INTERIM FEDERAL HEALTH PROGRAM (IFHP)

Priority

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This is a HIGH priority task.

Timing

1st

This task should be completed within the first week of arrival.

Group Participation

+1

This task should be completed with at least one member of the refugee sponsoring group.

About: Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP)

The Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP) provides limited, temporary coverage of health-care benefits for specific groups of people in Canada who do not have provincial, territorial, or private health-care coverage. The IFHP does not cover services or products that a person may claim under a private insurance plan.

IFHP coverage:
- Basic coverage
- Supplemental coverage
- Prescription drug coverage
- Coverage for the Immigration Medical Exam (IME)

It is important that refugees have IFHP in addition to Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) to ensure they have maximum coverage.

Please see over for more details about coverage

How to Apply:

If the newcomer(s) are sponsored through:
JAS: IFH should be done at COSTI during their interview with a CIC official.
BVOR: IFH will be done at Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) interview.
All others: IFH can be applied online or by mail.

Forms:
Application for IFHP Coverage — IMM 5564
http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM5564E.pdf

Guide:
Application for Interim Federal Health Program Coverage (IFHP)
http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/guides/5568ETOC.asp

Types of IFHP Coverage for Privately Sponsored Refugees:

Descriptions of IFHP coverage:

Basic coverage (similar to health-care coverage provided by provincial/territorial health insurance plans)
- In-patient and out-patient hospital services.
- Services provided by medical doctors, registered nurses, and other health-care professionals licensed in Canada, including pre- and post-natal care.
- Laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services.

Supplemental coverage (similar to the coverage provided to social assistance recipients by provincial and territorial governments)
- Limited dental and vision care
- Home care and long-term care
- Services provided by allied health-care practitioners including clinical psychologists, occupational therapists, speech language therapists, physiotherapists
- Assistive devices, medical supplies and equipment, including:
    - Orthopedic and prosthetic equipment
    - Mobility aids
    - Hearing aids
    - Diabetic supplies
    - Incontinence supplies
    - Oxygen equipment

Prescription drug coverage
- Most GENERIC prescription medications and other products listed on provincial/territorial public drug plan formularies.

Coverage for the Immigration Medical Exam (IME)
- For most categories of beneficiaries, the IFHP also covers the cost of one IME and IME-related diagnostic tests required under the Immigration Refugee Protection Act.

The benefits covered by the IFHP have certain limits including maximum dollar amounts. For more details, please consult the IFHP benefit grids:
- https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca/