

mcp newsletter

September 20, 2021

21-08

**TO: APPLICANTS TO THE FFS PHYSICIAN WORK DISRUPTION PROGRAM
(PWDP)**

**RE: DISTRIBUTION OF TOP-UP PAYMENTS FOR PWDP 2021 AND FINALIZING
RECOVERY OF 2020 PWDP ADVANCE PAYMENT**

The Department of Health and Community Services is processing PWDP 2021 top-ups for payment on October 7, 2021 (pay period 21-14).

MCP Newsletter 21-02 provides details of PWDP 2021:

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/files/PHYSICIAN-WORK-DISRUPTION-PROGRAM-2021.pdf>

PWDP 2021 Payments

PWDP 2021 payments cover the 45-day period from February 15, 2021 to March 31, 2021.

Compensation will be based on the individual physician's average FFS earnings, submitted to MCP, over 26 pay periods (i.e. pay periods 18-22 to 19-21) with claim submission deadlines in the 2019 calendar year (refer to MCP Newsletter 18-08). For the purpose of this program, the maximum average FFS payments for individual physicians will not exceed \$575,000 annually (\$22,115 biweekly). The individual average is used to calculate a physician's 45-day earnings threshold.

Applicants who previously applied under PWDP 2020 will have the same earnings average applied to the PWDP 2021. For clarity, the \$575,000 annual cap shall apply to all physicians for 2021, if necessary, regardless of whether they are a new or returning applicant.

Consistent with the PWDP 2020, the following have not been included in the PWDP 2021 earnings average:

- FFS payments for seeing non-MCP beneficiaries;
- Any bonuses, awards or rebates (e.g. CMPA); and,
- Any non-FFS payments (salaried or otherwise) from RHAs, Memorial University, etc.

New applicants, who did **not** participate in PWDP 2020, were provided an opportunity at the time of their application to identify concerns with their average income. Where applicable those concerns were reviewed by representatives from the Department of Health and Community Services and the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association. Valid reasons for having reviewed a physician's earnings average included: a lower than normal earnings average due to an extended illness, sabbatical, maternity/paternity leave, a State of Emergency snow- related closure; or other valid reason deemed acceptable by the Department of Health and Community Services. Applicants who previously identified concerns regarding their earnings average in PWDP 2020 continue to have those changes reflected in PWDP 2021.

Calculation of PWDP 2021 Top-Up:

- [80% earnings threshold for 45 days] – [MCP billings with service dates from February 15 to March 31, 2021] = Eligible Top-up amount.
- If a physician provided “additional services” at the Regional Health Authorities request they have qualified for consideration of a 100% top-up on the days those services were provided after MCP billings are deducted.
- If a physician who is eligible for PWDP 2021 top-up continues to have an outstanding amount from the May 20, 2020 advance payment issued under PWDP 2020 that amount will be deducted prior to the issuing of their top-up.

Finalizing Recovery of the May 20, 2020 Advance Payment from PWDP 2020

For all physicians who continue to have an outstanding balance from the May 20, 2020 advance payment issued under PWDP 2020 the Department of Health and Community Services will deduct directly from physician billing submissions in the following pay periods:

Pay Period	Payment Date
21-14	October 7, 2021
21-15	October 21, 2021
21-16	November 4, 2021
21-17	November 18, 2021

The recovery amount is limited to the maximum of 20% of pay period billing submissions for affected physicians.

Questions relating to the content of this Newsletter should be directed to Matthew Pinsent by email at matthewpinsent@gov.nl.ca.