

Alberta Hidden Benefits Outline

Program Description	Page #
Income Support - Core Benefits such as food, clothing, rent, utilities, taxes	2
Supplement to core benefits - childcare, shelter, special diet, transportation, employment training, fleeing abuse, medical supplies, natal and adoptive needs.. see full list	3-5
DISABILITY	
AISH - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped	6-8
Disability Related Employment Supports (DRES)	8
Family Support for Children with Disabilities	9-11
Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD)	12-15
Internship for Persons with Disabilities	15
Specific Health in the Community (how to access services)	16-18
Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL)	19-23
Residential Access Modification Program (RAMP)	23-25
HOUSING	
Rent Assistance Benefit	27
Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit	27
Community housing	28
Seniors Self-contained Housing program	28
Special needs housing	30
CHILDREN	
Alberta Child and Family Benefit	30
Child Care Subsidy	30-31
Alberta Child Health Benefit	32-36
HEALTH	
Alberta Adult Health Benefit	36- 39
Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan	39-41
Non-Group Coverage	41-43
Palliative care health benefits	44-45
Specialized drug benefits	46-48
SENIORS	
Alberta Seniors Benefit	49-50
Dental and Optical Assistance for Seniors	51-52

Seniors Home Adaptation and Repair Program (SHARP)	53-54
Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program	55
Special Needs Assistance for Seniors	56 -59

Income Support

Core Benefits

Core benefits consist of the following:

- Core Essential (Code 1430): For food, clothing (including diapers), household needs (including furniture, appliances and household supplies), personal needs, installation and use of a telephone, laundry, transportation (including school transportation, or costs associated with owning a vehicle), and moves within Alberta.
- Core Shelter (Code varies with type of shelter): For rent, mortgage, utilities (except for electricity in social housing), heating fuel, municipal taxes, insurance, condominium fees, lot rental, homeowner's maintenance and damage deposit.
- Actual electricity costs (Code 1201): Clients residing in social housing. Not to exceed Private Housing rates.

Supplement to Core Benefits

- Earnings Replacement Benefit (Code 1731): ETW households where all adults are temporarily not able to work/train
Rate: \$88 per household unit
- Handicap Benefit (Code 1501): Adults assessed as severely handicapped, as defined by the AISH Act.
Rate: \$179
- Personal Needs Supplement (Code 1422): BFE Adults residing in ETW Households.
Rate: \$80
- High School Incentive (Code 1420): For 16-19 year old parents attending school, where they and their child(ren) are dependents on an Income Support file and the high school student is the legal guardian.
Rate: See 04 Special Groups

Other Rates

- Core Essential — Food Only (Code 1430): These rates apply for individuals requiring food only:
 - Household unit with one adult: \$147
 - Household unit with two adults: \$140 per adult
 - Children: \$85 per child
- Comforts Allowance (Code 1405): For individuals who live in McCullough Centre, Nursing Homes, Auxiliary Hospitals and Active Treatment Hospitals.
Rate: \$322
- Special Shelter Rates: For people in nursing homes, hospitals, group homes, and homes approved by Alberta Health and Wellness Mental Health Branch.

Health Benefits (Code 1900s)

People eligible for Income Support also receive health benefits for themselves and their dependents, unless they receive coverage through the federal government or full coverage from their employer. Income Support health benefits cover basic dental care, eye exams and glasses, prescriptions, essential diabetic supplies and emergency ambulance services.

Supplementary Benefits - Supplementary benefits provide additional money for particular needs. Eligibility criteria must be met to receive these benefits.

