Welcome!

The BC Disability Funding Guide is a resource to help you explore numerous funding opportunities. This guide is split into sections, each dealing with different categories of funding. There are also tips to help you find funding and write funding applications, as well as templates and examples for your use.

If you have any questions or comments about the guide, please get in touch with us. You can also check www.BCDisability.com for more resources, including our BC Disability Directory, additional funding opportunities, activities, games, toolkits, and more!

Best wishes,

Spencer van Vloten
Editor, BC Disability
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Below are some general tips and potential funding avenues to keep in mind throughout your search for funding. In the next section, we will also provide tips on writing funding applications, as well as templates and examples for your use.

**Ask away**

While this guide lists numerous funding opportunities, it is important to remember that not all funding is listed publicly. Securing funding takes an active approach, and you are advised to ask within organizations and businesses to see if there are opportunities that you may not have been aware of, and which may not have been advertised. Nothing bad can come of it, but a lot of good can!
Consider crowdfunding

While you may have been looking at external funding options, self-funding approaches have been highly successful and are worth exploring.

One of the options for this is crowdfunding, where you set up a donation page, and people can send donations through the page. This is also a great way to tap into a broad donation base, as your supporters can readily share your cause and your page through their own networks.

Some of the most notable crowdfunding platforms include:

- Kickstarter
- GoFundMe
- Indiegogo
- Causes
- Razoo

Hold an event

Events are great ways to have fun and raise money at the same time! Take photos of your event and get the word out through social media and your networks.

Also ask around to friends, as well as local businesses, to see if they can lend their support, talents, or resources. You will be surprised at how many people want to help!

Event Ideas

- Auction
- Bake sale
- Bingo night
- Bowling tournament
- Garage sale
- Car wash
- Community barbeque
Community party
Games night
Movie night
Pool party
Pub night
Raffle for a cause
Run, walk, or bike race
Sports day
Talent show
Trivia night

These are just some ideas. If you are looking for more, try checking here and here.

Be Persistent

The final point is perhaps the most important, and relates to all the others. Successfully obtaining funding often requires a lot of hard work! Searching for funding opportunities, completing applications, writing to funders, and doing it several times over requires effort!

You may also be turned down on your first attempts, but do not worry! The best and biggest opportunities often come to the people who keep trying, and persistence is one of the most important attributes you can have on your funding journey.

In the words of writer and poet James Whitcomb Riley:

“Unflagging effort, persistence and determination will win. Let not the person be discouraged who has these”
Making An Appeal: Tips and Templates

Need fees for a recreation program, a new wheelchair, or something else? A strong appeal to funders goes a long way!

So, how do you make your case for funding in a clear and compelling way?

Write around 250-700 words

- Not too long, not too short. You want to write enough to convey what you are after, why you should get it, and to hook the reader, but you do not want to write so much that the reader starts to lose interest

Tell a story

- If you have a story to tell, then tell it! Stories inspire and activate emotions. They are what make people care, connect to your cause, and to give to your cause.
Engage emotions

- **People give because they care.** For them to care, they need to feel. Appealing to feelings is an essential way that humans connect and communicate.

- **Build commonality.** Empathy is a result of recognizing ourselves in other people and feeling for them. Give the reader a commonality with you or the characters in your story, as a mother, father, or another role or experience.

- **Include visual content.** Photos and videos put a human face on what might otherwise just be words, and in doing so active people's emotions and sense of empathy. If you have set up a funding page, include an image of the person or cause you are funding for; if you are sending an application, attach the image.

Emphasize Impact

- **Demonstrate impact** Make it clear that receiving funding will have a large impact, perhaps even life changing. The more you can convince funders that they can make a difference, the more likely you are to receive funding.

- **Every cent counts** If you are crowdfunding, let people know that any bit they can contribute helps, and if possible explain how. This encourages people who may otherwise feel like their contribution would be too small to matter, thereby encouraging more donations.

- **Show that you have been trying** If you show that you have tried your best to raise funds, you not only demonstrate commendable effort, you also help emphasize to potential donors just how important their support would be.

- **Ask people to spread the word** If you have setup a crowdfunding campaign, be sure you also ask people to share your fundraiser, and any links you have to a funding page. This greatly expands your reach.
Templates

These are just 2 examples of funding appeals you might send. The templates and examples are meant as guides to get you started, not something you need to copy exactly. You may wish to write something longer or with a different style, and so on.

Template 1: Writing to a specific funder

Dear [insert name],

[Begin with a personal story that hooks the reader and engages their emotions].

I have [insert how you have been trying to solve this issue]. Yet, it has not been enough.

That is why I am reaching out to you. With funding from [organization’s name], I would [explain what the funding would allow you to accomplish].

I am therefore asking you [directly and clearly ask for what you want, using emotion to add persuasion to the request]. Your support would [reiterate just how significant and helpful this assistance would be].

If you would consider funding [your request], I would be forever grateful.

Sincerely,

[Your name]

Finding funding opportunities or raising funds yourself requires a determined, active approach
Hello,

My name is Sara Smith, and I am the mother of two wonderful little boys, Max and Sam. My boys would love to attend summer camp. Talking about outdoor adventures and roasting marshmallows over campfires makes their eyes light up and their smiles flare like nothing else.

Though summer camp is a normal childhood experience for many kids, Max and Sam’s case is different. They were born with cerebral palsy, which means that regular summer camps are inaccessible, while accessible specialized camps for kids with disabilities cost upwards of $1000—money I do not have.

I work full-time and have saved what I can. I have held bake sales and garage sales. I have tried it all, but it has not been enough, and it has broken my heart to have to tell them each summer that there will be no camp this year. They have not gotten a lot in their lives, and I would love nothing more than to make their dreams come true and provide them with the camp experience they deserve.

That is why I am reaching out to you. With funding from Fun Funders, I could send both to camp this summer. Not only would this be a dream come true for them, it would provide a lifetime of memories and show them that good things come to those who persist.

I am therefore asking you, from the bottom of my heart, as a mother who has tried her best, if Fun Funders would consider funding a trip to camp this year for my two little guys. Your support would finally bring the day when Max and Sam hear they are going to camp, and it would be truly life changing for them.

These are just two sweet little kids who have never caught a break; if you would consider helping fund the $1000 fee to give them the summer of a lifetime, I would be forever grateful.

Sincerely,
Sara Smith
Template 2: Crowdfunding or funding within your networks

Dear [insert name],

You might have heard that I am fundraising to [insert reason why you are fundraising].

This cause is dear to me, as [give a personal reason that appeals to the reader’s emotions].

That is why I am reaching out to you. I am encouraged by the support I have already received, but I still need help reaching my fundraising goal of [insert dollar amount].

Your contribution, no matter how big or small, would mean the world to me. (In 1 sentence reiterate why it would mean so much).

Would you be willing to contribute to my fundraiser? If you would like to donate, simply click the link below:

[Insert link to fundraiser]

It would also mean a lot if you could share my fundraiser link on social media. The more exposure I get, the faster I will reach my goal.

I would love to talk to you in person about my fundraiser, so please do not hesitate to reach out.

With love,
[Your name]
Dear Friends,

You might have heard that I am fundraising to send my two little guys, Max and Sam, to an adapted summer camp.

While summer camp may seem like an experience every child gets to have, it has not been that way for my boys. They were born with cerebral palsy, which means that regular summer camps are inaccessible, while specialized camps for kids with disabilities cost upwards of $1000, which is money I do not have.

