

Do you have a child with special needs? The Government of Canada provides support through the Child Disability Benefit.



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of Canada

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du Canada

The child disability benefit (CDB) is a tax-free monthly payment made to families who care for a child under age 18 with a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions.

Eligibility

To get the CDB:

- You must be eligible for the Canada child benefit (CCB)
- Your child must be eligible for the disability tax credit (DTC)

If you are already getting the CCB for your child who is eligible for the DTC, **you do not need to apply** for the CDB. You will get it automatically.

If this is the first time you're getting the CDB, the CRA will automatically calculate your payments for the current and two previous benefit years. The benefit year runs from July of one year to June of the following year. For years before that, send a written request to your tax centre.

A child is eligible for the DTC when a medical practitioner certifies, on Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate, that the child has a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions, and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) approves the form. You can send the form to the CRA at any time during the year.

How much you can expect to receive

Your CDB payments are calculated using the following information:
number of eligible children
adjusted family net income (AFNI)

Every July, your CDB payments are recalculated based on your AFNI from the previous year. For example, July 2025 to June 2026 payments are based on your adjusted family net income from your 2024 tax return. July 2024 to June 2025 payments are based on your adjusted family net income from your 2023 tax return.

For the period of July 2025 to June 2026, you could get up to \$3,411 (\$284.25 per month) for each child who is eligible for the DTC.

For more information go to: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/child-disability-benefit.html>

Help is also available from the Province of Ontario, other public agencies and private organizations.

Ontario 

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Helping to improve outcomes for children, youth, families and individuals who need support, and advancing the interests of women across Ontario. They have programs and support for children and youth with special needs, child welfare, mentorship and other services.

For more information go to:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-children-community-and-social-services>

Programs and Services for Children with Special Needs

Get information about support for your child's special needs related to their physical, intellectual, emotional, social, communication or behavioural development. Find programs and services for your child and your family. Eligibility varies and can depend on your child's needs, family size or household income.

For more information go to:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/children-special-needs#section-1>



Partners for Planning

P4P is a national non-profit organization that supports people with a developmental disability and their families to be proactive in planning for the future. Many programs are available including Special Services at Home, free online webcasts, action guides and support of friends and family.

For more information go to:
<https://www.partnersforplanning.ca/>



Plan Institute

Plan Institute is a non-profit and social enterprise that supports people with disabilities and their families. We provide educational material and resources, collaborate on community-based projects, and engage with a wide array of partners to host innovative initiatives for change and policy reform.

For more information go to:
<https://www.partnersforplanning.ca/>



Disability Alliance BC

DABC's mission is to promote a more inclusive and equitable society for people with all disabilities through direct services, community partnerships, systemic advocacy, research, and publications. Services include: applying for disability benefits, disability law clinics, CARMA (Community and Residents Mentors Association).

For more information go to:
<https://disabilityalliancebc.org/>



Halton Support Services coordinates community services and supports for children, youth, and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as complex needs. Service coordinators can assist you with funding opportunities, respite care, transitional support and referrals to other community agencies.

For more information go to: <https://cwsds.ca/our-services/halton-support-services/>



A non-profit community-based agency providing compassionate and person-centered mental health supports and specialized services (applied behavioural analysis, early years development and FASD supports) to empower children, youth and their families on their unique paths to well-being. Services include: autism services, individual and group mental health services, etc.

For more information go to:
<https://rockonline.ca/aboutrock/>



Our vision is to youth with disabilities to each other and the world around them.

- We provide a social network technology platform that gives youth with disabilities, parents, and professionals a safe, secure, and positive online experience.
- Accessible 24/7
- Member access is free

For more information go to:
<https://newabilityonline.org/mission-vision/>



From funding for mobility and accessibility equipment, to fully accessible summer camp and post-secondary scholarship, Easter Seals programs and services enable kids with physical disabilities focus on what they can do rather than on their limitations.

Please review the eligibility criteria for each program separately.
For more information go to:
<https://services.easterseals.org/>

Check if your child is eligible for the following programs.

Ontario Autism Program

The Ontario Autism Program (OAP) offers support to families of children and youth on the autism spectrum. Children and youth who have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) by a qualified professional are eligible for the program. Children receive services and supports until the age of 18. For more information go to: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-autism-program#section-0>

Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

The disability tax credit (DTC) is a non-refundable tax credit that helps people with disabilities, or their supporting family member, reduce the amount of income tax they may have to pay. If you have a severe and prolonged impairment, you may apply for the credit. The DTC is also a gateway to other benefits. For more information go to: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html>

Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)

A registered disability savings plan (RDSP) is a savings plan intended to help an individual who is approved to receive the disability tax credit (DTC) to save for their long-term financial security. For more information go to: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/topics/registered-disability-savings-plan-rdsp.html>

More programs...

Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD)

If you are a parent or guardian who is caring for a child with a severe disability you may be able to get financial support through ACSD. This program provides financial support for eligible families to cover some of the extra costs of caring for a child who has a severe disability. Eligible parents and guardians can receive between \$25 and \$646 a month to help with disability-related costs. For more information go to:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/assistance-children-severe-disabilities-program#section-0>

Special Services At Home (SSAH)

Assists with funding for a child with a physical and/or developmental disability to help with costs for respite, personal growth and development. This funding can be used for: support to participate in day-to-day activities or activities for personal growth and development or for respite services. For more information go to:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/assistance-children-severe-disabilities-program#section-0>

Enhanced Respite for Medically Fragile and/or Technology Dependent Children Program

You can receive up to \$4,130 per child for the 2023–24 fiscal year to spend on respite. Your family may be eligible for this funding if you are caring for a child who is medically fragile and/or depends on a technological device and requires care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Check eligibility requirements. Go to:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/family-support-and-respite-children-and-youth-special-needs#section-2>

As a parent, do you find it hard to keep up?

Support is also available for you



As your access point to adult developmental services, your area DSO will help connect you to ministry-funded services that may be available in your community when your child's development services end. This means that you must apply through DSO to see if you are eligible to receive adult MCCSS-funded supports available in your community. Some of the services and supports that may be available to you are:

- Specialized supports such as adult protective service worker, behavioural services,
- Caregiver respite support
- Connect you with other government financial support programs

For more information go to:

<https://www.dsontario.ca/funded-services>

Passport program for adults with a developmental disability

Passport is a program that helps adults 18 years or older with a developmental disability to participate in their communities and live as independently as possible. It also helps caregivers of an adult with a developmental disability take a break from their caregiving responsibilities. It is a reimbursement program where people and families submit invoices and receipts for admissible expenses.

Passport is funded by the Ontario Government and administered by local Passport Agencies.

For more information go to:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/passport-program-adults-developmental-disability#section-0>