upon. These reports will not contain any personal information.

## DIVISION VI FINAL PROVISIONS

11. The Board shall publish this program on its website before 27 August 2021.

12. This program comes into force on 12 August 2021 and ends on 8 February 2022.

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Gouvernement du Québec

### O.C. 1044-2021, 7 July 2021

Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec  
(chapter R-5)

#### **Temporary Program to Compensate Persons who were Unable to Benefit Free of Charge from Certain Dental Services Provided by a Denturologist Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

CONCERNING the Temporary Program to Compensate Persons who were Unable to Benefit Free of Charge from Certain Dental Services Provided by a Denturologist Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic entrusted to the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 2 of the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (chapter R-5), the function of the Board is to administer and implement the programs of the health insurance plan instituted by the Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29) and any other program entrusted to it by law or by the Government;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph 4 of the first paragraph of section 3 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale and the Commission des partenaires du marché du travail (chapter M-15.001), the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, subject to subparagraph 4 of the first paragraph of section 77.1 of the Public Administration Act (chapter A-6.01), draws up policies and measures in the areas under the Minister's authority and proposes them to the Government, primarily in order to ensure an acceptable standard of living for every person and every family;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Accord concernant l'administration, l'application et le paiement du coût du programme des prothèses dentaires acryliques fournies

par un denturologiste à un prestataire de la sécurité du revenu confiés à la Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, authorized by Décret 427-96 dated 3 April 1996 and amended by Décret 812-2006 dated 31 August 2006, the Board administers and assumes the cost of that program;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a public health emergency and took certain measures to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS, during the period between 16 March 2020 and 1 June 2020, only urgent dental services were dispensed to the population;

WHEREAS, during that period, certain persons were unable to benefit from the dental services provided for in the program respecting acrylic dental prostheses furnished by a denturologist to a recipient of income security entrusted to the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec;

WHEREAS the purpose of the Program is to compensate persons who were unable to benefit from the program due to the circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the loss of their eligibility for the claim booklet;

WHEREAS, under the fifteenth paragraph of section 3 of the Health Insurance Act, the Board also assumes the cost of services and goods provided under the programs it administers by virtue of the first paragraph of section 2 of the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec according to the terms and conditions provided for under those programs;

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Board be entrusted with the Temporary Program to Compensate Persons who were Unable to Benefit Free of Charge from Certain Dental Services Provided by a Denturologist Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity:

THAT the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec be entrusted with the Temporary Program to Compensate Persons who were Unable to Benefit Free of Charge from Certain Dental Services Provided by a Denturologist Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the text of which is attached to this Order in Council.

YVES OUELLET  
*Clerk of the Conseil exécutif*

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