Max and Sam would love to go to camp so much, and I have tried my best for them. I have saved all I can, I have held bake sales and garage sales, but I still need help reaching my fundraising goal of $1000.

That is why I am reaching out to you. Your contribution, no matter how big or small, would mean the world to me and the boys. It would allow them to have a summer full of fun, laughs, and memories, and most importantly, to just be kids.

Would you be willing to contribute to my fundraiser? A gift of any amount would help. If you would like to donate, simply click the link below:

[Link to fundraiser]

It would also mean a lot if you could share my fundraiser link on social media and in your networks. The more exposure I get, the better chance I will have of reaching my goal, and surprising Max and Sam with good news.

If you have any questions, I would love to talk with you, so please do not hesitate to reach out.

With love,
Sara Smith
Funding Directory
Assistive Technology

Did you know?

Canadian George Klein invented the electric wheelchair in 1953
Assistive Technology Funding

ALS Equipment Loan Program
With 3,220 pieces of medical equipment, the Equipment Loan Program helps people cope with the daily challenges of decreasing mobility and independence. Basic and essential assistive devices are offered at no charge.

Website www.alsbc.ca/programs-services/equipment-loan-program
Email equipmentloan@alsbc.ca
Phone 604-278-2257; 1-800-708-3228 (Toll Free)
Address 1228-13351 Commerce Parkway, Richmond, BC, V6V 2X7

Bear Essentials
Offers financial support for equipment, travel costs, and therapy to address special needs

Website www.islandkidsfirst.com/bear-essentials
Email beare@helpfilladream.com
Phone 250-382-3135; 1-866-382-2711 (Toll Free)
Address 345 Wale Road, Victoria, BC, V9B 6X2

BC Paraplegic Foundation
Provides funding for people with disabilities from spinal cord injuries. Funding support is considered for various mobility aids, adaptations, and aids to daily living.

Website www.sci-bc.ca/about-us/bc-paraplegic-foundation
Email foundation@sci-bc.ca
Phone 604-324-3611
Address 780 SW Marine Dr, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5Y7

BC Rehab Foundation Individual Grants
Helps fund assistive equipment for people with physical disabilities

Website www.bcrehab.com/applications/individual-grant
Email info@bcrehab.com
Phone 604-737-6383
Address 4255 Laurel St, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 2G9
Canada Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities
This grant helps students with permanent disabilities pay for education related costs for services and equipment. Up to $20,000 per year.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/canada-student-grant-services-and-equipment-students-permanent

Ceridan Cares Grants
Offers grants to individuals and families in need of financial assistance for items such as medical equipment and home adjustments. Grants typically range from $200 to $4,000.

Website www.ceridiancares.ca
Phone 1-866-313-2827
Address 2000 – 1111 West Georgia St, Vancouver, BC, V6E 4M3

CKNW Kids’ Fund
Helps families with children in need, as well as children’s organizations who provide beneficial programs. Funding is considered for a wide range of equipment and therapy.

Website www.cknwkidsfund.com
Email cathy.hunt@cknw.com; rhyanna.gathright@corusent.com
Phone 604-331-2711
Address 7850 Enterprise St, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1V7

CNIB Phone It Forward
Blind or partially sighted persons who register with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind can receive a free Smartphone through the Phone It Forward program

Email info@cnib.ca
Phone 1-800-563-2642
Communication Assistance for Youth and Adults
A province-wide program for adults 19+ who need an alternative communication system

Website www.cayabc.org
Email contact@cayabc.org
Phone 604-326-3500
Address 700-655 West Kent Ave, North Vancouver, BC, V6P 6T7

Crime Victim Assistance Program
Supports persons across BC who have received an injury due to criminal activity. Funding is provided for wheelchairs, scooters, ramps, rehab equipment, and more.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/if-you-are-a-victim-of-a-crime/victim-of-crime/financial-assistance-benefits
Email cvap@gov.bc.ca
Phone 604-660-3888; 1-866-660-3888 (Toll Free)
Address PO Box 5550 Station Terminal, Vancouver, BC, V6B 1H1

Equipment Provision Program
The MS Society’s Equipment Provision Program provides equipment or financial assistance to acquire a new piece of equipment, or to pay for repairs on current equipment

Website www.mssociety.ca/support-services/programs-and-services/200/equipment-provision-program-bc-yukon
Email epp-bc@mssociety.ca
Phone 1-800-268-7582
Address 1103-4720 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4N2

Health Equipment Loan Program
HELP provides health equipment to individuals dealing with illness or injury

Website https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/community-health-services-in-canada/health-equipment-loan-program
Email WeCare@redcross.ca
Phone 1-800-418-1111
Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) Program
Provides financial assistance to eligible low-income households to complete home adaptations for independent living

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/HAFI
Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)

ICBC Funding
Funding and compensation for those injured by an automobile accident

Website www.icbc.com
Phone 604-661-2800; 1-800-663-3051 (Toll Free)
Address 151 West Esplanade, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 3H9

Interim Federal Health Program
Covers certain pre-departure medical services for refugees coming to Canada for resettlement. This coverage includes assistive devices, medical supplies, and equipment, such as mobility aids, orthopedic and prosthetic equipment, and hearing aids.


Jason and Rand Equipment Subsidy Fund
This fund offers financial support for the purchase of assistive devices

Website www.bccerebralpalsy.com/equipment-assistive-devices-funding-program
Email info@bccerebralpalsy.com; supportworker@bccerebralpalsy.com
Phone 604-408-9484; 1-800-663-0004 (Toll Free)
Address Suite 330 – 409 Granville St, Vancouver, BC, V6C 1T2
JGL Foundation Grants
Funds assistive technology that enhances mobility or quality of life. Examples of equipment include wheelchairs, walkers, adaptive bicycles, and more.

Website www.jglfoundation.com/grants
Email contact@jglfoundation.com
Address 4580 Cowley Crescent, Richmond, BC, V7B 1B8

Kinsmen Foundation Equipment Grants
Kinsmen fund new and used equipment, and will consider even the most obscure devices if they will assist an individual in their quality of life, personal mobility, and independence

Website www.kinsmenfoundationofbc.ca/apply-for-funding
Email kinsmenfoundationofbc@shaw.ca
Phone 800-742-5546
Address PO Box 64789, Sunwood Square PO, Coquitlam, BC, V3B0H1

Kiwanis Children’s Fund
The foundation’s main purpose is helping children, including those with disabilities. Contact the Kiwanis International Foundation for more information.

Website www.kiwanis.org/childrensfund
Email childrensfund@kiwanis.org
Phone 1-800-549-2647 (254); 1-317-217-6254
Address 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN, 46268, USA

March of Dimes Tablet Contest
Tell your story and win a customized accessible tablet package that includes a tablet, case, stylus, and specialized apps to improve your community access and participation

Website www.marchofdimes.ca/en-ca/programs/acs/aac/Pages/Assistive-Mobile-Technology-Initiative.aspx
Email amti@marchofdimes.ca
Phone 1-855-660-6632 (Toll Free)
Address 291 King Street, 3rd Floor, London, ON, N6B 1R8
McAdams Foundation
Focuses on assisting individuals and institutions committed to enriching the lives of children and teenagers whose families have limited financial resources. Funding is considered for assistive technologies and therapies.

