

Client User Charges

General Principle

Part of the Per Diem Cost of care for a designated continuing care facility must be paid by a client who can afford to contribute financially.

Client User Charges

The local health authority under the policies of the provincial Ministry of Health Services calculates the daily client User Charge, annually, based upon the following individual income levels:

Table 1: Daily Client User Charges (effective January 1, 2005)

Remaining Net Income	Client User Charge
\$0.00 – \$7,000	\$28.10/day
\$7,000.01 – \$9,000	\$30.60/day
\$9,000.01 – \$11,000	\$33.90/day
\$11,000.01 – \$13,000	\$36.90/day
\$13,000.01 – \$15,000	\$40.90/day
\$15,000.01 – \$18,000	\$45.30/day
\$18,000.01 – \$21,000	\$49.50/day
\$21,000.01 – \$24,000	\$53.80/day
\$24,000.01 – \$27,000	\$58.10/day
\$27,000.01 – \$30,000	\$62.70/day
\$30,000.01 or more	\$67.50/day
Couples in receipt of GIS at the married rate & sharing a room	\$22.80/day
Persons with Disabilities Benefit	\$21.90/day

- If a client receives an income benefit (the Guaranteed Income Supplement under the *Old Age Security Act*; the Widowed Spouse's Allowance under the *Old Age Security Act*; the DIAND Income Assistance program (including the Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers category) or DIAND's Social Assistance for Persons with Disabilities program; or a war veterans allowance under the *War Veterans Allowance Act*), their remaining annual income will be assumed to be \$7,000 or less if the client is residing in a continuing care facility.
- Clients with income less than \$7,000, and who are in receipt of Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) at the married rate are eligible for a subsidized rate of \$22.80 per day. The married rate applies only to married couples sharing the same room.
- Clients who receive an income benefit through the Persons with Disabilities program are eligible for a subsidized rate of \$21.90 per day.
- Clients receiving respite care pay the lowest rate. The respite care rate applies to all beds used for respite care in residential facilities.
- If the client is married, the rate will be the lower of the two rates determined using:
 - the client's financial information alone; or
 - the client's and spouse's financial information combined.

Alternate Payers

When an alternate payer is responsible for paying the daily client User Charge, the alternate payer is charged the non-subsidized client rate (the highest rate). Alternate payers include:

- Insurance Corporation of British Columbia
- Workers Compensation Board
- Veterans Affairs Canada
- Health Canada, First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
- Public Guardian and Trustee

but does not include the provincial Ministry of Human Resources which is not responsible for clients living on-reserve.

Appeals

Appeals of the assessed daily client User Charge must be made by the individual or administering authority on behalf of the individual to the local health authority.