
Disciplinary Legal Expense Assistance Program (DLEAP)

JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

Registered Practical Nurses Association of Ontario (WeRPN)

The Disciplinary Legal Expense Assistance Program (DLEAP) is a member benefit provided by WeRPN to support Registered Practical Nurses facing professional discipline matters.

DLEAP provides access to legal assistance and financial support when a complaint is brought forward by the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) in relation to a member's professional practice.

DLEAP is not insurance. It is a legal assistance program included with WeRPN membership.

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WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Members are eligible for DLEAP if they:

- Are a current WeRPN member in good standing in an eligible category*
- Were a member at the time of the incident
- Maintain continuous membership throughout the matter
- Are involved in an incident occurring in Ontario

WHAT IS COVERED?

DLEAP provides financial assistance up to program limits (below) for legal expenses related to disciplinary matters, including:

- Legal advice and representation
- Document preparation and case support
- Defence through investigations and hearings
- Access to a panel of approved legal counsel

Limits of assistance:

- \$10,000 per incident
- \$25,000 aggregate per annual DLEAP program term
- No deductible
- HST not included

WHAT IS NOT COVERED?

DLEAP does not cover:

- Criminal or fraudulent acts
- Business-related activities outside nursing practice
- Prior known incidents
- Legal costs incurred without approval
- Matters covered under other programs or policies
- Certain abuse or misconduct allegations (unless fully successful, in which case reimbursement may apply)

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- Legal assistance must be approved before costs are incurred
- Members must use an approved panel lawyer
- Expenses outside the program structure may not be reimbursed
- Some exclusions apply based on the nature of the matter

WHAT TO DO IF YOU RECEIVE A COMPLAINT

If you are notified of a complaint by the College of Nurses of Ontario:

Contact WeRPN immediately – *prompt reporting is critical to ensure eligibility.*

Provide:

1. Membership number
2. CNO registration number
3. Complaint documentation
4. Description of the incident

Do not retain legal counsel independently without approval.

HOW TO ACCESS DLEAP

Contact WeRPN:

Phone: 289-678-4246

Email: Claims@werpn.com

WeRPN will confirm eligibility and coordinate next steps, including referral to approved legal counsel.

**Not applicable to Student or New Grad Unregistered, Non-Practising, or Associate Membership types.*