a) Continuous

- Additional Shelter (Code 1109)
 - Actual cost in excess of core shelter for:
 - Household units of six or more
 - Accommodation adapted for a disability
 - Health would be endangered by a moveRate: Up to \$307/month
- Childcare
- Private (Code 1703) - Rate: \$5/hour for the first child, plus \$2/hour for each additional child, up to a maximum of \$11/hour.
- By Grandparent (Code 1702) - Grandparent not residing in same house.
Rate: \$154 per child/month
- Day Care (Code 1708)- The parent portion after subsidy.
- Child Supplement Allowance (Code 1738) - up to \$205 per child.
- Medical Extraordinary Transportation (Code 1705)
Access to medical services covered by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan for severe health problems.
Rate: Actual cost for bus pass, taxi, or \$0.13 per km
- Special Diet (Code 1701)
 - Monthly Rate Per Adult or Child
 - Low Sodium Rate: \$21
 - Low Cholesterol or Low Fat (do not issue for both) Rate: \$21
 - Low or High Potassium (do not issue for both) Rate: \$21
 - High Calcium Rate: \$21
 - High Fibre Rate: \$21
 - High Protein Rate: \$21
 - Pregnancy Rate: \$26
 - Infant Formula: Difference between food rate and actual cost of formula, up to \$205.
 - Breast Feeding up to 12 months Rate: \$31
 - High Calorie (over 2,500 calories) Rate: \$37
 - AIDS / HIV or Hepatitis C (do not issue for both): Rate: \$37
 - Diabetic or Heart Healthy (do not issue for both): Rate: \$41
 - Milk Free: \$52, Lactose-Free: \$21 (do not issue for both)
 - Celiac or Gluten Free (do not issue for both): Rate: \$82
 - Renal Failure/Insufficiency Rate: \$113

- Transportation to Day or Employment Programs (Code 1723)
For individuals assessed as Barriers to Full Employment who are attending a day or employment program.
Rate: Actual cost for bus pass, taxi, or \$0.13 per km

b) Non-continuous

- Children's School Expenses (Code 1802)
 - Age 4 or 5 and in kindergarten \$52
 - Age 6 to 11 or in grades 1 to 6 \$103
 - Age 12 or older or in grades 7 to 12 \$179
- Child Care Deposit (Code 1831) Registration (Code 1867) - Issued when required to secure child care. Rate: Actual Cost
- Employment Training and Transition Supports (Code 1827-HH/Code 1857-S/P) - To participate in employment preparation programs, training, or to seek or maintain employment.
Rate: \$511 per adult per calendar year.
- Fleeing Abuse Benefits- For persons leaving abusive situations.
 - Personal Benefit - Family Violence Shelter (Code 1407): \$322
 - Personal Benefit - Telephone and Transportation (Code 1732): Up to six months. Maximum \$93.
 - Damage Deposit (Code 1801): Up to private housing core shelter rate.
 - Emergency Transportation (Code 1844): Transportation cost or \$0.13 per km.
 - Escaping Abuse Benefit - To establish a residence (Code 1849): \$1,021.
 - Emergency Shelter - Abuse Situation (Code 1848)
 - Relocation Allowance (Code 1865)
- Medical/Surgical Supplies (Code 1912)
Rate: Actual cost up to \$2,042
- Natal and Adoptive Needs Payment (Code 1819)
Rate: \$256 per child
- Special Transportation and Travel Payment - To reach safety, receive treatment, comply with Child Support Services or appear in criminal court.
 - Travel (Code 1828) - Bus pass, taxi or \$0.13 per km.
 - Accommodation (Code 1863) - Actual cost.
 - Food (Code 1864) - \$11 per adult/ \$6 per child per day.
 - Childcare (Code 1866) - Actual cost of reasonable childcare.
- Relocation Allowance
 - Confirmed employment (Code 1804)
 - Moving out of Alberta (Code 1833)
Rate: Most economical actual cost
- Utility Connection (Code 1817): For each eligible utility.
Rate: Actual cost
- Utility Deposit (Code 1820): For each eligible utility. After first issue, subject to repayment.
Rate: Actual cost

