

Changes to the Special Diet Allowance

- The Ministry of Community and Social Services has introduced changes across Ontario to the Special Diet Allowance, effective April 1, 2011. These changes were made to enhance program accountability and are in compliance with an Ontario Human Rights Tribunal decision.
- As a result of these changes, some medical conditions will:
 - no longer qualify for Special Diet Allowance
 - qualify for a smaller Special Diet Allowance
 - qualify for a larger Special Diet Allowance
- New Special Diet application forms with detailed instructions were mailed in February 2011 to people who currently receive a Special Diet Allowance.
- Everyone who needs a Special Diet Allowance must fill out a new application form:
 - the old Special Diet Allowance form (#3059) will no longer be accepted after March 31, 2011
 - if people who are currently receiving Special Diet Allowance do not submit a new Application for Special Diet Allowance form (#3111), they will stop receiving the Special Diet Allowance effective July 31, 2011
- Toronto Employment & Social Services is committed to ensuring that eligible clients continue to receive the benefits to which they are entitled. For more information, residents are encouraged to speak with their caseworker.

Special Diet Allowance Schedule (effective April 1, 2011)

Medical Condition	Amount	Medical Condition	Amount
Unintentional weight loss / body wasting due to one or more of the following medical conditions: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Crohn's Disease HIV / AIDS Lupus Malignancy Multiple Sclerosis Ostomies Pancreatic Insufficiency Short Bowel Syndrome Congestive Heart Failure Cirrhosis (stage 3 & 4) Anorexia Nervosa Cystic Fibrosis Ulcerative Colitis		Dysphagia requiring thickened fluids	\$125
		Loss between 5% and 10% of usual body weight Loss of more than 10% of usual body weight	Food Allergy - Milk / Dairy 1 - 8 years of age \$32 9 - 18 years of age \$63 19 - 50 years of age \$32 Over 50 years of age \$47 Lactose Intolerance 1 - 8 years of age \$30 9 - 18 years of age \$59 19 - 50 years of age \$30 Over 50 years of age \$45 If both conditions are indicated, an allowance equal to the amount for Food Allergy - Milk / Dairy is provided.
	\$191		
	\$242	Celiac Disease \$97	
Chronic Wounds and Burns Stage 1 & 2 Stage 3 & 4	\$88 \$191	If both the above conditions are indicated only one allowance amount of \$97 is provided.	
Diabetes Gestational Diabetes Extreme Obesity Hypertension Hyperlipidemia Hypercholesterolemia	\$81 \$102 \$51 \$86 \$51 \$51	Insufficient lactation to sustain breast-feeding or breast-feeding is contraindicated (provided until infant reaches 1 year)	\$162
If two or more of the above conditions are indicated, an allowance equal to the highest amount of the indicated condition is provided.		Osteoporosis	\$38
		Renal Failure Pre-dialysis (GFR < 30) \$52 Peritoneal / Hemodialysis \$88	

The maximum Special Diet Allowance one person can receive per month remains capped at \$250.00.