

## Other Resources and Links

### Resources and Sources of Support

Before accessing FSCD supports, families are encouraged to use the supports, services and resources already available to them. All other available resources must be used before the FSCD program will provide funding.

The following programs and resources may be available for families. Parents are encouraged to contact the program or organizations for more information about the services or resources available and eligibility.

*These website links are provided for the convenience of the website users. It does not indicate an endorsement from Children and Youth Services. By clicking on any of these links you will be directed away from the Children and Youth Services website.*

### Benefit Plans:

Employee or private benefit plans such as Blue Cross can cover many items. For more information on benefits plans, contact the benefits officer at your place of employment. For private plans, contact your insurance company or private benefit plan provider directly.

Benefit plans can change over time, therefore it is important to read all the fine print and stay updated on any changes. Benefit plans may also have a process for appeal.

- **Blue Cross** – Call 780-498-800 (Edmonton and area), 403-234-9666 (Calgary and area), or 1-800-661-6995 elsewhere in Alberta.
- **Insurance companies in Alberta**

## Federal Government:

### Government of Canada website

### Federal Tax Information related to individuals with disabilities

[Service Canada Persons with Disabilities Online](#) Site of the Government of Canada (PDW Online). A collaborative effort of five federal government departments providing a source of information on programs and services for persons with disabilities, family members, caregivers and all Canadians.

Federal Government Resources include:

- **Medical Expense Credit**- Used as a deduction at the time that annual income tax forms are completed. Eligible expenses include (but not limited to): air conditioners, catheters, cochlear implants, diapers/disposable briefs, eyeglasses, gluten free foods, hearing aids, heart monitors, needles and syringes, and rehabilitative therapy.

Further information is available from your personal accountant or the Income Tax Information Line at 1-800-267-6999.

- **Child Disability Benefit** – Eligible families may receive a monthly benefit to assist with costs related to raising a child with a disability.
- **Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)** – Information on financial assistance for the housing needs of specific groups, including people with disabilities.

Further information is available at 780-423-8700 (northern Alberta) or 403-515-3000 (southern Alberta).

- **Interim Federal Health Program (IFH)** - Provides temporary medical coverage for immigrants to Canada, including financial loans and assistance under the Resettlement Assistance Program.

Further information on **emergency dental services** is available at 1-800-770-2998.

- **Child Tax Benefit** - A non-refundable tax credit available for all children under 18 years of age.

- **Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)** - Assists parents and families to save for their child's future using a federal government savings plan for children with a disability.

The Alberta government has fully exempted the federal RDSP as income and assets when determining eligibility for provincial financial assistance programs, including Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH), Alberta Seniors Benefit, and Income Support.

- **Savings plans, grants and bonds for persons with disabilities**
- **Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Disability Benefits** - For Canadians who have contributed to CPP but cannot work on a regular basis due to a disability.
- **Canada Medic Alert Foundation** - Offers free medic alert bracelets to children across Canada. To find out if a school is participating in this program, check out the website at [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca) and click on Alberta.
- **Compassionate Benefits** - Information on compassionate benefits when caring for a dying loved one.
- **Federal excise gas deduction**- Persons medically certified as having permanent mobility impairment and cannot safely use public transportation (including children with conditions such as autism, and ADHD) may qualify for this deduction. Contact the Canada Revenue Agency at 1-800-267-6999 for more information.
- **Children's Fitness Amount**- A parent may be eligible to claim up to \$500.00 per child for a program of physical activity for his or her child.
- **Emergency Repair Program** - Provides funding to low-income homeowners and tenants in rural areas for emergency repairs.
- **Opportunities Fund** - Designed to help people with disabilities prepare for and obtain employment or self-employment.
- **Service Canada** - A national job bank provides assistance with finding employment. This website is may be accessed by employers as well as those seeking employment.
- **Federal Tax Relief Programs Through Canada Revenue Agency** [[link to: http://www.child.alberta.ca/home/images/childrenwithdisabilities/Info\\_Sheet\\_Federal\\_Tax\\_Relief\\_Programs\\_Through\\_Canada\\_Revenue\\_Agency.pdf](http://www.child.alberta.ca/home/images/childrenwithdisabilities/Info_Sheet_Federal_Tax_Relief_Programs_Through_Canada_Revenue_Agency.pdf)]

## Provincial Government Resources:

### Government of Alberta

- **Alberta Child Health Benefit** and **Alberta Adult Health Benefit** - Provides eligible low income families with financial support to purchase items such as eyeglasses, prescription drugs, dental care, diabetic supplies, special diet items and formula needs.

Further information about is available at 780-644-5135 in Edmonton or 1-866-644-5135 province-wide.

- **Alberta Aids to Daily Living** - Provides medical supplies and equipment to eligible Alberta residents on a cost-share basis. Low-income families can apply to have the entire cost of eligible medical supplies covered.

Further information is available toll-free in Alberta by dialing 310-0000 and then 780-427-0731.

- **Alberta Health Services** - Provides information on topics such as finding a physician and general health information.
- **Information for Albertans with Disabilities** Provided by the Ministry of Seniors and Community Supports.

- **Alberta Health and Wellness**

- **Alberta Education** Site for special needs students. Information for parents about identifying students with special needs, provincial testing, funding and special resources.

- **Health Link Alberta** A health information service staffed by registered nurses and accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- **Residential Access Modification Program** - Assists eligible Albertans who use wheelchairs with costs related to home renovations to make their home accessible.

Further information is available toll-free in Alberta by dialing 310-0000 and then 780-427-5760.

- **Alberta Works** - Offers eligible Albertans access to emergency accommodation, transportation, and meals. Further information is available 24 hours, 7 days a week, at 1-866-644-5135.

- **Service Alberta** Links Albertans with the information and services they need.

