

# President's Letter

January 18, 2016



**Jonathan Greenland**  
MD, FRCPC  
President

## NLMA Launches New Parental Leave Allowance

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to officially launch the new NLMA Parental Leave Allowance. The allowance provides partial income replacement for physician parents regardless of their payment modality, who take temporary leave following the birth or adoption of their child.

The allowance is effective as of October 1, 2015 and is provided through funding from the Clinical Stabilization Fund.

Eligible fee-for-service (FFS) and alternative payment plan (APP) physician parents can apply to receive \$1,200 per week for a total of 17 consecutive weeks. FFS and APP physicians may also bill/earn up to \$1,500 per week while receiving the parental leave allowance in recognition that overhead costs for a private office may continue throughout the period of parental leave.

For salaried physician parents, the allowance provides a "top up" to Employment Insurance parental leave benefits to a combined maximum of \$1,200 per week for a total of 17 consecutive weeks.

Physician parents, regardless of payment modality, must declare any income earned from another maternity, pregnancy or parental leave program or other employment income while on leave. The NLMA Parental Leave Allowance will be reduced dollar-for-dollar for other income earned during the period in excess of allowed earnings as per above.

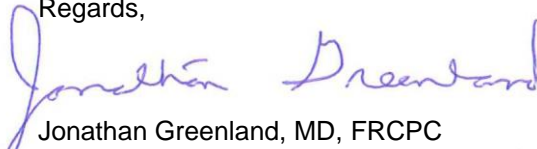
To be eligible, applicants must reside in Newfoundland and Labrador, be licensed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador and have membership with the NLMA in a practicing category for the past 12 months. Successful applicants can receive the allowance at any time during the first year following the date of birth or adoption. If both parents are physicians they may share the allowance for a total combined payment that does not exceed 17 weeks.


Physicians not returning to work in the province within 365 days of the start of their parent leave allowance will be required to repay the benefit. The allowance is not available to student and resident members.

Applications for the parental leave allowance must be received eight (8) weeks prior to the expected birth date or date of adoption.

To begin the application process, applicants should visit the Parental Leave Allowance section of the NLMA website at [www.nlma.nl.ca/nlma/parental](http://www.nlma.nl.ca/nlma/parental). I encourage all eligible physicians to apply.

Regards,

  
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President

  
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