Website www.mcadamsfoundation.ca
Address PO Box 8841, Victoria, BC, V8W 3Z1

Ministry of Children and Family Development
Provides funding for children with disabilities under the age of 18. Considerations of funding are made for many types of assistive equipment, including wheelchairs, walkers, lifts, and other devices necessary for care and rehabilitation.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/mcf
Email mcf.info@gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-877-387-7027
Address PO Box 9724 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S2

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
Funding for people ages 18 to 65 who receive income assistance from the Government of BC. Individuals over the age of 65 require their funding to be reviewed before being approved. Considerations of funding for various assistive devices and aides.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/sdpr
Email sdpr.info@gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-866-866-0800 (Toll Free); 1-800-661-8773 (for deaf persons)

Muscular Dystrophy Canada Funding
Funding for people diagnosed with a neuromuscular disorder. Offers supplementary funding when other funding may not cover the required equipment costs.

Website www.muscle.ca/access-help/personal-support-program/equipment-program
Email info@muscle.ca
Phone 1-800-567-2873
Address 302-601 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 4C2
Neil Squire Society
Equipment funding is available for adults with disabilities. Benefits offered are intended for those seeking employment or individuals currently employed.

Website www.neilsquire.ca
Email info@neilsquire.ca
Phone 604-473-9363 and 1-877-673-4636
Address 400 – 3999 Henning Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6P9

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)
Funding for First Nations and Inuit persons. Funding is considered for medical equipment.

Website www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/index-eng.php

Open Door Group
Funds British Columbians with disabilities who intend to work or volunteer. Considerations of funding for rehabilitation equipment, as well as vehicle and workplace modifications

Website www.opendoorgroup.org
Phone 1-866-377-3670
Address 900 – 1200 Burrard St, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 2C7

Pacific Blue Cross (and other private insurers and company health plans)
There are funding opportunities for persons who have membership through work, union, or private contract. Funding is considered for equipment depending on the plan.

Website www.pac.bluecross.ca

PST Exemption for Medical Equipment
Many assistive devices and pieces of medical equipment for disabled persons are exempt from provincial sales tax, though documentation is required in certain cases

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/pst/exemptions
Recreation Equipment Loan Program
Lifetime Networks has specially designed and adapted recreation equipment available for
loan. The equipment is available for anyone in the community with a need for it.

Website www.lifetimenetworks.org/programs/#equipmentloan

Rick Hansen Foundation
Committed to maximizing quality of life for Canadians with spinal cord injuries. Contact
the foundation for funding and equipment information.

Website www.rickhansen.com
Email info@rickhansen.com
Phone 1-800-213-2131
Address 300-3820 Cessna Dr, Richmond, BC, V7B 0A2

Royal Canadian Legion
Grants are available nationwide for medical equipment and home adaptations for
veterans, ex-service members, and their families

Website www.legion.ca/support-for-veterans/financial-assistance
Email veteransservices@legion.ca
Phone 1-877-534-4666 (Toll Free)
Address 86 Aird Place, Ottawa, ON, K2L 0A1

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of BC: Equipment Program
Items that will enhance or improve mobility for persons with spina bifida or
hydrocephalus are eligible for reimbursement

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs
Phone 604-878-7000
Address 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4
Technology for Independent Living
Provides free environmental control systems that help people with physical disabilities control devices in their homes and on the go. Examples include automatic door openers.

Website  www.technologyforliving.org
Email    info@technologyforliving.org
Phone   604-326-0175
Address 103–366 East Kent Ave, South Vancouver, BC, V5X 4N6

Tetra Society
Tetra recruits volunteers who work with clients to design and build free-of-charge assistive devices that are custom-made for the individual. Gadgets for the workplace, at-home modifications, and for sport and leisure as well.

Website  www.tetrasociety.org
Email    eric@tetrasociety.org
Phone   604-688-6464 (117); 1-877-688-8762
Address 318 - 425 Carrall St, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6E3

The War Amps
The War Amps helps fund artificial limbs for children and adults

Website  www.waramps.ca
Email    info@waramps.ca; champ@waramps.ca
Phone   1-800-250-3030 (Toll Free)
Address 2827 Riverside Dr, Ottawa, ON, K1V 0C4

Variety – The Children’s Charity
Provides funding for persons with special needs 19 years and younger. Considerations of funding for adaptive equipment, specialized therapies, travel costs, and more.

Website  www.variety.bc.ca/grants/individual-grants/individual
Email    info@variety.bc.ca
Phone   604-320-0505; 1-800-381-2040 (Toll Free)
Address 4300 Still Creek Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6C6
Veterans Affairs Canada Financial Programs
Provides funding for veterans in need of rehabilitative and assistive equipment

Website www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/financial-support
Email vac.information.acc@canada.ca
Phone 1-866-522-2122 (Toll Free); 1-833-921-0071 (for deaf persons)
Address Locations throughout BC (click here)

Western Society for Children
Helps families access specialized equipment at a reasonable cost

Website www.wsfc.ca/programs/family-support
Email info@wsfc.ca
Phone 604-515-0810
Address 420-604 Columbia St, New Westminster, BC, V3M 1A5

WorkBC Assistive Technology Services
Provides equipment to help disabled persons with employment or community attachment

Website www.workbc.ca/Employment-Services/Assistive-Technology-Services.aspx
Email info-ats@workbc.ca

- Burnaby
  Phone: 1-844-453-5506
  Address: 400-3999 Henning Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6P9

- Kelowna
  Phone: 1-844-453-5506
  Address: 202-437 Glenmore Rd, Kelowna, BC, V1V 1Y5

- Nanaimo
  Phone: 1-844-453-5506
  Address: 305-155 Skinner St, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 5E8

- Victoria
  Phone: 1-844-453-5506
  Address: 817A Fort St, Victoria, BC, V8W 1H6

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Children and Family

Did you know?

In 1938, Donald Triplett became the first child diagnosed with autism
Adult Upgrading Grant
Helps parents in school with costs related to unsubsidized child care and more. It also provides tuition for adult special education programs.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/adult-upgrading-grant-application
Phone 1-800-561-1818 (Toll Free)

Affordable Child Care Benefit
A monthly payment to help families with child care costs. Children who have a special need may be eligible for an additional $150 per month towards the cost of child care.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/child-care-funding/child-care-benefit
Phone 1-888-338-6622 (Toll Free)

Athletics for Kids
Provides families funding so that all BC children, regardless of ability, can play sports

Website www.a4k.ca
Email info@a4k.ca
Phone 604-221-7529
Address 214-901 West 3rd St, North Vancouver, BC, V7P 3P9

Autism Funding
The BC government provides funding to help families with the cost of purchasing intervention services that will promote their child’s development

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/special-needs/autism-spectrum-disorder/autism-funding
Email MCF.AutismFundingUnit@gov.bc.ca
Phone 250-387-3530; 1-877-777-3530
Address PO Box 9776, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S5
**BC Child Opportunity Benefit**
Replacing the BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit on October 1st, 2020, the BC Child Opportunity Benefit is a tax-free monthly payment to families with children under 18

**Website** [www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/family-benefits/child-opportunity-benefit](http://www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/family-benefits/child-opportunity-benefit)

**Phone** 1-800-387-1193 (Toll Free)

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**BC Family Residence Program**
Provides accommodation assistance to enable families to stay together when their child requires medical care at BC Children’s Hospital or Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children

**Website** [www.variety.bc.ca/bc-family-residence-program](http://www.variety.bc.ca/bc-family-residence-program)

**Email** info@variety.bc.ca

**Phone** 1-866-496-6946

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**Bear Essentials**
Offers financial support for equipment, travel costs, and therapy for kids with special needs

