

# OW/ODSP Discretionary Benefits: Cooling Devices



## WHAT are the requirements?

- ① Receiving support through any of the following:
  - Ontario Works
  - Ontario Disability Support Program
    - age, i.e. 65 and older, does not necessarily disqualify someone as continued eligibility at any age is often determined by net income
  - Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities
- ② Letter of support or prescription from a physician or nurse practitioner:
  - Indicate that a cooling device is:
    - required to control the room temperature/humidity as part of the treatment plan AND
    - necessary for the preservation of the patient's health and safety
- ③ Current medical conditions that are recognized\*:
  - cancer
  - chronic heart or chronic lung conditions (i.e. COPD)
  - neurological conditions
  - HIV
  - people on dialysis
  - people with chronic mental disorders on medication
  - severe asthma

\*list not exclusionary, may still apply for an air conditioner based on health provider's assessment

## WHAT is covered?

- One air conditioning unit or portable fan per family up to a maximum amount, every four years including any associated expenses

## HOW to submit a request?

- Funding requests are accepted from June 1 to September 15.
- ODSP form and process is different depending on geographic region, may be through "Special Support Program" or via existing process
- Patient, Case Manager, or Social Worker may submit the form applicable to their location with:
  - Letter of support/prescription
  - Usually covered up to \$400

**LETTER  
TEMPLATE**

