



Counselling Funding

CATEGORY

Professional Conduct

Policy

OVERVIEW

We recognize that participating in a sexual misconduct investigation may be difficult for those involved. NSNMR offers funding for counselling to address any re-traumatization that may occur as a result of participation in the Regulator's process. The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear and consistent approach to approval of funding for counselling services.

POLICY STATEMENT

- At the discretion of the Director of Professional Conduct Services, NSNMR (the Regulator) will provide funding for counselling for persons alleged to have experienced sexual misconduct by nurses or midwives in Nova Scotia, who are participating in a sexual misconduct regulatory process.
- The Director of Professional Conduct Services may approve up to a maximum of \$1500 in counselling services per individual.
- At the discretion of the Director of Professional Conduct Services, additional funding may be approved by the CEO & Registrar throughout the investigation and hearing process in consideration of the following (not an exhaustive list)
 - length of process
 - severity of misconduct
 - vulnerability of counselling recipient
 - other sources of funding accessible.



- The individual may choose any therapist or counsellor to provide professional support under the following conditions:
 - The therapist or counsellor is not a member of the counselling recipient's' immediate family or related to them by marriage; and
 - The therapist or counsellor must not have been found guilty of professional misconduct of a sexual nature or been found civilly or criminally liable for a similar act in Nova Scotia or anywhere else.
- The Regulator is not entitled to any clinical information from the appointments.
- The Regulator does not pay fees for missed or late appointments.
- The funding ends 30 days after the regulatory process is complete and a written decision is rendered.

Standard Operating Procedure

- The Director of Professional Conduct will offer funding for counselling to persons alleged to have experienced sexual misconduct by nurses and midwives in Nova Scotia and where the regulatory process requires their participation for allegations of sexual misconduct.
- The Director of Professional Conduct documents the funding offer and acceptance or denial of that offer in the file.
- The counsellor will confirm dates of counselling and submit invoices to Director of Professional Conduct for counselling up to a maximum of \$1500.
- The CEO & Registrar will consider further funding on a case-by-case basis as per the policy.
- The Director of Professional Conduct submits the invoice(s) for payment to the Director of Finance.
- At the completion of the regulatory process, the Director of Professional Conduct will provide written notification to the counselling recipient and counsellor of the date that funding will end.



Version Control Approval and Classification

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	Role	Director Professional Conduct Services	Senior Director Legislative Services and Deputy Registrar	CEO & Registrar
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CURRENT VERSION OF DOCUMENT

VERSION HISTORY

Version No.	Date	Changed by	Changes Made

RELATED LEGISLATION & STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE

Legislation [Act, Regs, By-Laws]	Section	Strategic Plan

CLASSIFICATION

This document is determined to be	Public
	[insert classification from table below]

Classification	Description
Public	All users inside and outside the organization may have access to the document and it can be freely distributed.
NSCN Restricted	This document should only be accessed by users within the relevant entity and should only be distributed internally.
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