**Website** [www.islandkidsfirst.com/bear-essentials](http://www.islandkidsfirst.com/bear-essentials)

**Email** beare@helpfilladream.com

**Phone** 250-382-3135; 1-866-382-2711 (Toll Free)

**Address** 345 Wale Road, Victoria, BC, V9B 6X2

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**Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative**
Enhances child care affordability by offering funding to licensed child care providers to reduce and stabilize parents’ monthly child care fees

**Phone** 1-888-338-6622 (Toll Free); 250-356-6501 (Victoria)

Child Disability Benefit
A tax-free monthly payment of up to $236 per month, for each eligible child, made to families who care for a child under age 18 with a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions

Website www.BCDisability.com/child-disability-benefit

CKNW Kids’ Fund
Provides funding and support to vulnerable kids with physical, mental, and social challenges living in BC communities

Website www.cknwkidsfund.com
Email cathy.hunt@cknw.com; rhyanna.gathright@corusent.com
Phone 604-331-2711
Address 7850 Enterprise St, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1V7

Cops for Kids
Raises awareness and funds to assist BC kids in medical crisis or with special needs

Website www.copsforkids.org
Email info@copsforkids.org
Phone 250-801-4438; 1-877-500-4543 (Toll Free)
Address PO Box 20161, RPO Towne Centre, Kelowna, BC, V1Y 9H2

Down Syndrome Resource Foundation Bursary Program
Offers bursaries to help families with program costs

Website www.dsrf.org/programs-&-resources/program-funding/dsrf-workshops
Email info@dsrf.org
Phone 604-444-3773 and 1-888-464-DSRF
Address 1409 Sperling Ave, Burnaby, BC, V5B 4J8

For games and colouring sheets for kids, check out www.BCDisability.com/activities
Friends of Children
Provides financial support to BC families with children in medical need

Website www.friendsofchildren.ca
Email info@friendsofchildren.ca
Phone 1-866-564-2217 (Toll Free)

Goodlife Kids
Funds physical activity opportunities for children with special needs. Grants improve community access and help remove barriers preventing children from living active lives.

Website www.goodlifekids.com
Email lburrows@goodlifekids.com
Phone 519-661-0190 (6623)
Address 710 Proudfoot Lane, London, ON, N6H 5G5

Janna Epp Bursary
This bursary provides $5,000 to a child living with cerebral palsy every year. This money will assist with that child’s care, therapy, or recreation.

Website www.pacificmedicallaw.ca/jannaeppbursary
Email info@pacificmedicallaw.ca
Phone 604-685-2361
Address 401 W. Georgia St, Suite 905B, Vancouver, BC, V6B 5A1

Jumpstart
Helps kids overcome financial and accessibility barriers to sport and recreation. Provides individual child grants, para-sports grants, community grants, and access grants.

Website www.jumpstart.canadiantire.ca
Email Jumpstart@cantire.com
Phone 1-844-937-7529
Address 2180 Yonge St, PO Box 770, Station K, Toronto, ON, M4P 2V8
KidSport
Provides financial assistance for fees and equipment to kids aged 18 and under

Website www.kidsportcanada.ca
Email bezako@kidsportcanada.ca
Phone 204-925-5914
Address Chapters across Canada (find a chapter near you)

Kiwanis Children's Fund
The foundation’s main purpose is helping children, including those with disabilities. Contact the Kiwanis International Foundation for more information.

Website www.kiwanis.org/childrensfund
Email childrensfund@kiwanis.org
Phone 1-800-549-2647 (254); 1-317-217-6254
Address 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN, 46268, USA

Make-A-Wish Foundation of BC and the Yukon
Make-A-Wish grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions

Website www.makeawishbc.ca
Email bcchapter@makeawish.ca
Phone 604-688-7944; 1-866-277-9474
Address 112-2025 W. Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V6J 1Z6

McAdams Foundation
Assists individuals and institutions committed to enriching the lives of young people whose families have limited financial resources

Website www.mcadamsfoundation.ca
Address PO Box 8841, Victoria, BC, V8W 3Z1
MCFD Special Needs Funding
Specialized service and funding options from the Ministry of Children and Family Development are available for children or teens who have special needs. Options for intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, hearing or vision impairment, and complex health needs.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/special-needs
Email MCF.ChildrenYouthSpecialNeeds@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Children and Family Development
Provides various forms of funding for children with disabilities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/mcf
Email mcf.info@gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-877-387-7027
Address PO Box 9724 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S2

Starlight Children’s Foundation
Brightens the lives of ill kids and their families, bringing hope and joy to hospital and home

Website www.starlightcanada.org
Email info@starlightcanada.org
Phone 1-800-880-1004 (Toll Free)

Supported Child Development Program
Assists families of children 0-12 years old, and in some cases 13-19, who require additional support to access inclusive child care programs. The service is free of charge. Contact your local child or community resource centres to see if they offer the program.

Website www.icdabc.ca/programs/supported-child-development
Young Parent Program
Parents under the age of 25 may qualify for help with child care while they finish high school, including up to $1,500 per month per child to help cover the cost of child care, as well as a space for their child in a care program at or near the school they are attending.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social supports/caring-for-young-children/child-care-funding/young-parent-program
Phone 1-888-338-6622 (Toll Free)

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Did you know?

The first public school for deaf students was founded in France in 1760
Education and Employment

Adult basic education
Adult basic education has no tuition costs in BC

   Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/adult-education/adult-upgrading

Adult Upgrading Grant
Helps with costs related to fees, books, supplies, transportation, and unsubsidized childcare. It also supports the cost of tuition for adult special education programs.

   Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/adult-upgrading-grant-application

Assistance Program for Students with Permanent Disabilities
Helps students with permanent disabilities pay for education-related services and adaptive equipment. Up to $12,000 available.

   Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/assistance-program-students-permanent-disabilities

Blind and Partially Sighted Scholarships
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind offers several post-secondary scholarships

   Email info@cnib.ca
   Phone 1-800-563-2642

BC Access Grant
Provides up-front, non-repayable financial support for middle and low-income students at BC public post-secondary institutions

   Website www.studentaidbc.ca/news/grants-scholarships/new-bc-access-grant
BC Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities
Helps permanently disabled full-time students with the cost of education by replacing approximately $1,000 in BC student loan funding

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/bc-access-grant-students-permanent-disabilities

BC Access Grant for Deaf Students
Helps deaf and hard of hearing students with additional costs incurred while attending post-secondary institutions where curriculum is delivered in American Sign Language

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/bc-access-grant-deaf-students

BC Paraplegic Foundation Scholarships
The foundation awards scholarships and bursaries to students with spinal cord injury

Website www.sci-bc.ca/about-us/bc-paraplegic-foundation
Email foundation@sci-bc.ca
Phone 604-324-3611
Address 780 SW Marine Dr, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5Y7

BC Supplemental Bursary for Students with a Permanent Disability
$400-$800 bursaries are available for students with a permanent disability

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/bc-supplemental-bursary-students-permanent-disability

BC Training and Education Savings Grant
Families in BC are encouraged to start planning and saving early for their children’s post-secondary education or training programs. To help, the BC Government will contribute $1,200 to eligible children through the BC Training and Education Savings Grant.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/scholarships/bc-training-and-education-savings-grant
Canada Education Savings Grant
The Canada Education Savings Grant is money that the government adds to a Registered Education Savings Plan. This money helps to pay the costs of a child’s full- or part-time studies after high school.