- **Supports for military families** – Includes respite, emergency care, counselling, babysitting and education programs. This website is designed for military families and may help with emergency needs as well as integration into their communities.
- **[Alberta Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities](#)** - Includes: Links, Contact information, provincial map indicators, resources for persons with disabilities listed both by subject area or alphabetically, etc.
- **[Inform Alberta](#)** - A provincial online directory of publicly funded and/or not-for-profit community, health, social, and government organizations.
- **Alberta Scholarship and Bursary Program** - Funding that may be accessed by children with learning and/or physical disabilities.
- **Eye See...Eye Learn Program**- Provides children in kindergarten with free eyeglasses and frames. Parents can also obtain more information from their optometrist.
- **Oral Maxillofacial Devices and Services Program** - Covers specific high cost dental treatments required in conjunction with surgical procedures covered by Alberta Health Care. Further information is available toll-free in Alberta by dialing 310-0000 and then 780-415-1475.
- **Alberta Blue Cross** - Provides scholarships based on academic achievement and financial need for young Albertans pursuing post-secondary studies across the province.
- **Alberta Food Bank Network Association** – A list of food banks across the province. Further information is available at 1-866-251-2326.
- **Direct to Tenant Subsidy Program** - Provides a subsidy directly to the tenant to help with high rental costs.

## **Disability Associations:**

Disability associations include not-for-profit organizations that represent the interests of children and adults with specific disabilities and their families. They can provide support with advocacy and information on disability-related services and support groups.

A number of disability-specific associations may provide assistance, including financial assistance, with supports and services.

Here are some links to help find a disability association near you:

- **Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities** or 1-800-387-2514
- **Alberta Association for Community Living** or 1-800-252-7556
- For children with **autism**: [www.autismcentral.ca](http://www.autismcentral.ca), and [www.cairn-site.com](http://www.cairn-site.com).
- **Canadian Association for Community Living (Ontario)** - Includes : English/French option, Links.
- **Learning Disabilities Association of Canada**

## Service Clubs, Foundations, and Charities:

- **Variety Club** - May assist with the purchase of equipment, medical supplies, therapies and assessments, wheelchair lifts, and modifications for accessibility.
- **For the Love of Children Society** - May assist with treatment, rehabilitation, equipment and supply costs. Contact them at 403-232-6010.
- **Children's Ability Fund** - May support families in northern Alberta with the purchase of equipment. Contact them at 780-454-9191.
- **www.wheelchair.ca** - Lists possible funding sources for equipment, in addition to automotive manufacturers that provide rebates for families who must alter their vehicle to accommodate a person with physical disability.
- **Opportunities for the Disabled Foundation** - May provide grants for equipment. Contact the foundation at 1-877-856-3833.
- **Alberta Easter Seals** - Assists individuals with physical disabilities. Contact Easter Seals at 1-877-732-7837.
- **Canadian Cancer Society** - May provide transportation subsidy assistance for travelling to cancer treatments and follow-up appointments. Eligibility is based on household income. The Canadian Cancer Society has partnered with Westin Hotels to provide free nights accommodation for patients receiving active cancer treatment in Edmonton or Calgary. The Westin can be contacted at 780-426-3636 in Edmonton or 403-266-1611 in Calgary.
- **A Child's Voice Foundation** - Provides products and services not otherwise provided by levels of government, insurance or other organizations. Angel Hair for Kids is a part of this organization and may provide a wig for a child who experiences hair loss. Contact the foundation at 1-888-837-3354.

## Other Resources:

- **Free and reduced fee dental services** – Provides dental services such as examinations, cleaning, sealants, and fillings as part of post-secondary education programs.

### Edmonton:

- University of Alberta Dental Hygiene Program at 780-492-4458.
- The N.A.I.T. Dental Assistance program at 780-471-7786.

### Calgary:

- The S.A.I.T. Dental Assistance Program at 403-284-8380.
- Columbia College at 403-235-9314.
- KDM Dental College International at 403-264-2744.
- Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS) at 403-221-8780.

- **Community dental clinics** through Alberta Health Services may provide low-cost services such as cleaning, scaling, and fluoride application or children without dental insurance

### For more information contact:

- Camrose 780-679-2980
- Sedgewick 780-384-3652
- Vegreville 780-632-3331
- Medicine Hat Community Health Services 403-502-8200
- Brooks 403-501-3300.

- **Positive Behaviour Supports for Children** - a free online learning resource for individuals supporting children with disabilities. The resource provides evidence-based strategies for working as a part of a home based team to increase adaptive behaviours while minimizing and managing challenging behaviours.
- **Triple P Parenting** (hyperlink to [www.parentlinkalberta.ca](http://www.parentlinkalberta.ca)) The Positive Parenting Program is designed to assist parents through each developmental stage by providing seminars, tip sheets and videos.
- **Public Health Agency of Canada** - Provides a variety of information on health promotion and health conditions.
- **Nobody's Perfect** - Provides parenting education and support programs for parents of children under five years. Contact the program at 1-619-952-1220.

- **Hadley School for the Blind** - Offers courses free of charge to blind and visually impaired students and their families, and affordable tuition courses to blindness professionals.
- **Alberta School for the Deaf** provides programming for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students with a focus on literacy skills and academics. The school is located at 6240 113 Street Northwest Edmonton, AB T6H 3L2. Telephone: 780-436-0465
- **Disabilities, The Links** - aAdd and search through all kinds of links here.
- **The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH)** - Includes : Links, News, Government affairs, Contacts. TASH is an international association of people with disabilities, their family members, other advocates, and professionals fighting for a society in which inclusion of all people in all aspects of society is the norm.
- **Family Village**..."A global community of disability related resources" - Includes : Bookstore, Library, Information, Links, Searches, Community etc.