

Funding Options for Special Diets and Nutrition Products

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Applicable to: Health Professionals and Other Care Providers

This resource provides health professionals and care providers with a summary of funding options that are available in Alberta for special diets and nutrition products and the required steps for funding requests.

Definitions

- **Special diets:** a diet in which food types and quantities are modified for certain medical conditions or life stages.
- **Nutrition products:** may include nutrition supplements (drinks, puddings, bars), protein powders, enteral formulas, infant formulas, vitamin and mineral supplements, and thickening agents.

Considerations

Scope of Practice and Workflow

- Consider the professional scope of practice as well as program-specific resources and decisions to determine who is best suited to complete the required steps for funding requests.
- Some benefit programs will accept a recommendation for a nutrition product or special diet from a regulated provider (e.g., registered dietitian [RD], social worker, etc.); however, some will specify that a prescription is required from a registered prescriber (e.g., physician, nurse practitioner, etc.).
- If the funding application requires the disclosure of health information to an organization outside of Alberta Health Services, complete Consent to Disclose Health Information form first (available on Insite and Connect Care for AHS staff).
- When searching the Alberta Blue Cross Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL), health professionals may need to try different search terms for accurate search results (e.g., use “vitamin” to search for prenatal vitamins).



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Additional Resources to Support Clients

- When individuals experience financial constraints, food is often the first essential expense that becomes less affordable. For additional information on how to support clients' access to all available income supports, see [Nutrition Guideline: Household Food Insecurity](#) and Exploring Income Replacement & Benefit Programs financial strain module (available on MyLearning Link for AHS staff and on CLIC for Covenant Health staff).
- Refer to [Formula Coverage](#) on Pediatric Eating and Swallowing (PEAS) page for additional information.
- Support may be available through the Community Action Programs for Children (CAPC) and Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP) projects found in several Albertan communities. These projects aim to improve the health and well-being of people who are pregnant, new parents, and babies facing challenging life circumstances. See [Alberta CAPC/CPNP Coalition](#) for more information including location, eligibility and services offered.
- Letter templates are available to support funding requests to certain benefit programs. Refer to ahs.ca/FoodInsecurity for more information (under "Practice Support Resources").

Summary of Funding Options

Funding options are summarized below based on age and are hyperlinked to support with navigation to the applicable practice population.

Pediatric (Under 18 Years)	Adults (18–65 Years)	Older Adults (Over 65 Years)	All Ages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta Blue Cross: Non-Group Coverage • Alberta Child Health Benefit • Child and Youth Support Program • Family Support for Children with Disabilities • Jordan's Principle • Pediatric Home Nutrition Support Program <p>Additional benefit programs that can be applied to dependents/families include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped • Income Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta Adult Health Benefit • Alberta Cancer Foundation Patient Financial Assistance Program • Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped • Home Nutrition Support Program • Income Support • Persons with Developmental Disabilities • Veterans Affairs Canada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta Cancer Foundation Patient Financial Assistance Program • Home Nutrition Support Program • Special Needs Assistance for Seniors • Veterans Affairs Canada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Federal Health Program • Non-Insured Health Benefits for First Nations and Inuit

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Pediatric (Under 18 Years)

A description of funding options available for pediatric clients (under 18 years) and the required steps for funding requests are provided below.

Note: additional benefit programs that can be applied to dependents/families include:

- [Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped](#) (health benefits and special diets)
- [Income Support](#) (health benefits and special diets)

Funding Options (Pediatric)	Description	Required Steps
Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensures access to economical supplemental health benefits• Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria• Clients may receive partial coverage for amino acid-based infant formula (Neocate® with DHA and ARA, or Puramino A+®)• Information on nutrition product coverage (and coverage criteria) will be listed on the Alberta Blue Cross Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL)• These products require special authorization; the link to the form is provided on the iDBL• A monthly premium is charged once coverage is active	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior to active coverage:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Consult social worker○ Client applies for Non-Group Coverage (even if already has Alberta Blue Cross Group Insurance)○ Can access Nutricia bridging program (for Neocate®) or coupons from Mead Johnson (for Puramino A+®) for a waiting period (usually three months)• After coverage is active:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider)○ The Drug Special Authorization Request form is completed by the prescriber<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ensure the full name of the formula is detailed: “Neocate® infant formula with DHA and ARA” or “Puramino A+®”