Website www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/education-savings/savings-grant

Canadian Hearing Services Scholarship Program
Canadian Hearing Services proudly offers higher education scholarships to deaf and hard of hearing students

Website www.chs.ca/scholarships
Email giving@chs.ca
Phone 1-866-518-0000 ext 4185

Canada Learning Bond
The Canada Learning Bond is money the government adds to a Registered Education Savings Plan for children from low-income families

Website www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/learning-bond

Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students
Supports students from low- and middle-income families who are in a full-time undergraduate program. Students could get up to $3,000 per school year.


Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities
Helps part-time or full-time students with permanent disabilities pay for education related costs for services and equipment. Up to $20,000 per year.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/canada-student-grant-services-and-equipment-students-permanent
Canada Student Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities
Helps part-time or full-time students with permanent disabilities with the cost of education. Up to $2000 offered per program year.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/canada-student-grant-students-permanent-disabilities

Canada Workers Benefit
A refundable tax credit providing tax relief for eligible low-income individuals and families who are in the workforce. The CWB includes a disability supplement for individuals who are approved for the Disability Tax Credit.

Website www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/canada-workers-benefit

Cerebral Palsy Association: Tanabe Education Bursaries
A funding award open to BC students 17 years or older who have cerebral palsy

Website www.bccerebralpalsy.com/programs/education-bursaries

Disability Awards
An online search tool to find scholarships for students with disabilities

Website www.disabilityawards.ca/all-disabilities

Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program
Provides support to disabled BC entrepreneurs, including business loans

Website www.communityfutures.ca/edp
Email www.communityfutures.ca/edp-enquiry-form
Phone 604-289-4222
Address C230-7871 Stave Lake St, Mission, BC, V2V 0C5

Show My Work! Know a disabled person who would like their work, talents, or achievements showcased? Contact Spencer(spencer@BCDisability.com) about the Show My Work series!
**Epilepsy Society Bursaries**
Each year, the BC Epilepsy Society awards bursaries to people living with epilepsy in BC who are entering, or are in a post-secondary program

- **Website** [www.bcepilepsy.com/donations/who-we-fund/bursaries](http://www.bcepilepsy.com/donations/who-we-fund/bursaries)
- **Email** info@bcepilepsy.com
- **Phone** 604-875-6704
- **Address** 610- 4180 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, BC, V5C 4B3

**Future Bright**
A free program that helps you access up to $3,200 for your child’s education

- **Website** [www.elizabethfry.com/future-bright](http://www.elizabethfry.com/future-bright)

**Gert Vorsteher Educational Bursary**
Grants of $5,000 each to British Columbians with a physical disability who intend to pursue post-secondary education

- **Website** [www.bcrehab.com/applications/gert-vorsteher-education](http://www.bcrehab.com/applications/gert-vorsteher-education)

**Learning Disability Assessment Bursary**
Helps students with the up-front costs of the learning disabilities assessment


**Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities**
Helps disabled persons prepare for, obtain, and maintain employment or self-employment


**Registered Education Savings Plan**
A special savings account for parents saving for their child's education after high school

- **Website** [www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/education-savings/resp](http://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/education-savings/resp)
Repayment Assistance Plan for Borrowers with a Permanent Disability
If you have a permanent disability, this plan could reduce your student loan payments


School based funding
Many scholarships are administered by individual schools. You are encouraged to search each program’s website and the school’s general awards page for funding opportunities.

Scholarships Canada
Scholarships Canada provides a searchable database of scholarship opportunities

Website www.scholarshipscanada.com

Severe and Permanent Disability Benefit
Permanently disabled persons may be able to have student loans cancelled via the SPDB


Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of BC: Bursary Program
The bursary program was established to assist and encourage students with spina bifida or hydrocephalus to continue their post-secondary education in their chosen field of study

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs
Phone 604-878-7000
Address 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4

Spinal Cord Injury BC Scholarships
Scholarships for persons with spinal cord injury pursing post-secondary education

Website www.sci-bc.ca/about-us/scholarships-bursaries
Email info@sci-bc.ca
Phone 604-324-3611
Address 780 SW Marine Drive, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5Y7
Spinal Cord Injury Canada Scholarships
Scholarships for persons with spinal cord injury pursuing post-secondary education

Website www.sci-can.ca/application-scholarship
Email info@sci-can.ca
Phone 416-200-5814

Student Aid BC
Scholarships are available to help students with disabilities fund their education. The Student Aid BC: Disability Program Guide contains detailed info about the process.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca
Phone 1-800-561-1818 (Toll Free)

WorkSafeBC
Provides compensation and equipment for persons injured in work-related accidents

Website www.worksafebc.com/en/claims/benefits-services
Email crquery@worksafebc.com
Phone 604-231-8888; 1-888-967-5377 (Toll Free)
Address Offices throughout BC
Did you know?

The singer Prince was epileptic, experiencing seizures and blackouts
General Funding and Benefits

BC Community Foundations
Community foundations fund local projects, activities, and needs

Website www.communityfoundations.ca/find-a-community-foundation

BC Disability Funding Overview
An overview of local, provincial, and national funding opportunities

Website www.bcdisability.com/funding
Email spencer@bcdisability.com

BC Rehab Individual Grants
BC Rehab provides funds to individuals with physical disabilities. A wide range of requests are considered, including assistive equipment, program and therapy fees, and more.

Website www.bcrehab.com/applications/individual-grant
Email trynka@bcrehab.com
Phone 604-737-6383
Address 4255 Laurel Street, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 2G9

Canada Pension Plan Disability Benefits
Provides disability benefits to people who have contributed to the CPP and who are disabled and cannot work regularly. Benefits are also available to dependent children.


Canada Workers Benefit
Provides tax relief for low-income individuals and families in the workforce. The CWB includes a supplement for individuals who are approved for the Disability Tax Credit.

Website www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/canada-workers-benefit
Community Accessibility Grants
The BC government and Disability Alliance provide funding each year for projects that enhance community accessibility

Website  www.disabilityalliancebc.org/program/accessibility-projects
Email  ap@disabilityalliancebc.org
Phone  604-875-0188 ext. 121
Address  204 – 456 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1R3

Disability Income Assistance
If you are 18 or older, provincial disability assistance can provide financial support. You must be designated as a Person with Disabilities (PWD) to receive this type of assistance.

Website  www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/services-for-people-with-disabilities/disability-assistance
Phone  1-866-866-0800

Disability Tax Credit
A non-refundable tax credit helping disabled persons or attendants reduce income tax payments. Being eligible for the DTC can open doors to programs like the Registered Disability Savings Plan, the Canada Workers Benefit, and the Child Disability Benefit.

Website  www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit
Phone  1-800-959-8281

Greater Victoria Down Syndrome Society: Educational Event Reimbursement
Funding to help GVDSS members participate in educational events

Website  www.gvdss.org
Email  info@gvdss.org
Address  PO Box 35082, Victoria, BC, V8T 5G2
**Individualized Funding Resource Centre**  
Helps disabled persons and their families manage the individualized funding process

- **Website** [www.ifrcsociety.org](http://www.ifrcsociety.org)  
- **Phone** 604-777-7576; 1-844-604-7576 (Toll Free)  
- **Address** #1100-1200 W 73rd Ave, Vancouver, BC, V6P 6G5

**Freemason Clubs**  
Freemasons fund many causes, including supporting persons with disabilities

- **Website** [www.masonicinfo.com/charity](http://www.masonicinfo.com/charity)  
- **Email** reply@masonicinfo.com

**Funding Guidance**  
Guidance on applying for disability assistance and benefits

- **Website** [www.BCDisability.com/general-disability-benefits](http://www.BCDisability.com/general-disability-benefits)  
- **Email** spencer@BCDisability.com

**Food Banks BC**  
Low-income persons may qualify to receive food from a food bank. Find one near you.

- **Website** [www.foodbanksbc.com/find-a-food-bank](http://www.foodbanksbc.com/find-a-food-bank)

**Kinsmen Clubs**  
Kinsmen serve their community’s greatest needs. Sponsorships from Kinsmen's clubs have, for example, enabled disabled kids to attend accessible summer camps.