- Utility Reconnection (Code 1829): For each eligible utility. Subject to repayment.
Rate: Actual Cost
- **Emergency Allowance** - Situation is beyond individual's control, presents a serious health risk, and cannot wait until the next benefit period.
 - Replacement clothes (Code 1842): \$219 per adult, \$164 per child.
 - Food - travel (Code 1850): \$11 per adult, \$6 per child per day or
 - Food Rate.
 - Food - non-travel (Code 1841): \$23 per adult, \$15 per child per month.
 - Childcare (Code 1840)
 - Accommodation (Code 1843)
 - Transportation (Code 1844): Public transportation cost or \$0.13 per km.
 - Home repairs (Code 1846): Repayment required.
 - Appliance repairs (Code 1845): Repayment required.
 - Damage Deposit (Code 1851): Available once every 3 years. Actual
 - cost up to \$358 for singles and childless couples and up to \$1,021 for
 - families with children.
 - Eviction (Code 1852): After first issue, repayment required. Actual cost
 - up to \$358 for singles and childless couples and up to \$1,021 for families
 - with children.
 - Utility arrears (Code 1807): After first issue, repayment required.
 - Other emergency needs (Code 1847): Goods or services up to \$1,021.

ELIGIBILITY:

- live in Alberta
- be at least 18 years old
- be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, refugee or refugee claimant
- be unable to pay for your basic needs
- not have income or assets that exceeds:
 - \$5,000 in RRSPs per adult
 - \$10,000 equity in vehicles
- not have income that exceeds what you would receive from Income Support core benefits
- not have cash or savings that exceed the liquid asset limit (the limit is generally three times the Income Support core benefit amount you would be eligible to receive)
- be willing to apply for other income programs that you may be eligible to receive (such as Employment Insurance)
- Your situation must be one of the following:
 - are working but not earning enough
 - are unable to work for a short time
 - need help to access training to find a job
 - are unable to work due to chronic health problems or other concerns

HOW:

Online application: [here](#)

Fill out the [Income Support Application Form](#) (PDF, 284 KB) and bring it to your nearest [Alberta Supports or Alberta Works Centre](#).

Once you submit your application, you will get instructions explaining the next steps including how to set up a meeting with a worker to discuss your application.

DISABILITY

AISH - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

Depending on your situation, you may get:

- a monthly living allowance – money to pay for your living costs such as food, rent and utilities
- a monthly child benefit – money to assist you with raising your dependent children
- health benefits – assistance to cover health needs for you, your spouse or partner and your dependent children
- personal benefits – money over and above your monthly living allowance for specific needs such as a special diet or assistance in an emergency
- Eligibility:
 - You have a medical condition that substantially limits your ability to earn a living.
 - Your medical condition is likely to remain permanent.
 - There is no medical treatment, therapy, rehabilitation or training available that will help improve your ability to earn a living.
 - You are at least 18 years old and not eligible to receive an Old Age Security pension.
 - You live in Alberta and are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.
 - You are not in a correctional facility or some mental health facilities such as Alberta Hospital Edmonton.
 - You meet financial eligibility criteria.

HOW:

1. Fill out the AISH Application Part A

Download: open the Part A - Applicant Information (PDF, 524 KB) form in Adobe Reader, save it, fill it out and print it.

2. Doctor must fill part B - Download: open the AISH Application Part B – Medical Report (PDF, 332 KB) form in Adobe Reader, save it, fill it out and print it.

3. Apply

- Gather your application form and all other documents needed to complete your AISH Application.
- Submit your AISH Application and supporting documents by:
 - mailing them to PO Box 17000 Station Main, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4B3
 - faxing them 1-877-969-3006 (toll free) or 587-469-3006 (Edmonton area), or
 - bringing them to the nearest AISH office or Alberta Supports Centre
 - submitting them online

Disability Related Employment Supports (DRES)

Funding is available to pay for supports that help Albertans overcome barriers to education or employment caused by a disability.

Types of supports

- Job search supports help Albertans with disabilities aged 16 and older seek employment. Supports may include a sign language interpreter so that an individual with a hearing impairment can attend a job interview.

- Workplace supports help Albertans with disabilities aged 16 and older make successful transitions into the workplace, maintain employment, and enable their full participation in the workforce. Supports may include a job coach, worksite modification or assistive technology.
- Education supports help learners with disabilities who are out of the kindergarten to grade 12 school system. These supports prepare learners with disabilities for employment through post-secondary education, basic skill training, academic upgrading or labour market programs. Supports may include sign language interpreters, tutors, note takers, and assistive technology such as software programs specific to the disability.