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Funding Options (Pediatric)	Description	Required Steps
Alberta Child Health Benefit (ACHB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covers health benefits for children in low-income households Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria Benefits include coverage for prescription drugs and some over-the-counter products (including children's vitamins/minerals, prenatal multivitamin/mineral supplements) Information on nutrition product coverage will be listed on the Alberta Blue Cross Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL) If the product requires special authorization this will be indicated on the iDBL and a link to the special authorization form will be provided If special authorization is not available, or if special authorization is denied, consider a request for an exception 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) If special authorization is required, the Drug Special Authorization Request form is completed by the prescriber If a request for an exception is required, the Request for Health Benefit Exception form is completed by the client and the Request for Prescription Drugs and Nutritional Products form is completed by the physician/medical practitioner
Child and Youth Support Program (CYS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial and medical benefits for a child if the child's parents or guardians cannot care for the child Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria Extended medical coverage is under the Alberta Child Health Benefit Program Information on nutrition product coverage will be listed on the Alberta Blue Cross Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL) If the product requires special authorization this will be indicated on the iDBL and a link to the special authorization form will be provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) If special authorization is required, the Drug Special Authorization Request form is completed by the prescriber.
Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps families access supports and services for a child with disabilities Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria Helps with some costs for special diets, nutrition supplements, and enteral formulas RDs can use the FSCD Diet Costing Toolkit and Process for Completing AHS NS FSCD Letter (available on Insite for AHS staff) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RD completes the AHS Nutrition Services Request for Nutrition Funding Family Support for Children with Disabilities form (available on Insite for AHS staff) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires annual renewal

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Funding Options (Pediatric)	Description	Required Steps
Jordan's Principle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improves access to health, social, and education services and supports for First Nations and Inuit children, living both on and off reserve • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria • Program helps families navigate provincial and federal service systems, and responds to gaps in publicly funded healthcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clients can access support for funding requests through Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) or First Nations Health Consortium (FNHC) • May cover unmet needs for nutrition products, special diets, and services to improve the nutrition status of a child • Signed documentation from a health professional or other care provider is required to support requests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the ISC regional focal point or the FNHC to discuss a potential application, and initiate the intake process (family member/health professional/care provider) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the regional focal point can't be reached, contact the Jordan's Principle Call Centre (open 24 hours) • Provide supporting documentation as per area of expertise/professional scope of practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Request a Support Letter Guide from the Regional Service Coordinator assigned to the case
Pediatric Home Nutrition Support Program (PHNSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports clients and their families to manage tube feeding at home • Refer to program webpages for program details and eligibility criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Northern Alberta: Home Nutrition Support Program - Pediatric ○ Southern Alberta: Home Nutrition Support Program - Pediatric ○ Note: clients residing in Red Deer can choose which program they would like to be referred to; however, it is recommended that they be referred to the region where they receive most of their health services • Program coordinates access to formula, equipment, and supplies • Program helps clients navigate funding options • Co-payments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Northern Alberta: co-payment of fees for formula purchased through the program ○ Southern Alberta: there is no co-payment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A referral to the program is required to access products and services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Northern Alberta: Home Nutrition Support Program - Pediatric ○ Southern Alberta: Home Nutrition Support Program - Pediatric

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Adults (18–65 Years)

A description of funding options available for adult clients (18–65 years old) and the required steps for funding requests is provided below.

