

# Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities – ACSD

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

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 the Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) Program. This program provides financial support for low-income and moderate-income families to cover some of the extra costs of caring for a child who has a severe disability.

## ELIGIBILITY

If you are a parent or a guardian of a child who is under 18 years of age (17 and under), lives at home and who has a severe disability, you may be eligible to receive funding from the ACSD program.

Your eligibility and the amount of assistance you receive is based on a combination of factors:

- ▶ your household income
- ▶ size of your family
- ▶ severity of your child's disability
- ▶ extraordinary costs related to your child's disability.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR DISABILITY-RELATED COST

Depending on your household income, the size of your family and your child's disability-related costs, the ACSD program may provide between \$25 and \$580 a month to help with costs such as:

- ▶ travel to doctors' appointments, hospitals and other appointments related to the child's disability
- ▶ special shoes and clothes
- ▶ parental relief such as respite

In addition to getting monthly financial support through the ACSD program, children with severe disabilities may also receive coverage for:

- ▶ an assessment for an assistive device and/or the consumer contribution for a device provided under the Assistive Devices Program
- ▶ batteries and repairs for mobility devices
- ▶ prescription drugs through OHIP+
- ▶ dental care through Healthy Smiles Ontario program
- ▶ hearing aids and vision care, including eyeglasses

## THE APPLICATION

Ways to apply for ACSD:

- ▶ You can now apply for ACSD online at:
  - <https://www.app.grants.gov.on.ca/indiv/#/acsd>
- ▶ You can download a paper copy of the application (to mail it to your Regional office):
  - [https://www.app.grants.gov.on.ca/indiv/assets/ACSD\\_Form\\_en.pdf](https://www.app.grants.gov.on.ca/indiv/assets/ACSD_Form_en.pdf)
- ▶ For questions related to the ACSD application, contact your Regional Office. A list of Regional Offices, phone numbers and addresses, can be found at this link:
  - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/regional-offices-ministry-children-community-and-social-services>

## ASSISTANCE WITH COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

If you need help completing your application, you may contact a:

- ▶ community agency
- ▶ health care professional
- ▶ social worker
- ▶ family or friend
- ▶ other individual who may be involved in the child's regular care and treatment

If you have any questions or need assistance, contact your [local ministry regional office](#).

Please notify your [local regional office](#) of any changes to your information so that we can keep your file updated.

Once we receive your application, a special agreements officer will review your application and may contact you if they need more information.

You will receive a letter stating the decision on whether you qualify for ACSD.

### **AFTER YOU SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION**

The ministry will review your application to determine if you are eligible for the Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) program and notify you in writing of the ministry's decision regarding your application.

The ministry may contact you for clarification or to seek additional information, including supporting medical documentation, if required.

### **DISAGREEING WITH A DECISION**

If you disagree with the decision, you have the right to ask for an internal review within 30 days of receiving the decision. Your decision letter will have information about how to request an internal review.

You should receive a letter telling you the result of the internal review within 30 days of your request received.

If you disagree with the result of the internal review, then you may appeal to the Social Benefits Tribunal. The letter informing you of the result of the internal review will also have information about how to request an appeal to the Social Benefits Tribunal.

**If you need help completing your application:**

**Please call Surrey Place at 1- 833-575-KIDS (5437).**

**Visit our events calendar: <https://mysurreyplace.ca/Event>**

**Visit our resource library: <https://www.surreyplace.ca/resources/>**