Eligibility

- have a diagnosed and documented permanent or chronic disability that creates a barrier to education, training and/or employment
- be an Alberta resident
- be a Canadian Citizen, permanent resident, or refugee under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
- be legally entitled to work and/or train in Canada
- intend to work
- be eligible for DRES through an Employability Assessment and have a Service Plan

HOW:

To start the application process, visit or contact your nearest [Alberta Supports](#) or [Alberta Works Centre](#). Call the Alberta Supports Contact Centre for more information about this program:

Phone: 780-644-9992 (Edmonton)

Toll free: 1-877-644-9992 (provincewide)

Family Support for Children with Disabilities

Families who are eligible for the Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) program may receive:

- information about government programs and services, community supports and local resources
- help coordinating and getting supports and services
- help with clothing or footwear that relates to your child's disability
- counselling
- help with some of the costs to take your child to medical appointments such as parking, mileage, meals, accommodation and sibling care
- respite services in or outside your home to give you a temporary break
- help from aides who provide personal care, community, behavioural or developmental support
- temporary living arrangements for your child away from home
- help with some costs for medications, prescribed diets, ambulance or medical supplies
- specialized services for children with severe disabilities
- the same FSCD worker assigned to a family with more than one eligible child
- help planning your child's transition during key changes or life events such as when they:
 - are first diagnosed or the disability is identified
 - return home from the hospital

- start an early intervention program
- start a new school program
- approach age 16 and plan for adulthood

Eligibility:

For your family to be eligible for the Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) program:

- your child with a disability must be under 18 years
- your child must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- the person applying for the program must be the child's parent or guardian
- the child must reside in Alberta

You must also have medical documentation confirming your child has a:

- diagnosis for a disability that is due to a developmental, physical, sensory, mental or neurological condition or impairment, and/or
- health condition that impacts their daily living activities such as eating, grooming, walking, interacting with others, playing and problem solving

HOW:

Use the online application through myAlbertaSupports.ca by:

- creating a secure account, if you do not have one
- choosing the Family Support for Children with Disabilities application
- filling it out online and submitting it

- Get medical documentation - Get a letter or report from a health professional who has diagnosed your child's disability. It may be written by, or on behalf of a:
 - physician or psychiatrist
 - physical or occupational therapist, speech and language pathologist or audiologist
 - clinical social worker or psychologist

It must include:

- your child's name and date of birth
- the diagnosis as either an existing disability or a condition or impairment that may lead to a disability
- information about the disability, how it affects your child's daily functioning and whether it will have long-term implications
- the date the diagnosis was made – it should be current within 2 years
- the name of the physician or health professional who made the diagnosis

Complete your application by bringing, mailing or emailing the medical documentation to the nearest FSCD office.

Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD)

Your PDD worker meets with you and your support team and service providers to create your Individual Support Plan. This plan is finalized within 3 months from when you begin receiving services. It describes how the service providers will help you reach your goals, including:

- the goals you want to reach within a year
- the ways you will reach these goals

- who will provide support
- how you will know when you have reached your goals
- what to do if the plan needs to change

Services

You may access one or more of these services based on your Individual Support Plan:

- home living supports that help you do daily activities like banking, caring for your home, making meals or laundry
- respite services to give your caregivers a break when you live with them fulltime
- community access supports that help you take part in activities so you can learn, develop, relax, have fun or be with others
- employment supports to learn new skills and find and keep a paid job
- short-term support or training to give your caregivers extra help when things are difficult
- specialized supports from experts to help if you have additional needs because of mental illness, behavioural issues, addictions and/or involvement with the law

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the PDD program, you must:

- be 16 years or older to apply and 18 when PDD services start
- live in Alberta and receive PDD services here
- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- You must also have a developmental disability from before you were 18-years-old. Depending on your situation, PDD may ask if you have an assessment from your school or a doctor or specialist confirming your developmental disability. If you do not have

one, PDD may ask a psychologist to do an assessment based on the Developmental Disabilities Guidelines.

