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## Regulation Amendments to Expand Access to the Seniors' Co-Payment Program under the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program

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April 15, 2016

The purpose of this notice is to provide you with information regarding recent amendments to Ontario Regulation 201/96 made under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act* ("ODBA Regulation") that will update the income thresholds used to determine eligibility for the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program's Seniors Co-Payment Program (SCP), expanding access to this program for over 170,000 currently ODB-eligible seniors. The amendments have been approved by the Ontario Government and will come into force **on August 1, 2016**.

A notice was posted on the ministry's website on February 29, 2016 that provided stakeholders with information on the proposed amendments to the ODBA Regulation. Stakeholders were given a 30-day period to comment on the proposed regulatory amendments.

I would like to thank all those who submitted comments and participated in the consultation process. Based on the feedback provided during the consultation period, the Government revised its proposal for changes to the ODB program for August 1, 2016. The Ontario Government will not be increasing the non-low-income seniors' co-payment and deductible, as originally proposed.

To apply for the SCP, seniors must complete the 'Co-payment Application for Seniors' form. To get the form, seniors can:

- ask at their local pharmacy, OR
- call 1-888-405-0405, OR
- download the form from the Government website at: [www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/](http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/)

Proposed minor housekeeping changes to the ODBA Regulation have also been approved by the Ontario Government and will come into force **on July 1, 2016**.

For the authoritative text of the regulation, please visit the e-Laws website at: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/960201>

Any questions regarding the ODBA Regulation can be directed to:

Executive Officer, Ontario Public Drug Programs  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
80 Grosvenor Street, 9th Floor  
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