

Continuing Care

Living well in a place you call home.

Personal Alert Assistance Program

The Personal Alert Assistance Program provides financial assistance to eligible, low-income seniors over the age of 65, and to Nova Scotians age 19 years or older living with an acquired brain injury. The program provides up to \$480/year to reimburse for the purchase of a personal alert assistance service.

To receive funding for personal alert services, you must:

- ▶ Be 65 years of age or older (or be diagnosed with dementia or an acquired brain injury if under 65)
- ▶ Be a Nova Scotia resident with a valid Health Card.
- ▶ Live alone and have a net annual household income within category A of the home care income table.
- ▶ Have a history of recent falls.
- ▶ Use a cane, wheelchair or walker.
- ▶ Have a requirement for Home Care Service that will extend beyond 90 days.
- ▶ Sign an agreement with the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care and Nova Scotia Health.

How do I know what my net income is?

Your net income is the income identified on line 236 of the Federal Income Tax Return or in the Notice of Assessment provided by Canada Revenue Agency. Continuing Care staff will work with you determine your net income.

How do I choose a personal alert provider?

There are many companies that provide a personal alert service, including those listed in the Department of Seniors' Programs for Positive Aging, which can be found at gov.ns.ca/seniors/positive_aging_directory.asp

How do I get reimbursed for the expenses?

You can submit your receipts for reimbursement monthly, quarterly or annually to Nova Scotia Health.

How do I apply for the program?

Apply by calling Nova Scotia Health Continuing Care, toll-free, at **1-800-225-7225**.

Will I have to report this funding as income on my income tax return?

You should not have to report this funding as income on your income tax return because it is less than \$500/year. Since everyone's situation is different, please contact Canada Revenue Agency by calling **1-800-959-8281** to confirm.

To learn more about the Personal Alert Assistance Program, please call Nova Scotia Health Continuing Care toll-free line at **1-800-225-7225**, or visit the Department of Health and Wellness website at novascotia.ca/dhw/ccs.