Funding Options (Adult)	Description	Required Steps
Alberta Adult Health Benefit (AAHB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides health benefits to Albertans in low-income households who are pregnant or have high ongoing prescription drug needs. Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria Benefits include coverage for prescription drugs and some over-the-counter products (including prenatal multivitamin/mineral supplements) Information on nutrition product coverage will be listed on the Alberta Blue Cross Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL) If the product requires special authorization this will be indicated on the iDBL and a link to the special authorization form will be provided If special authorization is not available, or if special authorization is denied, consider a request for an exception 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) If special authorization is required, the Drug Special Authorization Request form is completed by the prescriber If a request for an exception is required, the Request for Health Benefit Exception form is completed by the client and the Request for Prescription Drugs and Nutritional Products form is completed by the physician/medical practitioner
Alberta Cancer Foundation Patient Financial Assistance Program (PFAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides temporary financial assistance to help pay for expenses related to cancer diagnosis and treatment Refer to program webpage for program details Eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clients require an Alberta Cancer Board Number Eligibility is reviewed by the cancer centre social worker Nutrition supplements, groceries, and meal costs may be covered as part of the financial need The social worker also supports access to provincial, federal, and private insurance program resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health professionals working in cancer care can refer to the Social Worker directly Clients can also connect with a program social worker by calling the Alberta Cancer Foundation: General Contact

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Funding Options (Adult)	Description	Required Steps
Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides financial assistance and health benefits for individuals who have a medical condition that substantially limits their ability to earn a living • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria • Those eligible for an AISH Health Benefits Card will receive coverage for prescription drugs and some over-the-counter and nutrition products (including prenatal multivitamin/mineral supplements) • Information on nutrition product coverage will be listed on the Alberta Blue Cross Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL) • If the product requires special authorization this will be indicated on the iDBL and a link to the special authorization form will be provided • The Health Benefits Exception Committee (HBEC) makes decisions about requests for additional health benefits (see AISH Policy Manual) • Assists clients or their dependent children with the cost of a special diet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The benefit details and requirements for letter of support are outlined in the Special Diets section of the AISH Policy Manual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Note: some special diet types require additional documentation, such as test results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) • If special authorization is required, the Drug Special Authorization Request form is completed by the prescriber • If a request for additional benefits is required, the Request for Health Benefit Exception form is completed by the client and the HBEC Drug Request form is completed by the physician/medical practitioner • For special diets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A letter is written by a dietitian, nurse, or physician (see Letter Template: Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped under “Practice Support Resources”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Send additional documentation, if required ○ The letter is given to the client or it can be sent directly to the AISH worker/AISH office client is assigned to (see Contact AISH)

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Funding Options (Adult)	Description	Required Steps
Home Nutrition Support Program (HNSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports clients to manage tube feeding at home • Refer to program webpages for program details and eligibility criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Northern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults ◦ Southern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults ◦ Note: clients residing in Red Deer can choose which program they would like to be referred to; however, it is recommended that they be referred to the region where they receive most of their health services • Program coordinates access to formula, equipment, and supplies • Program helps clients navigate funding options • Co-payments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Northern Alberta: charges a monthly co-payment ◦ Southern Alberta: no co-payment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A referral to the program is required to access products and services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Northern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults ◦ Southern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults
Income Support (Alberta Works)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports for individuals and families to pay for basic expenses like food, clothing, and shelter • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria • Those eligible for health benefits receive coverage for prescription and non-prescription drugs and nutrition products • Individuals that are pregnant or breastfeeding are eligible for prenatal multivitamin/mineral supplement coverage • Infant formula can be issued as a health benefit (recommended) or a special diet • Information on nutrition product coverage will be listed on the Alberta Blue Cross Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL) • If the product requires special authorization this will be indicated on the iDBL and a link to the special authorization form will be provided • If special authorization is not available, or if special authorization is denied, consider a request for an exception 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) • If special authorization is required, the Drug Special Authorization Request form is completed by the prescriber • If a request for exception is required, the Request for Health Benefit Exception form is completed by the client and the HBEC Drug Request form is completed by the physician/medical practitioner • For special diets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ A letter is written by a dietitian, nurse, or physician (see Letter Template: Income Support under “Practice Support Resources”) ▪ Send additional documentation, if required • The letter is given to the client or it can be sent directly to the Income Support worker/district office the client is assigned to (see Alberta Supports page for locations)