To be eligible for the PDD program, the assessment needs to show the disability makes it hard for you to:

- learn and understand things due to an IQ of 70 or lower
- do 6 or more of these 24 daily living skills without help from another person:
 1. reading
 2. writing
 3. knowing the things you like and making decisions based on them
 4. bathing or showering, brushing teeth, shaving, and/or caring for skin, hair and nails
 5. using the bathroom
 6. dressing
 7. preparing and storing food
 8. eating
 9. taking medication
 10. housekeeping
 11. using public transit such as buses or trains, or taking taxis
 12. finding and keeping a job
 13. following a budget and handling cash, cheques, debit or credit cards
 14. moving about safely at home and in your community
 15. using and moving your hands, arms, legs or feet to safely open doors, carry groceries, use a phone, handle coins, kick a ball or other activities
 16. taking part in events, clubs, hobbies and other activities in your community
 17. knowing when someone is trying to harm or take advantage of you and then getting help
 18. using emergency services the right way
 19. staying healthy and safe by doing things like locking doors at night, using smoke detectors or looking both ways before crossing the street
 20. obeying laws
 21. using coping skills to deal with stressful situations, emotions or behaviours
 22. making good personal choices
 23. getting along with others by doing things the way most people do such as saying thank you, not standing too close or taking turns talking
 24. listening and knowing what others are saying and replying in a clear way

HOW: Use the online application at myAlbertaSupports.ca by:

- creating a secure account, if you do not have one
- choosing the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) application
- filling it out online and submitting it

If you need help filling out the online application, contact the nearest [Disability Services office](#) or [Alberta Supports](#).

Internship for Persons with Disabilities

Apply for 1-year paid government work experience that offers professional development and network building opportunities.

Services offers internships in areas that include finance, administrative support and research. Positions are based on the needs of our offices across Alberta. Interns are paid as determined by position classification, candidate experience and education.

Eligibility

- Internships are open to persons with disabilities who have graduated from high school or post-secondary in the last 2 years.
- Supports are available to help with daily living – candidates who may require accommodation are encouraged to apply.

HOW: For more information, call the Alberta Supports Contact Centre:

Phone: [780-644-9992](tel:780-644-9992)

Toll free: [1-877-644-9992](tel:1-877-644-9992)

Specific Health in the Community:

Community agencies help adults with disabilities to access services they may not be able to qualify for or get through other means.

They can help you connect with specialized supports and services such as:

- independent living skills training and/or mentoring
- volunteer opportunities and recreational supports
- supports for managing vision loss
- interpreter and intervener services
- adaptive equipment
- community services

HOW: contact the agency closest to you

Edmonton

Easter Seals Alberta

Toll free: [1-877-732-7837](tel:1-877-732-7837)

Fax: 780-429-1937

Email: info@easterseals.ab.ca, OR edmonton@easterseals.ab.ca

Address:

404 Mayfield Business Centre

10525 170 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5P 4W2

Voice of Albertans with Disabilities
(formerly Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities)

Phone: [780-488-9088](tel:780-488-9088)
Toll free: [1-800-387-2514](tel:1-800-387-2514)
Fax: 780-488-3757
Email: vad@vadsociety.ca
Website: <https://vadsociety.ca>

Address:
106, 10423 178 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5S 1R5

Spinal Cord Injury Alberta, Head Office

Phone: [780-424-6312](tel:780-424-6312)
Toll free: [1-888-654-5444](tel:1-888-654-5444)
Fax: 780-424-6313
Email: edmonton@sci-ab.ca
Website: <http://www.sci-ab.ca>

Address:
Suite 400, Hys Centre
11010 101 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 4B9

Calgary

Calgary Alternative Support Services (CASS)

Phone: [403-283-0611](tel:403-283-0611)

Fax: 403-283-0691

Email: main@c-a-s-s.org

Website: <http://www.c-a-s-s.org/>

Address:

Main CASS Office

#2335 30 Avenue NE

Calgary Alberta T2E 7C7

CNIB Head Office

(formerly Canadian National Institute for the Blind)

Phone: [403-266-8831](tel:403-266-8831)

TTY: [403-264-0105](tel:403-264-0105)