- **Website** [www.kincanada.ca](http://www.kincanada.ca)  
- **Email** kinhq@kincanada.ca  
- **Phone** 800-742-5546  
- **Address** Clubs across Canada ([find a club near you](http://www.kincanada.ca))
Lions Clubs
For years, Lions Clubs have provided funding to support persons with disabilities

Website www.lionsclubs.org/en
Email programs@lionsclubs.org
Phone 630-571-5466
Address Clubs across BC (find a club near you)

Loyal Protestant Association
Providing support to community members of all abilities for over a century

Phone 604-521-2244

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
Funding for people ages 18 to 65 who receive income assistance from the Government of BC. Individuals over 65 require their funding to be reviewed before being approved.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/sdpr
Email sdpr.info@gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-866-866-0800 (Toll Free); 1-800-661-8773 (for deaf persons)

Peace Arch Hospital Foundation
Raises funds to support the health and wellness of White Rock and South Surrey

Website www.pahfoundation.ca
Email info@pahfoundation.ca
Phone 604-535-4520
Address 15521 Russell Ave, White Rock, BC, V4B 2R4

Registered Disabilities Savings Plan
The RDSP allows people to put aside money tax free with some matching federal government funds for later use by a family member with disabilities

Website www.BCDisability.com/rdsp
Rick Hansen Institute
Supports programs working toward a world without paralysis after spinal cord injury

Website www.rickhansen.com
Email info@rickhansen.com
Phone 1-800-213-2131
Address 300-3820 Cessna Drive, Richmond, BC, V7B 0A2

Rotary Clubs
Rotary serves communities, and successful applications have been made to cover programs fees for disabled persons. Inquire with a local club about funding opportunities.

Website my.rotary.org/en
Email RotarySupportCenter@rotary.org
Phone 1-866-976-8279
Address Across Canada (find a club near you)

Salvation Army
Provides subsidies and supports to persons in need. Get in touch with a location near you.

Website www.salvationarmy.ca
Email kelly_de_weerdt@can.salvationarmy.org
Phone 604-299-3908
Address 103 3833 Henning Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6N5

Vela
Provides free support in planning and managing the individualized funding process

Website www.velacanada.org
Email info@velacanada.org
Phone 604-539-2488
Address 1 - 5761 Glover Rd, Langley, BC, V3A 8M8
Health and Wellness

Did you know?

In 2013, Canada had the world’s highest rate of multiple sclerosis
Health and Wellness Funding

BC Palliative Care Benefits
Covers palliative care expenses for BC residents of any age who wish to receive palliative care at home

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/prescribers/plan-p-bc-palliative-care-benefits-program

Children in the At Home Program
Provides community-based care for severely handicapped children. Children receiving full benefits or medical benefits through the program qualify for 100% coverage of eligible prescription drugs and designated medical supplies.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/special-needs/complex-health-needs/at-home-program

Cystic Fibrosis Coverage
Individuals with cystic fibrosis who are registered with a provincial cystic fibrosis clinic receive coverage of digestive enzymes and other products listed in the Cystic Fibrosis Formulary. The Cystic Fibrosis Clinic arranges this coverage for their patients. You do not need to apply to PharmaCare for this coverage.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/cystic-fibrosis-supplies-pins

Cystic Fibrosis Grant
Assists persons in BC with the Fair Pharmacare deductible, as well as with some travel and accommodation costs related to clinic visits and hospitalization

Website www.cf.providencehealthcare.org/cf-social-work/cystic-fibrosis-grant
Disability Supports Deduction
Individuals who have an impairment in physical or mental functions and have paid for certain medical expenses can claim the disability supports deduction on their tax return


Fair PharmaCare
Helps BC families pay for eligible prescription drugs, medical supplies and devices, and pharmacy services

Website www.BCDisability.com/fair-pharmacare

Health Connections Program
Offers reduced cost transportation options for rural residents who must travel for non-emergency, physician-referred medical care outside their home communities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/health-connections

Health Supplements
Certain health supplements are available to persons receiving disability assistance

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/health-connections

Hope Air
Arranges free flights for patients of all ages who cannot afford to fly to receive required medical care

Website www.hopeair.ca
Email mail@hopeair.ca
Phone 1-877-346-4673 (Toll Free)
Address 207 - 124 Merton St, Toronto, ON, M4S 2Z2
Medical Transportation Supplements
Supplements are provided to specific recipients of income assistance and disability assistance to meet transportation costs associated with essential medical treatment

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/health-supplements-and-programs/medical-transportation

PST Exemption for Medical Equipment
Many assistive devices and pieces of medical equipment for disabled persons are exempt from provincial sales tax, though documentation is required in certain cases

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/pst/exemptions

Recipients of BC Income Assistance
Provides 100% coverage of eligible prescription costs for BC residents receiving benefits and income assistance through the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. The Ministry sends eligibility info to PharmaCare on their clients’ behalf.

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association: Clinic Fund
Funding for persons with spina bifida or hydrocephalus to assist with medical costs

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs
Phone 604-878-7000

Subsidized Homes Away From Home
If you or a family member is staying in Vancouver or Victoria for medical treatment, there are low-cost accommodations. In Vancouver, there are Easter Seals House and Ronald McDonald House, while Jeneece Place serves as a home away from home in Victoria.

Travel Assistance Program
Helps alleviate transportation costs for BC residents who must travel within the province for non-emergency medical specialist services not available in their own community

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/travel-assistance-program-tap-bc

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Persons with disabilities are overly represented among the homeless.
Housing Funding

BC Family Residence Program
Provides accommodation assistance to enable families to stay together when their child requires medical care at BC Children's Hospital or Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children

Website www.variety.bc.ca/bc-family-residence-program
Email info@variety.bc.ca
Phone 1-866-496-6946

Choice in Supports for Independent Living
An option for home support clients. Clients receive funds directly from their local health authority to purchase home support services. They become employers who manage their home support, from hiring and supervising staff, to overseeing CSIL spending.


Community Living BC Residential Support
People eligible under CLBC can be connected to housing resources and receive residential support in the form of supported living, shared living, or staffed residential living

Website www.communitylivingbc.ca/what-support-is-available/residential-supports
Email CLBCInfo@gov.bc.ca
Phone 604-664-0101; 1-877-660-2522 (Toll Free)
Address Throughout BC

Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) Program
Provides financial assistance to eligible low-income households to complete home adaptations for independent living

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/HAFI
Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)
Home Owner Grant for People With Disabilities
If you have a disability or you live with a disabled relative, and your property is assessed at $1,525,000 or less, you may be eligible for a grant which reduces your property taxes.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant/person-with-disabilities

Home Owner Grant for Seniors
This grant reduces the property taxes seniors pay each year on their principal residence.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant/senior

Home Renovation Tax Credit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities
A refundable personal income tax credit to assist with the cost of permanent home modifications that improve accessibility or help a senior be more functional at home.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/income-taxes/personal/credits/seniors-renovation

Property Tax Deferment Program
A low interest loan program allowing disabled persons to defer property tax payments on their principal residence.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/defer-taxes/regular-program

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Program
Provides monthly cash payments to subsidize rents for eligible BC residents who are age 60 or over and who pay rent for their homes.