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Funding Options (Adult)	Description	Required Steps
Income Support (Alberta Works) (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: if clients are concurrently on NIHB and Income Support programs, and nutrition supplement coverage is declined through NIHB, consider accessing products via this process (see "First Nations Clients Accessing Nutritional Supplements" section of Alberta Works Policy Manual) • Benefits are provided to eligible household units to assist with the cost of special diets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The benefit details and requirements for letter of support are outlined in the Special Diets section of the Alberta Works Policy Manual) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Note: some special diet types require additional documentation, such as test results 	
Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps adults with developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible in their community • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria • Provides home living supports, which can include meal preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients will get help from their PDD worker for support with planning and accessing services

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Funding Options (Adult)	Description	Required Steps
Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the well-being of Veterans and their families • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Treatment Benefits ○ Veteran's Independence Program • Treatment Benefits (VAC healthcare card) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides coverage for prescription drugs and some nutrition products ○ A VAC healthcare card will be sent directly to clients who qualify ○ Information on nutrition product coverage will be listed on the Drug Formulary Search Form ○ See Prescription Drug Program page for benefit categories • Veteran's Independence Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides funding for home care services ○ Includes access to nutrition service (e.g., meal delivery programs) and routine housekeeping services (can include meal preparation) ○ Rates are defined by the program ○ Following the initial application (or when service needs change), an assessment is completed, and a Benefit Agreement is established to provide funds for services ○ A third-party contractor will process claims and provide payments (reimbursements, advance payments, or grants) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) ○ If Special Authorization is required, a physician or pharmacist needs to call the phone number provided on the Drug Formulary Search Form • Veteran's Independence Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clients apply for the program to access services ○ Clients can contact VAC and speak with a Veterans Service Agent to arrange direct billing for meal delivery services (e.g., Meals on Wheels™)

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Older Adults (Over 65 Years)

A description of funding options available for older adult clients (over 65 years) and the required steps for funding requests are provided below.

Funding Options (Older Adults)	Description	Required Steps
Alberta Cancer Foundation Patient Financial Assistance Program (PFAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides temporary financial assistance to help pay for expenses related to cancer diagnosis and treatment • Refer to program webpage for program details • Eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clients require an Alberta Cancer Board Number ○ Eligibility is reviewed by the cancer centre social worker • Nutrition supplements, groceries, and meal costs may be covered as part of the financial need • The social worker also supports access to provincial, federal, and private insurance program resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health professionals working in cancer care can refer to the social worker directly • Clients can also connect with a program social worker by calling the Alberta Cancer Foundation: General Contact
Home Nutrition Support Program (HNSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports clients to manage tube feeding at home • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Northern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults ○ Southern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults ○ Note: clients residing in Red Deer can choose which program they would like to be referred to; however, it is recommended that they be referred to the region where they receive the majority of their health services • Program coordinates access to formula, equipment, and supplies • Program helps clients navigate funding options • Co-payments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Northern Alberta: charges a monthly co-payment ○ Southern Alberta: no co-payment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A referral to the program is required to access products and services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Northern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults ○ Southern Alberta Home Nutrition Support Program - Adults

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Funding Options (Older Adults)	Description	Required Steps
Special Needs Assistance for Seniors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides financial assistance for low-income seniors • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria • See the “Nutritional Beverages” section under Eligible Items (Health Supports) for details on eligible products, funding maximums, and required documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See “How to make a claim” for information on process • For special diets, see “Celiac Groceries” under Eligible Items (Personal Supports) for details on eligibility, funding maximums, and required documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See “How to make a claim” for information on process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once a year, clients must provide a letter of support from a dietitian, nurse practitioner, or physician (See Letter Template: Special Needs Assistance for Seniors under “Practice Support Resources”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suggest example for letter: “I have recommended that you supplement your diet with the following: 1-2 bottles Ensure nutritional beverage daily by mouth x 12 months” • Clients are required to submit receipts for nutrition products purchased (starting three months after their initial application) • For special diets, a note provided by a physician or nurse practitioner, confirming the diagnosis of celiac disease, is required with the initial request for funding
Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the well-being of Veterans and their families • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Treatment benefits ○ Veteran’s Independence Program • Treatment benefits (VAC healthcare card) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides coverage for prescription drugs and some nutrition products ○ A VAC healthcare card will be sent directly to clients who qualify ○ Information on nutrition product coverage will be listed on the Drug Formulary Search Form ○ See Prescription Drug Program page for benefit categories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) ○ If Special Authorization is required, a physician or pharmacist needs to call the number provided on the Drug Formulary Search Form • Veteran’s Independence Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clients apply for the program to access services ○ Clients can contact VAC and speak with a Veterans Service Agent to arrange direct billing for meal delivery services (e.g., Meals on Wheels™)