Fax: 403-265-5029

Email: alberta@cnib.ca

Website: <https://www.cnib.ca/en?region=ab>

Address:

10 11A Street NE

Calgary, Alberta T2E 4Z3

or

15 Colonel Baker Place NE

Calgary, Alberta T2E 4Z3

Deaf and Hear Alberta

Phone: [403-284-6200](tel:403-284-6200)

Fax: 403-282-7006

Email: info@deafandhearalberta.ca

Website: <http://www.dhhs.ca/>

Address:

63 Cornell Rd NW

Calgary, Alberta T2L 0L4

Lethbridge

Lethbridge Family Services

Phone: [403-327-5724](tel:403-327-5724)

Fax: 403-329-4924

Website: <http://www.lfsfamily.ca/>

Address:

1107 2 Avenue 'A' North

Lethbridge, Alberta T1H 0E6

Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL)

AADL helps Albertans with a long-term disability, chronic or terminal illness to pay for basic medical equipment and supplies. AADL is a cost-share program. Albertans pay 25% of the benefit cost to a maximum of \$500 per individual or family per year. Low-income Albertans and those receiving income assistance do not pay the cost-sharing portion.

Benefits provided through Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) include:

- amplification benefits
- back and abdominal supports
- bathing and toileting equipment*
- burn garments
- compression stockings and garments
- custom-made footwear
- custom-made ocular prostheses**
- hearing aids and FM systems
- homecare beds and accessories*
- incontinence supplies (diapers and catheters)
- injection supplies (not provided for insulin injections)
- laryngectomy equipment and supplies
- breast prostheses**
- orthotic braces (not foot orthotics) **
- ostomy supplies
- oxygen
- patient lifters*
- pressure reduction overlays
- prosthetic devices**
- respiratory equipment and supplies*
- shoe elevations

- specialized pediatric equipment*
- specialized seating devices
- speech generating communication devices
- therapeutic shoes with custom modifications
- transfer aids
- walkers and walking aids
- wheelchair cushions and accessories
- wheelchairs – manual and power*

* Equipment might not be new

** All seniors in Alberta who receive prosthetic, orthotic, breast prosthesis and eye prosthesis benefits through the AADL program receive these benefits at no cost. This includes seniors who are currently receiving these benefits as well as those who will be applying for them in the future

- Learn more about AADL cost sharing

Hearing aids benefits Albertans are eligible for funding towards the purchase, replacement and repair of hearing aids, if you are:

- under the age of 18 and have a documented hearing loss – you may be eligible for 2 hearing aids once every 5 years
- 18 to 24 years old, have a documented hearing loss and are pursuing full-time post-secondary studies – you may be eligible for 2 hearing aids once every 5 years
- 18 to 64 year old, have a documented hearing loss and have a low income – you may be eligible for funding towards 2 hearing aids or a personal listening device once every 5 years

- 65 years or older, you or your spouse/adult dependent have a documented hearing loss and have a low income – you may be eligible for funding towards 2 hearing aids or a personal listening device once every 5 years
- 65 years or older, you or your spouse/adult dependent have a documented hearing loss but have a higher income – you may be eligible for funding towards 1 hearing aid or a personal listening device once every 5 years.

Homecare bed benefits

To get a bed or bed equipment through AADL, you must first be assessed by an AADL Authorizer and then eligibility for equipment is decided.

The person who needs the equipment:

- must be an Alberta resident with a valid Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan card
- requires equipment due to a long-term disability, chronic illness or terminal illness
- spends 80% of their time in bed and/or are end-stage palliative

The Authorizer identifies the needed equipment, the client signs declaration form and is made aware of the cost-share portion, if required. Then the equipment is ordered and delivered.

ELGIBILITY:

- are an Alberta resident with a valid Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan card
- require assistance because of a long-term disability, chronic illness or terminal illness
 - long-term and chronic are defined as being 6 months or longer

HOW: Before you can apply for AADL benefits, you must first be assessed by a health care professional to determine your basic medical needs and eligibility for the program.

