

Home Oxygen Services

The Home Oxygen Services Program is available to eligible Nova Scotians through the Department of Health and Wellness. This program funds oxygen equipment such as oxygen concentrators, portable oxygen tanks and other related supplies.

Am I eligible for Home Oxygen Services?

If you need oxygen services for medical reasons and have been referred to the program by a designated physician throughout the province, you can receive Home Oxygen Services. After your initial referral, your eligibility for Home Oxygen Services will be assessed every year by a designated physician.

How do I find a designated physician?

A list of designated physicians can be found at novascotia.ca/dhw/ccs/Factsheets/Home_Oxygen_Service_Designated_Physician_List.pdf. You can also call Continuing Care at **1-800-225-7225** to find someone in your area.

How can I access this program?

Home Oxygen Services are available through your Nova Scotia Health Authority's Continuing Care division. Once you've been referred to the program by a designated physician, you'll be assessed by a Care Coordinator who will help determine your specific oxygen therapy needs. To contact Continuing Care, call toll free, **1-800-225-7225**.

What equipment will I receive?

The Home Oxygen Services program gives you equipment to maintain your oxygen treatments at home. You'll be given an oxygen concentrator, regulator, nasal cannula, oxygen tubing and a backup cylinder. If you are eligible, you'll also receive a monthly portable oxygen delivery system that will allow you to continue your therapy when you're not at home. The portable system includes a standard regulator, a cylinder cart, and up to 10 oxygen tanks.

How much does Home Oxygen Service cost?

The cost of Home Oxygen Services depends on your medical needs, income and family size. A Care Coordinator will meet with you to discuss your options and determine your Home Oxygen Service fees.

The Home Care fee structure can be viewed at novascotia.ca/dhw/ccs/FactSheets/Home-Care-Fee-Structure.pdf.

What is my responsibility?

Oxygen therapy is only effective if taken as directed, which means you must be smoke-free when receiving Home Oxygen Services. You must sign a non-smoking agreement when funded for this service by the Department of Health and Wellness. You must also maintain regular appointments with a designated physician who will monitor your therapy progress and make



adjustments if necessary, and you must continue your therapy as directed and renew your oxygen prescription every year.

You will be required to sign a non-smoking agreement. It's up to you to notify your Care Coordinator and oxygen provider when your personal information changes such as a change in address, an anticipated change in service delivery (vacations, hospital stays, etc.) and/or a change to your emergency contact.

How do I get my oxygen?

A Care Coordinator will provide you with a list of approved oxygen providers. You can choose any provider from the approved list found at, novascotia.ca/dhw/ccs/Factsheets/Home_Oxygen_Service_Designated_Physician_List.pdf. Once you choose a provider, you must continue to receive your oxygen from them for at least one year. Whichever provider you choose will deliver, set up and maintain your equipment as part of the service they provide.

Can I receive Home Oxygen Services when I travel?

Your Home Oxygen Services funding is covered for use within Nova Scotia only. The program does not cover any costs for oxygen received while traveling outside the province. Please note that if you are away from the province for more than 90 days, you'll be discharged from the Home Oxygen Services Program.

Will I continue to receive Home Oxygen Services if I go into the hospital?

Yes, your home oxygen funding will continue for up to 30 days after you enter the hospital. Your funding will be placed on hold if you are hospitalized for more than 30 days. However, if your hospital stay lasts for more than 90 days, you will be discharged/released from the Home Oxygen Services Program.

To learn more about Home Oxygen Services, please call Continuing Care toll-free line at **1-800-225-7225**, or visit the Department of Health and Wellness website at novascotia.ca/dhw/ccs.