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Funding Options (Older Adults)	Description	Required Steps
Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran’s Independence Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides funding for home care services ○ Includes access to nutrition service (e.g., meal delivery programs) and routine housekeeping services (can include meal preparation) ○ Rates are defined by the program ○ Following the initial application (or when service needs change), an assessment is completed and a Benefit Agreement is established to provide funds for services <p>A third-party contractor will process claims and provide payments (reimbursements, advance payments, or grants)</p>	

All Ages

A description of funding options available for clients of any age (that meet the program eligibility criteria) and the required steps for funding requests are provided below.

Funding Options (All ages)	Description	Required Steps
Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides limited, temporary coverage of healthcare benefits for specific groups of people who do not have provincial or private healthcare coverage • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria • Benefits include nutrition products listed on provincial public drug plan formularies, as well as additional vitamins/minerals/antianemia drugs (including prenatal multivitamin/mineral supplements). See “Prescription Drug Coverage” IFHP benefit grid for details • Supplemental coverage includes “Assistive Devices for Eating and Drinking” (e.g., enteral nutrition pumps and related supplies, enteral formula/nutrition supplements). See “Supplemental Coverage” IFHP benefit grid for details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain a prescription for the product (client/health professional/care provider) • Clients must go to a healthcare professional/pharmacy registered with Medavie Blue Cross to claim IFHP benefits (see IFHP Provider Search) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Note: healthcare professionals can register to be an approved provider with Medavie Blue Cross

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Funding Options (All ages)	Description	Required Steps
Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) for First Nations and Inuit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides eligible First Nations and Inuit clients with coverage for a range of health benefits that are not covered through other programs or plans • Refer to program webpage for program details and eligibility criteria • Benefits include prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some vitamins/minerals (including prenatal multivitamin/mineral supplements) ○ Some infant formula, nutrition supplements, enteral formulas, and thickening agents ○ Some additional nutrition products for clients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with chronic renal failure • undergoing active cancer treatment • with a terminal illness and are near the end of life • Information on nutrition product coverage can be found on the NIHB Drug benefit list • Products will be listed on the drug benefit list as an Open Benefit (no established criteria or prior approval requirements) or as a Limited Use Benefit (has established coverage criteria or requires prior approval) • If a product is not listed on the drug benefit list, it may still be considered for coverage (Exception) with prior approval • Products listed on the Exclusion list (e.g., megavitamins) will not be covered • The prior approval process involves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a registered prescriber (e.g., physician, nurse practitioner): a prescription is sent to the pharmacy, the pharmacy will contact the Drug Exception Centre (DEC), the DEC will send an Exception or Limited Use Drugs Request form to the prescriber to complete or ○ a regulated provider (e.g., registered dietitian, social worker): a recommendation letter is sent to the pharmacy, the pharmacy will contact the Drug Exception Centre (DEC), the DEC will send an Exception or Limited Use Drugs/Nutrition Products Request form to the provider to complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain a prescription (from a registered prescriber), or a recommendation letter (from a regulated provider) for the product (client/health professional/care provider) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See Letter Template: Non-Insured Health Benefits under “Practice Support Resources” ○ Suggestion for letter: “Based on my nutrition assessment, I am recommending the following nutrition supplement: Ensure Plus 237 mL, 1-2 bottles daily by mouth x 6 months” • Clients must bring the prescription or recommendation letter to a pharmacy • A Limited Use Nutrition Product Request form or an Exception form is completed by the prescriber or provider (if indicated) for initial and any follow-up assessments

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Funding Options (All ages)	Description	Required Steps
Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) for First Nations and Inuit (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benefits are based on medical necessity<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Note: this is documented when the health professional completes the Exception or Limited Use Drugs Request form• Most approvals are valid for 6 or 12 months and then require review/renewal	