

CUPE 4207

OHIP+ - Free Pharmacare for all Ontarians below 25 years of age

Starting January 1, 2018, more than 4,400 drug products will be free for anyone age 24 years or younger. You don't need to enroll – all you need is a health card number and an eligible prescription.

OHIP+ will completely cover the cost of more than 4,400 drug products that are currently available through the [Ontario Drug Benefit program](#), including: antibiotics to treat infections

- inhalers for asthma
- various insulins, oral diabetic medications and diabetes test strips
- epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EPIPENS®)
- drugs to treat arthritis, epilepsy and other chronic conditions
- medications to treat mental health conditions (e.g. antidepressants)
- attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) drugs
- drugs to treat some childhood cancers and other rare conditions

OHIP cardholders

OHIP cardholders under age 25 will have their drugs automatically covered in the same way that Ontario Seniors do. Pharmacists will ask for your OHIP card and process the claim directly through the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program.

Approximately 1/3 of drugs taken by Members and their dependents under 25 will be covered by the ODB program.

Exceptional Access Program

Some ODB Drugs are covered on an exception basis only. Green Shield will advise you if any medications taken by claimants under the age of 25 could be covered by OHIP through the Exceptional Access Program. Green Shield's coverage for any such medications will continue for 6 months while you apply to the Program, so that you have no gaps in coverage.

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International students and out of province residents

If you are an international student or if you are covered by another province's health insurance plan, Green Shield will continue to pay for your Drug claims. If Green Shield does not know if you are an international student or a resident of another province, Drug claims for you or your family members under age 25 will be declined, assuming you are covered by OHIP.

If you are not covered by OHIP, you need to ensure that Green Shield knows this prior to January 1 in order to avoid having Drug claim declined for you or your family members under age 25.

What You need to do:

- OHIP cardholders under age 25 eligible for OHIP+: Visit your doctor's office and ensure your renewal prescriptions are covered under the new pharmacare program. To find which drugs are covered visit <http://www.ontario.ca/page/check-medication-coverage/>.

- If you are an international student or out of province resident, and do not have OHIP coverage, as a Member of the CUPE Local 4207 provided by Green Shield Canada, contact Canadian Benefits at

Brockenroll@canben.com

Email proof of international or out of province health care and Canadian Benefits will update your status online to ensure that your drug claims will continue to be covered.

If your status is not changed, the system will assume that you are covered by OHIP. Drug claims for you or any dependents under age 25 will be denied for any of the drugs covered by the OHIP+ program.

Questions?

Should you have any questions or require any further information, please contact Canadian Benefits

Phone Number (Toll-free): 1-800-268-0285

E-mail: Brockenroll@canben.com