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance/safer
Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)
Address 101 - 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4V8
Subsidized Homes Away from Home
If you or a family member is staying in Vancouver or Victoria for medical treatment, there are low-cost accommodations, that include the possibility of a long-term stay. In Vancouver, there are Easter Seals House and Ronald McDonald House, while Jeneece Place serves as a home away from home in Victoria.

Home Together “Home is any 4 walls that enclose the right person”
Did you know?

The Special Olympics was founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver

Swimmer Michael Edgson of North Vancouver won a Canadian record 18 Paralympic gold medals
Recreation Funding

Access 2 Entertainment Card
This card grants free or significantly discounted attendance for a support worker at hundreds of recreational, entertainment, and cultural venues throughout Canada.

Website  www.access2card.ca
Email  info@eastersealsbcy.ca; afonseca@eastersealsbcy.ca
Phone  604-873-1865 (403); 1-800-818-4483 (Toll Free)

Athletics for Kids
Provides families with funding so that all BC children can participate in organized sport.

Website  www.a4k.ca
Email  info@a4k.ca
Phone  604-221-7529
Address  214-901 West 3rd St, North Vancouver, BC, V7P 3P9

Autism Funding
Many recreational activities can be paid for using autism funding, as long as it is shown that the activities are aligned with the child's treatment plan.

Website  www.BCDisability.com/autism-funding
Email  MCF.AutismFundingUnit@gov.bc.ca
Phone  250-387-3530; 1-877-777-3530
Address  PO Box 9776, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S5

Autism BC Ticket Giveaway Program
Free tickets to popular local events for families with an autistic person. Sports, concerts, Science World, and more!

Website  www.autismbc.ca/programs/autismbcgoes
Email  hello@autismbc.ca
Phone  1-888-437-0880 (Toll Free)
BC Rehab Individual Grants
BC Rehab provides funds to individuals with physical disabilities. A wide range of requests are considered, including for recreational therapy programs.

Website  www.bcrehab.com/applications/individual-grant
Email  trynka@bcrehab.com
Phone  604-737-6383
Address  4255 Laurel Street, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 2G9

Camp Fees Supplement
The BC government may help pay camp fees for children of income assistance, disability assistance, or hardship assistance recipients, or for disabled adults

Website  www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/general-supplements-and-programs/camp-fees-supplement

Cerebral Palsy Association Camperships
Financially assists individuals of all ages to attend a special needs camp of their choice in BC. Subsidies go towards costs such as camp fees, transportation, and attendant care fees.

Website  www.bccerebralpalsy.com/programs/camperships

Epilepsy Society Camp Bursaries
Financial subsidies to help cover the costs of various camp programs. These are for children who need extra support due to medical needs and learning or physical disabilities

Website  www.bcepilepsy.com/donations/who-we-fund/camp-subsidies
Email  info@bcepilepsy.com
Phone  604-875-6704
Address  610- 4180 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, BC, V5C 4B3

Always Ask! Not all funding opportunities and discounts are publicly advertised. Check within each organization or business to see if there are any that you might have missed.
ET Music Therapy Financial Aid Program
ET Music Therapy has a financial aid program for clients who receive services at the Pacific Autism Family Network. Contact ET to learn more.

Website www.etmusictherapy.com
Email ecnivthane@gmail.com

- **North Vancouver studio location**
  786 East 13th St, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 2M7

- **Richmond studio location**
  3688 Cessna Dr, Richmond, BC, V7B 1C7

**Jumpstart**
Helps kids overcome financial and accessibility barriers to sport and recreation

Website www.jumpstart.canadiantire.ca
Email jumpstart@cantire.com
Phone 1-844-937-7529
Address 2180 Yonge St, PO Box 770, Station K, Toronto, ON, M4P 2V8

**KidSport**
Provides financial assistance for registration fees and equipment to kids 18 and under

Website www.kidsportcanada.ca
Email bezako@kidsportcanada.ca
Phone 204-925-5914
Address Chapters across Canada ([find a chapter near you](#))

**Music Heals**
Provides funding for music therapy

Website www.musicheals.ca
Email info@musicheals.ca
Phone 604-276-8742
Address #400 - 2245 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V6K 2E4
NSDRC Summer Bursary Program
Offers financial support to North and West Vancouver children and youth who have a special need may require additional support to attend summer recreation programs

Website www.nsdrc.org/community-based-services/summer
Email nsdrc@nsdrc.org
Phone 604-985-5371
Address 3158 Mountain Highway, North Vancouver, BC, V7K 2H5

Recreation Access Programs
Many cities and community centres offer adaptive programs and discounts for persons with disabilities. Check the websites of your city, and community centres near you, and inquire about potential discounts. Some examples are:

- Abbotsford Access Program
  Abbotsford’s Special Needs Access Program provides Abbotsford residents with disabilities a 50 percent discount on recreation centre drop-in admissions and memberships

  Website www.abbotsford.ca/leisure/recreation/customer_care.htm
  Email prcoffice@abbotsford.ca
  Phone 604-859-3134

- Kelowna Access Passes
  The city of Kelowna offers access passes to persons with disabilities, which provide discounts for numerous recreation activities and centres

  Website www.kelowna.ca/parks-recreation/recreation/recreation-programs-registration/programs-diverseabilities
  Email recreationandculture@kelowna.ca
  Phone 250-469-8800
• **Vancouver Leisure Access Card**
The city of Vancouver offers a leisure access card to low-income families, as well as families with a disabled child who is not over 17 years old. The card provides discounts for community centre programs, as well as for other local activities.

**Website** www.vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/leisure-access-card.aspx  
**Email** lap@vancouver.ca  
**Phone** 604-873-7000

**Recreation Equipment Loan Program**
Lifetime Networks has specially designed and adapted recreation equipment available for loan. The equipment is available for anyone in the community with a need for it.

**Website** www.lifetimenetworks.org/programs/#equipmentloan

**Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association: Camp and Recreation Subsidies**
Financial assistance is available for summer camp and other recreational activities

**Website** www.sbhabc.org/our-programs  
**Phone** 604-878-7000  
**Address** 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4

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**Awesome Athletes**

• Having lost both arms, **Ibrahim Hamato** excels at table tennis by using his mouth
• Top curler **Emma Logan** is deaf and uses technology to communicate with her team
• Blind swimmer **Trischa Zorn** won a world record 43 Paralympic gold medals
• Wheelchair using strongman **Siamand Rahman** managed to bench press 683 pounds—the weight of 3 baby elephants!

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Respite

Did you know?

Family caregivers provide billions of hours of unpaid care annually in Canada
Respite Funding

At Home Program
This program supports the families of kids and teens with a severe disability or complex health care needs. It provides funding to purchase respite care for eligible children.

- Website www.BCDisability.com/at-home-program

Community Living BC Respite Funding
CLBC offers 2 forms of respite funding for the families of adults with developmental disabilities who receive CLBC support

- Direct Respite
  Family members directly receive funding that is used to pay for respite support. This includes recruiting, screening, and monitoring a respite support provider.

- Contracted Respite
  CLBC or a service provider agency will coordinate respite support. The agency handles recruiting, screening, monitoring, and paying the respite support provider.