For help call: Contact Alberta Aids to Daily Living

Hours: 8:15 am to 4:30 pm (open Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays)

Phone: [780-427-0731](tel:780-427-0731)

Toll free: [310-0000](tel:310-0000) before the phone number (in Alberta)

IVR Phone: [780-415-8717](tel:780-415-8717)

Residential Access Modification Program (RAMP)

Low income Albertans can apply for a RAMP grant for:

- up to \$7,500 per person each benefit year (April 1 to March 31)
- up to \$15,000 per person within 10 years

Eligibility

- a Canadian citizen or permanent resident who has lived in Alberta for 90 continuous days
- an Albertan of any age who uses a wheelchair or a senior (65+ years) who uses a 4-wheel walker on an ongoing basis
- living with a progressive neuro-degenerative disease including:
 - multiple sclerosis
 - muscular dystrophy
 - ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease)
 - COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
 - Parkinson's disease
 - Alzheimer's disease
 - spina bifida
 - spinal cord injuries

- non-recovering stroke
- a homeowner, tenant or living with family
- an Indigenous person living off- or on-reserve
- within the income guidelines listed below for your family size

RAMP income thresholds

*exceptions may be made for income within \$1200 of the relevant income threshold

Family size	Maximum family income	Family size	Maximum family income
Single Adult	\$36,900	Couple, no children	\$46,500
Single Adult, 1 child	\$46,500	Couple, 1 child	\$56,100
Single Adult, 2 children	\$56,100	Couple, 2 children	\$65,700
Single Adult, 3 children	\$65,700	Couple, 3 children	\$75,300
Single Adult, 4 children	\$75,300	Couple, 4 children	\$84,900
Single Adult, 5 children	\$84,900	Couple, 5 children	\$94,500
An additional \$7,131 family income can be added if the family contains a child who permanently uses a wheelchair.			

Eligible projects

To qualify, modifications must:

- enable you to enter and move within your own living space
- be permanent – RAMP will review requests for temporary modifications on a case-by-case basis

- be made to properties in Alberta
- be completed within 90 days of approval, unless authorized by RAMP

HOW: General Application:

[RAMP Application Checklist](#) (PDF, 964 KB)

[RAMP Application Form](#) (PDF, 96 KB)

[RAMP Modification Recommendation Form](#) (PDF, 76 KB)

Specific Form based on your situation:

Applicants who wish to allow the RAMP office to communicate with any third party (including the contractor or rehabilitation professional) on their behalf	Consent to Disclose Personal and/or Health Information Form (PDF, 2.1 MB)
Applicants who reside in a rental property, co-op or colony or who live in a family member's residence	Landlord Property Modification Agreement Form (PDF, 80 KB)
Applicants who reside on a First Nations reserve	Band Council Resolution Form (PDF, 96 KB)
Applicants who are under a sponsorship agreement to reside in Canada	Sponsor Income Verification Form (PDF, 81 KB)

Send your completed application forms and supporting documents to:

RAMP

Community and Social Services

PO Box 808 Edmonton Main

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2L4

Email: css.ramp@gov.ab.ca

HOUSING

Housing options for families, seniors and individuals with special needs, and building construction standards for affordable housing.

The Alberta government works with a variety of housing providers, including municipalities, housing management bodies, non-profit and private sector organizations, to build and operate affordable housing for Albertans with low income.

There are different options available to help you with the costs of rental housing:

- subsidized housing for families, seniors and individuals with low income
- monthly rent benefits
- other below-market options offered by select housing providers (mixed income apartments)

Eligibility:

- applicants must have an income below local income limits as determined by the market for that community. Refer to the [income thresholds document](#) to determine if your income qualifies.
- Applicants must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident. Other applicable eligibility requirements from the housing provider may apply.

Rent Supplement Program

The Rent Supplement Program helps make rental accommodation more affordable by subsidizing rent. There are 2 types of benefits:

- Rent Assistance Benefit
- Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit

Rent Assistance Benefit - The Rent Assistance Benefit is a long-term benefit available to subsidize the rent for Albertans with low income.

