

**Self-Managed Attendant Services – Direct Funding Program**

**MEMO**

To: All Self-Managers

From: Direct Funding Program

Date: February 2, 2021

Re: $3-top up for PSW/attendant wages & provincial minimum wage increase

**$3-top up for Temporary Wage Enhancement for October 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021**

As mentioned in previous communications, the Direct Funding Program was approved to receive the latest round of temporary wage enhancement funding (TWE, previously described as Temporary Pandemic Pay, or TPP) of $3/hour. This was intended to support personal support workers in the home and community care sector. The TWE for February 2021 was deposited into your Direct Funding bank accounts on Feb. 1, 2021; March TWE funds will be deposited before the first March payroll. Self-Managers already received the $3 top-up for the period of Oct. 1, 2020 to Jan. 31, 2021, which was deposited to your Direct Funding accounts on Dec. 22, 2020. If you have not yet paid those funds out, you may pay the $3 TWE anytime retroactive to Oct. 1, 2020 and then add the $3/hour increase to attendant wages on regular bi-weekly payments until March 31, 2021. Self-Managers must continue to provide timesheets (with start and stop time for each shift) and pay stubs with your quarterly reports while receiving and paying the latest round of TWE. We know that many of you have wondered if this wage increase might be made permanent; unfortunately, we do not have any information about a permanent change in attendant wages at this time.

**Increase to regular provincial minimum wage**

As mentioned in previous memos, the Province of Ontario increased the regular minimum wage to $14.25, from $14.00. **This small increase affects only those Direct Funding Program participants who have hours budgeted at that wage; there is no change to the normal program wage range, which remains at $16.50-$19.00**. If you have hours that are currently budgeted at $14.00, you are legally obliged to pay the new minimum wage; this will be a small amount on a weekly/monthly basis and you may have to use part of your one month of float funds to supplement this wage for a short time. The program will retroactively adjust your budget in February 2021 to account for this increase. Please contact your local Direct Funding support person ([www.dfontario.ca/contact.html](http://www.dfontario.ca/contact.html)) if you have questions or concerns about this.