

Monthly Nutritional Supplement (MNS) & Short-Term Nutritional Supplement



Questions & Answers

- 1. Q. Who are medical practitioners?**

A. A medical practitioner is a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia who is entitled to practice under the *Health Professions Act*.
- 2. Q. Who are nurse practitioners?**

A. A nurse practitioner is a member of the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia who is entitled to practice under the *Health Professions Act*.
- 3. Q. My client has just moved to BC from Ontario. Can a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner from another province or territory complete my client's MNS application form?**

A. Only medical practitioners or nurse practitioners registered in British Columbia may complete your client's MNS application. The only exception is for individuals from the communities of: Taku River Tlingit; Dease River; and Daylu Dena Council who may ask a practitioner from the Yukon to complete their MNS application form. The practitioner must include their professional association's rate chart with their invoice.
- 4. Q. Is bottled water an MNS benefit?**

A. No, there are only two components to the MNS: (1) additional nutritional items (to supplement a regular diet); (2) vitamins and minerals. Individuals in receipt of disability assistance already receive \$300/month more than regular income assistance clients to purchase items to assist them with their disability, like bottled water.
- 5. Q. Are individuals with the Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers (PPMB) designation or who are receiving basic income assistance or hardship assistance eligible for the MNS?**

A. No, individuals with the PPMB designation, receiving basic income assistance or hardship assistance are not eligible for the MNS. Individuals with the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) designation are the only income assistance group eligible to apply for the MNS.
- 6. Q. My client has a PWD designation. She is not currently receiving disability benefits as she is living with her gainfully employed husband. Is she eligible for the MNS?**

A. No, the applicant for the MNS must have both (a PWD designation and be receiving disability assistance). The applicant cannot have the PWD designation only.
- 7. Q. My disability assistance client is currently receiving the diet supplement. Does this mean they are ineligible for the MNS?**

A. Applicants in receipt of a diet supplement with a total value of less-than \$205 per month have the option of applying for the MNS to replace their currently received supplement. Individuals may not access the diet supplement and the MNS at the same time.
- 8. Q. Can a short-term nutritional supplement be issued for longer than three months?**

A. No, by policy, short-term nutritional supplements can be provided to eligible recipients for a maximum of three calendar months. If after the three months has passed, the recipient has another acute need for short-term nutritional supplementation, such as they have now had surgery, a second request can be made to the Band Social Development Worker.