Home Health
You can access respite services through your Home Health care provider, and learn more about funding opportunities through their facilitators

- Fraser Health Respite Care
- Interior Health Respite Care
- Island Health Respite Care
- Northern Health Respite Care
- Vancouver Coastal Health Respite Care

Other funding
It is strongly recommended that you also ask other programs and organizations you are involved with about respite funding, as some may offer funds. For example, the Victoria Society for Children with Autism offers respite funding as available to its members.

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Seniors

Did you know?

Alzheimer’s is the world’s most common neurodegenerative disorder, affecting nearly 50 million people.
Seniors Funding

Community Travel Training Program
Free transit training for seniors and people with disabilities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social supports/seniors/transportation/public-transit

- Kelowna: 250-979-1312
- Prince George: 250-562-1394
- Victoria: 250-384-7723

Grants for Age-Friendly Community Planning and Projects
Helps BC communities support aging populations by undertaking projects that enable seniors to age in place and by facilitating the creation of age-friendly communities

Website www.ubcm.ca/EN/main/funding/lgps/age-friendly-communities

HandyCard and TaxiSaver
HandyCard provides fare discounts to disabled persons and attendants on the bus, SkyTrain, SeaBus, and West Coast Express.

TaxiSaver is a supplementary service to HandyDART available to people with permanent disabilities that already have a HandyCard. TaxiSaver provides a 50 per cent subsidy toward the cost of taxi rides.

Website www.translink.ca/Rider-Guide/Accessible-Transit/HandyCard.aspx
Phone 604-953-3680
Address 700-287 Nelson’s Court, New Westminster, BC, V3L 0E7

Home Owner Grant for Seniors
This grant reduces the property taxes seniors pay each year on their principal residence

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant/senior
Home Renovation Tax Credit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities
A refundable personal income tax credit to assist with the cost of home modifications that improve accessibility or help a senior be more functional or mobile at home

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/income-taxes/personal/credits/seniors-renovation

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Program
Lower income seniors renting in the private market may be eligible for a rent supplement through SAFER. This program provides monthly cash payments to subsidize rents for eligible BC residents who are 60 or over and who pay rent for their homes.

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance/safer
Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)
Address 101 - 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4V8

Glorious Gray “Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in the righteous life”
Transportation and Mobility

Did you know?

Blind Canadian veteran Walter Harris Callow invented the first accessible bus
Transportation and Mobility Funding

Autoplan Disability Discount
Persons with impaired mobility may qualify for a 25 percent discount on a basic autoplan

Website www.icbc.com/brochures/Pages/disability-discount.aspx
Email revregcl@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-877-388-4440; 604-661-2800; 1-800-663-3051 (Toll Free)
Address 151 West Esplanade, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 3H9

BC Bus Pass Transportation Supplement
People receiving disability assistance get an extra $52 a month for transportation

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/general-supplements-and-programs/transportation-supplement
Email BCBusPassProgram@gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-866-866-0800
Address Across BC

Bear Essentials
Offers financial support for travel costs and more for kids with special needs

Website www.islandkidsfirst.com/bear-essentials
Email beare@helpfilladream.com
Phone 250-382-3135; 1-866-382-2711 (Toll Free)
Address 345 Wale Road, Victoria, BC, V9B 6X2

BC Ferries Disability Status Pass
Discount fares are available for residents of BC with a permanent disability. To receive the discounted fare, you must apply for a BC Ferries Disabled Status Identification (DSI) Card.

Website www.bcferrries.com/travel_planning/disabilities.html
Email customerservice@bcferries.com
Phone 1-888-223-3779 (Toll Free); 1-800-972-6509 (TTY)
Address 1010 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC, V6C 0B9
Canadian Assisted Travel Society Funding
Provides financial assistance to individuals with disabilities who require the assistance of a personal care attendant when traveling

Website www.canadianassistedtravel.wordpress.com
Email canadianassistedtravel@gmail.com; dynamicmg@gmail.com

Community Travel Training Program
Provides free transit training to seniors and people with disabilities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/seniors/transportation/public-transit

• Kelowna: 250-979-1312
• Prince George: 250-562-1394
• Victoria: 250-384-7723

Disability Travel Card
For people of all disabilities who require a support person when travelling. With the card, an attendant can travel with them at significantly reduced fare.

Email afonseca@eastersealsbcy.ca; info@eastersealsbcy.ca
Phone 604-873-1865 (403); 1-800-818-4483 (Toll Free)

Epilepsy Canada VIA Rail Pass
For people with epilepsy who require a support person when travelling. With the card, an attendant can travel with them at significantly reduced fare.

Website www.epilepsy.ca/via-rail-pass
Email epilepsy@epilepsy.ca
Phone 1-877-734-0873 (Toll Free)
Address 3250 Bloor St. W., East Tower, Suite 600, Toronto, ON, M8X 2X9
Excise Gasoline Tax Refund
If you have a permanent mobility impairment and cannot safely use public transportation, you can ask for a refund of part of the federal excise tax on the gasoline you buy.


Flight Discounts
Attendants can fly for free within Canada. Inquire with the specific airline for more information.

HandyCard and TaxiSaver
HandyCard provides fare discounts to disabled persons and attendants on the bus, SkyTrain, SeaBus, and West Coast Express.

TaxiSaver is a supplementary service to HandyDART available to people with disabilities who have a HandyCard. TaxiSaver provides a 50 percent subsidy for the cost of taxi rides.

Website www.translink.ca/Rider-Guide/Accessible-Transit/HandyCard.aspx
Phone 604-953-3680
Address 700-287 Nelson’s Court, New Westminster, BC, V3L 0E7

Health Connections Travel Assistance
A regional travel assistance program that offers subsidized transportation options to reduce costs for rural residents who must travel to obtain non-emergency, physician-referred medical care outside their home communities.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/health-connections
**Hope Air**
Arranges free flights for patients of all ages who cannot afford to fly to receive required medical care

- **Website**: www.hopeair.ca
- **Email**: mail@hopeair.ca
- **Phone**: 1-877-346-4673 (Toll Free)
- **Address**: 207 - 124 Merton St, Toronto, ON, M4S 2Z2

**Medical Transportation Supplements**
Provided to recipients of income and disability assistance to meet transportation costs associated with essential medical treatment

- **Website**: www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/health-supplements-and-programs/medical-transportation

**Provincial Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Refund for Persons with Disabilities**
If you have a qualifying disability, this program allows you to request a refund of the provincial motor fuel tax you paid in BC on fuel you used in a vehicle you own or lease.

- **Website**: www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/motor-fuel-cabi
tax/fuel-tax-refund
- **Email**: revregcl@victoria1.gov.bc.ca
- **Phone**: 1-877-388-4440

**Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association: Driver Training Program**
Financial assistance is available to persons with spina bifida or hydrocephalus to assist with the costs of driving lessons and assessment

- **Website**: www.sbhabc.org/our-programs
- **Phone**: 604-878-7000
- **Address**: 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4
Travel Assistance Program
Helps alleviate transportation costs for BC residents who must travel within the province for non-emergency medical specialist services not available in their own community

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/travel-assistance-program-tap-bc

Tetra Society
Tetra's focus is to find solutions to overcome environmental barriers faced by people with disabilities. Tetra recruits volunteers who work with clients to design and build free-of-charge assistive devices that are custom-made for the individual.

Website www.tetrasociety.org
Email eric@tetrasociety.org
Phone 604-688-6464 (117); 1-877-688-8762
Address 318 - 425 Carrall St, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6E3