



Dec. 19, 2025

As part of the 2023 Physician Agreement, the Medical Education Working Group (MEWG) was struck to provide recommendations on remuneration for physicians providing medical education in Nova Scotia. The MEWG was tasked with reviewing the weekly and daily preceptor stipends currently in effect.

The MEWG first met in fall 2023; members included representatives from Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie Family Medicine, Nova Scotia Health, Doctors Nova Scotia (including physician representation) and the Department of Health and Wellness (DHW).

The MEWG made several recommendations, all of which have been approved by the DHW, including:

- increased daily stipend rates
- expanded category of eligible medical trainees
- more physicians eligible to be compensated for precepting work

These changes will come into effect on Jan. 1, 2026. However, the new fee codes will not be live in the MSI billing system until Jan. 16, 2026. Claims for preceptor work completed between Jan. 1 and 15, inclusive, should be held until Jan. 16. Any TESP claims submitted between Jan. 1 and Jan. 15 will be rejected by the system. The new fee codes will be communicated early in 2026.

Preceptor daily rate increases

The new daily preceptor stipends will be available seven days per week (up from five days per week) and the current daily rate of \$90/day will increase as follows, to:

- \$210/day for junior learners: Pre-Clerkship (Med 1 and 2), Clerkship (Med 3 and 4), first-year residents (PGY1), physician assistant learners and any other allied health professional learner groups approved by the DHW
- \$130/day for mid-level learners: second-year residents (PGY2) and integrated family medicine (IFM) emergency medicine residents (IFMEM), IFM palliative care residents, and IFM care of the elderly residents
- \$100/day for senior learners: senior residents (PGY3+)

Multiple learners recognition

Physicians who teach multiple learners will receive the full rate of pay for the learner with the highest daily rate, and half the daily rate for each remaining learner.

More physicians eligible

Until now, only physicians paid by fee-for-service (FFS), the longitudinal family medicine (LFM) payment model, physicians who are part of an FFS academic department or division, or alternate payment plan (APP) could bill the preceptor daily rate. Now, almost all physicians can bill the daily stipend:

- emergency medicine physicians (EM) and those who bill hospitalist/hourly rates are now eligible to bill the daily stipend (in addition to the annual and 5% premium on billings)
- C/AFP physicians will be eligible to shadow bill the 5% teaching premium as well as the daily stipends

Watch for an MSI Physician's Bulletin with new billing instructions in the new year.

Note: The stipends will not be available to physicians on contract with the government (such as medical officers of health and medical examiners) or for work performed at the PACE clinic.

Eligible learners expanded

The list of learners eligible for physicians to bill the daily stipend has expanded to include:

- all medical students and residents who are in Nova Scotia at the time of their instruction, not just Dalhousie learners
- physician assistant learners and possibly other allied professional learners (if approved by the DHW). Allied health professional learner groups may present their formal proposal for a decision by the DHW as to whether its learners will be added to the eligible list so physician preceptors can be remunerated.

Medical school teaching

The hourly rate has increased, and the daily stipend is now available for those teaching medical trainees in core and elective programs. On-site lecturing and tutoring at Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University will now pay at the family medicine sessional rate of \$174/hour (up from \$129/hour currently).

The stipends are now available for both core and elective teaching, so payments will no longer be made by the Dalhousie Department of Family Medicine; all physicians will be required to submit claims through the MSI system to be remunerated for work related to precepting. Please watch for an MSI *Physician's Bulletin* with new billing instructions, coming in early January.

The chart below summarizes the three compensation streams available to preceptors based on their designated payment model.

Physicians will be required to provide student name(s) and identification number(s) on the billing claim via text entry. If you forget to input this information about your student(s), your submission will be rejected. The purpose of collecting this information is to help track which physician had which learner on what day.

We appreciate the work of the MEWG and your patience as the recommendations have worked through the approval process. These changes further highlight the importance of preceptors in our healthcare system – thank you!

Sincerely,

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Your payment model has an impact on what precepting supports you are eligible for:

	\$5000 annual stipend	5% premium on billings	Daily stipend
FFS physician	Eligible – must meet annual threshold of 9 full or 18 half days	Eligible	Eligible
Physician in FFS academic department or division	Eligible – must meet annual threshold of 9 full or 18 half days	Eligible	Eligible
Sessional/hourly paid physician (EM, Hospitalist, Psychiatry, etc.)	Now eligible – must meet annual threshold of 9 full or 18 half days	Eligible	Now eligible
LFM physician	Eligible – must meet annual threshold of 9 full or 18 half days	Eligible	Eligible
APP physician	Eligible – must meet annual threshold of 9 full or 18 half days	Eligible	Eligible
C/AFP physician	Not eligible	Now eligible to shadow bill	Now eligible to shadow bill
Medical Officers of Health / Medical Examiners / PACE assessors	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible

**Yellow highlight denotes change arising from MEWG decisions*