



The Kidney Foundation of Canada
Southern Alberta Branch
6007 1A Street SW
Calgary, Alberta T2H 0G5
Tel. 403-255-6108 or 1-800-268-1177
Fax: 403-255-9590

The Living Organ Donor Expense Reimbursement Program (LODERP)

The Kidney Foundation of Canada, Southern Alberta Branch

The Living Donor Expense Reimbursement Program (LODERP) is a provincial program run by The Kidney Foundation of Canada and funded by Alberta Health and Wellness. The program aims to reimburse some of the out of pocket expenses that organ donors can incur, and make it possible for people to donate even if they live far away from the recipient. As a result, we hope that the number of potential donors might be increased for some people if the financial barriers are removed.

How do I access LODERP?

The easiest way to access LODERP is to call The Kidney Foundation of Canada office in Calgary at 403-255-6108, or toll free at 1-800-268-1177. We will tell you all about the program and what reimbursement you are eligible for. We will email you an application form, and tell you about the Kidney Connect Peer Support Program where you can talk to one of our trained volunteers about their experience as a living organ donor.

What Expenses Are Reimbursed?

LODERP reimburses many of the costs associated with becoming a living organ donor, but not all of them. At this time, the program normally reimburses those costs associated with the transplant surgery and the final round of testing that will take place days before the surgery. Travel reimbursement for donor work up determined on a case by case basis. No post-transplant costs are reimbursed. Expenses for a companion are limited to airfare, meals, and accommodation. When you call we will explain what items are eligible for reimbursement in your case, but the following is a basic outline:

Travel

- Travel reimbursement is restricted to transplant centre for final donor evaluation and/or actual donor procedure
- Mileage is .50/km
- Flights are economy level only
- Taxi fares will be reimbursed only for a return trip from the area airport to the hotel or hospital
- Mileage of 40 km or less one way will not be reimbursed. No other location transportation costs will be covered. Any changes made to transportation tickets after they have been booked will be at the expense of the donor unless the change is requested by the physician
- If changes are approved maximum limits still apply
- Allowance for living organ donors to claim for travel costs for a companion when travelling to another city/province
- Travel amounts are determined on a case-by-case basis



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Parking

- Travel amounts are determined on a case-by-case basis
- Maximum of \$25.00 per day. Number of days will be extended on a case-by-case situation for liver and lung donors

Accommodation

- Maximum of \$140.00 per day. Number of days as determined on a case-by-case basis
- Accommodation is normally restricted to final donor evaluation and/or actual donor procedure – for donor workup is determined on a case-by-case bases
- Allowance for living organ donors to claim for accommodation costs for a companion when travelling to another city/province

Meals

- Maximum of \$60.00 per day, if the donor lives over 40 km from the transplant hospital
- Maximum of \$30.00 per day, if the donor is staying with family or friends
- Number of days as determined on a case-by-case basis

Allowance for living organ donors to claim for meal costs for a companion when travelling to another city/province

Loss of Income

- Maximum of lesser of \$400.00 week or 55% of net weekly earnings for up to 8 weeks or ability to return to work
- All other funding sources must be used first, that is sick time, paid leave of absence, short-term disability, Employment Insurance, government assistance, and any other forms of financial support
- Individuals receiving payments through pension, long term disability, government assistance programs or those who are unemployed will not receive the loss of income reimbursement, nor will they be reimbursed for EI or STD benefit waiting periods
- The living donor must provide proof of income and benefits using the 'Benefit Confirmation Form' or if self-employed, income tax notice of assessments

Other

- Under exceptional circumstances, other expenses may be reimbursed including child care for a donor who is a non-working parent.

COVID-19 Isolation

- Living donors who are mandated to self-isolate because of COVID-19 for the 1-2 weeks prior to surgery may qualify for accommodation, meals, or loss of income - number of days determined on a case-by-case basis.