

MSP Eligibility Coverage Handout for Sexual Health Services

Vancouver Coastal Health provides confidential sexual health services to people of all ages. Our services include testing, treatment, immunization, and counselling.

We provide the following sexual health services free of charge for everyone and **DO NOT** require MSP coverage:

Sexual health services that are **FREE** for all people



- Testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV
- STI self-testing
- HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (lab fees may apply)
- Immunizations (publicly funded vaccines)
- Sexual assault services
- Mental health referrals
- Harm reduction supplies

Sexual health services that require MSP coverage

✓ Services offered for FREE WITH MSP COVERAGE	\$ Cost of these services WITHOUT MSP COVERAGE
✓ Contraception/birth control (pills, patch, intrauterine device-IUD, emergency contraception)	\$ Contraception = pills \$15, patch \$20, IUD ~ \$100-400
✓ HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)	\$ HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) = \$800+
✓ Medical abortion	\$ Medical Abortion = \$800+
✓ Cervical cancer screening	\$ Cervical Cancer Screening = \$200+

The above amounts show the cost of these products without MSP. There are also associated costs for physician fees, X-rays, and lab tests.

This information is designed to help you navigate health care coverage in British Columbia. Always consult with health care providers for specific details.

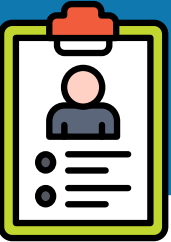


Public Health Care

In Canada, health care services are paid for through provincial health insurance plans. In British Columbia (BC), that plan is known as the Medical Services Plan (MSP).

Medical Services Plan (MSP) - Your Health Coverage in BC

BC's Medical Services Plan covers medically required services like doctor/nurse practitioner appointments, tests, emergency department visits, and hospital stays. You must live in BC to apply for MSP.



Who is eligible for MSP coverage and encouraged to enroll?

1. Residents of British Columbia

Individuals who live in BC and are either a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident.

2. Dependents of BC residents

Individuals who are the spouse or child of a resident of BC, or a full-time post-secondary student (at qualified institutions) supported by a parent or guardian.

3. First Nations' residents

The First Nations Health Authority provides MSP coverage to Status holders who are residents of BC.



How to Apply for MSP

Follow these two steps:

1. Check enrollment

Confirm whether your employer, union, or pension plan has enrolled you in MSP. If not, visit the application site or call:

- Lower Mainland: 604-683-7151
- Rest of BC: 1-800-663-7100

2. Obtain BC Services Card

Visit an Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC) driver licensing office to get your BC Services Card.



For any questions or assistance,
feel free to reach out to the Medical
Services Plan of BC:
gov.bc.ca/contactmsp

4. Study and work permit holders

Some individuals with Study and/or Work Permits may be deemed residents and qualify for free MSP coverage.**

5. International students

Students with a valid Study Permit for at least 6 months can apply for MSP after living in BC for 3 months; there is an associated cost to obtain MSP.

**Note: Effective May 1, 2022, certain temporary coverage is available for eligible individuals awaiting a Work or Study Permit.*

***Before applying for MSP coverage under a Work Permit, make sure you talk to your employer. They may need to provide a letter of employment or employer reference for you to submit with your application.*