Legal Aid Services Act 2020 Policies Medical expense reduction to income



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LAO allows a reduction to the income of the individual's family unit assessed for eligibility for medical expenses not covered by insurance or OHIP, where verification of monthly payments is provided (verification may include bank statements, receipts, provider statement), and where such expenses are prescribed by a regulated health professional listed in Schedule 1 of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*.

A maximum annual reduction to income for medical expenses will be allowed based on family size as follows:

F1 = \$1,000 F2 = \$1,600 F3 = \$2,000 F4 = \$2,200 F5+ = \$2,600

Allowable medical expenses include:

- out-of-pocket prescription drugs or ongoing medical supplies required by the individual or their spouse or their dependent child
- expenses associated with a service animal for the individual or their spouse or their dependent child who is:
 - a. blind
 - b. profoundly deaf
 - c. severely affected by a prolonged impairment that impacts use of arms or legs
 - d. severely affected by epilepsy, autism, diabetes or mental impairment.

The animal must be trained to perform specific tasks that assist the individual with coping with the impairment.

· expenses for a special diet prescribed for the individual, their spouse, or dependent child

• caregiving expenses incurred for a severely disabled dependent child (e.g. respite care, transportation costs)