



## CNPS Supplementary Protection

As a CNPS beneficiary who is currently eligible for core services, which include professional liability protection, you have the option to apply for Supplementary Protection, which expands the circumstances in which you can seek assistance from the CNPS. With CNPS Supplementary Protection, you will be eligible for the following:

- **Legal assistance with complaints to your nursing regulator:**  
As a registrant of the Supplementary Protection program, you will be eligible for legal assistance if you are the subject of an investigation as a result of a complaint filed against you with the College (or the provincial or territorial association that regulates nursing practice). A complaint is considered to be under investigation until it is dismissed, resolved on consent, resolved by way of a decision by a complaints committee or formally referred for a hearing before the Discipline Committee or a Fitness-to-Practice Committee. This legal assistance is discretionary and will be granted on a case-by-case basis.
- **Legal assistance with disciplinary hearings:**  
This assistance extends to complaints for which you have received assistance during the investigation stage from the CNPS and that have been formally referred to a Disciplinary Committee, Board of Inquiry, Fitness-to-Practice Committee or other equivalent tribunal for determination. It is made available through a partnership with an insurer. *There is a limit of \$50,000 for this assistance.*

### More details:

#### What is generally included:

- Legal advice and legal representation
- The cost of expert evidence, if expert evidence is necessary
- The expenses that you have to reimburse to the nursing regulator, if this is ordered after a disciplinary hearing and included in the insurance policy.

#### What is generally excluded:

- Assistance with quality assurance proceedings
- Assistance with appeals or applications for judicial review
- Fines that may be imposed as a result of the process
- Other expenses, such as medical or any other professional assessments; remedies imposed on or agreed to by the nurse; courses or training; personal expenses to meet with your legal counsel, attend a meeting with the nursing regulator or a hearing
- CNPS Supplementary Protection does not act as a source of funding in excess to another provider of assistance with complaints to a nursing regulator, or an appeal or judicial review of a regulatory matter

### Conditions of eligibility:

There are prerequisites to your eligibility for assistance under the Supplementary Protection program:

- You must be a CNPS beneficiary
- You must have a valid nursing licence in the jurisdiction where the complaint was filed at the time of the events giving rise to the complaint
- Your application for CNPS Supplementary Protection must have been accepted
- You must be or have been a registrant of the Supplementary Protection program at the time of the incident giving rise to the complaint or investigation; if the complaint or investigation pertains to more than one incident or to a continuous or repetitive course of conduct, you must be a registrant of the program when every incident took place or for the entire duration of the conduct giving rise to the complaint and/or investigation; and
- You must have maintained your registration with the Supplementary Protection program at the time when the complaint was filed by the complainant to the nursing regulator

### Fees for CNPS Supplementary Protection

The 2020 annual fee for CNPS Supplementary Protection is \$105 plus applicable taxes (GST/HST).

### Why did CNPS create the Supplementary Protection program?

- To make legal assistance with regulatory investigations more accessible to the nursing profession.
- Legal services purchased on your own once you are notified of a complaint would generally range between \$200 and \$650 *per hour* and legal representation in a regulatory matter could cost tens of thousands of dollars.
- Not sure if some assistance is already available to you? Contact your nursing union.