Benefit features:

- paid directly to tenants
- available through most housing management bodies across Alberta
- households are eligible if they are below local income thresholds
- amount is calculated based on household income and local market rent
- households are prioritized based on need
- may be renewed annually
- no limit to benefit renewals if eligible

Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit

The Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit provides a modest subsidy for working households with low income or those between jobs. Support is intended to help eligible tenants afford their rent while they stabilize or improve their situation.

Benefit features:

- paid directly to tenants
- available in Calgary, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Red Deer
- households are eligible if they are if they are below local income thresholds and employed or have been employed in the last 24 months and are not receiving social assistance, including:
 - Income Support
 - Learner Income Support
 - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped
 - Alberta Seniors Benefit
 - Guaranteed Income Supplement
 - Old Age Security
- 2-year limit with eligibility reassessed after the first year
- households are prioritized on a first-come, first-served basis

Community housing

The Community Housing Program provides subsidized rental housing for families, seniors and individuals with low income who cannot afford other housing options due to circumstance.

A tenant's rent, which includes heat, water and sewer expenses, is based on 30% of a household total annual income (non-senior household). Rent does not include electricity, phone, TV, and any additional services such as parking.

Seniors Self-contained Housing program

This program provides apartment-style housing to seniors, who are able to live independently with or without the assistance of community-based services.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be 65 years of age or older. Exceptions may be made for applicants with special circumstances.
- must be functionally independent, with or without the assistance of community-based services.

A tenant's rent, which includes heat, water and sewer expenses, is based on 30% of a household's adjusted income. Rent does not include electricity, phone, TV and any additional services such as parking.

Seniors lodge

The Seniors Lodge program provides rooms, meals, housekeeping services and recreational opportunities for independent seniors. Community based services may help offer these amenities and opportunities. A seniors lodge may be appropriate for those who do not require care in a specialized health care facility.

Management and resident selection opportunities belong to local housing providers. Each local housing provider sets their own lodge rates, and rates vary between regions. Regardless of the monthly lodge rate, each resident must be left with at least \$322 in monthly disposable income.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be 65 years of age or older. Exceptions may be made for applicants with special circumstances.
- must be functionally independent, with or without the assistance of community-based services.

Special needs housing

Special Needs Housing options are available for individuals who have special housing needs including:

- people with developmental disabilities
- people with physical challenges
- victims of family violence
- wards of the provincial government
- the hard-to-house
- any other group with special housing needs

HOW TO APPLY FOR ALL HOUSING:

Find and select a housing provider : Look through the available options [here](#) Find housing and choose a local housing provider that offers a program that suits your situation. Contact the housing provider for an application.

For help contact the [Alberta Supports Contact Centre: 1-877-644-9992](tel:1-877-644-9992)

CHILDREN

Alberta Child and Family Benefit

The Alberta Child and Family Benefit (ACFB) provides direct financial assistance to lower and middle-income families with children under 18.

Eligibility

- be a parent of one or more children under 18
- be a resident of Alberta
- file a tax return
- meet the income criteria

ACFB payments are not taxable. If you receive Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH), Income Support or the Alberta child care subsidy, you are still eligible to receive the ACFB. Receiving the ACFB will not affect your eligibility for these programs.

HOW: You are automatically considered for the ACFB when you file your annual tax return and qualify for the federal government's Canada Child Benefit. No further action is required.

Child Care Subsidy

Eligible lower- and middle-income families can apply for child care subsidies if they have a child enrolled in a:

- licensed facility-based program (daycare, out-of-school care and preschool)
- family day home program overseen by a licensed family day home agency

Eligibility:

- you or your spouse or partner, or the child receiving care, are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada
- you or your spouse or partner are an Alberta resident
- you and your spouse or partner:

- are working, or looking for work
- are attending school
- have special needs, or your child has a special need
- your children are 12 years old or younger and are not yet attending Grade 7
- your children have a secured spot in a licensed facility-based program with preschool, daycare or out-of-school care programming, or a family day home program that is overseen by a licensed agency
- your total family income is less than \$90,000 per year
 - income eligibility is determined by the combined amount of your and your spouse or partner's income from your most recent Notice of Assessment, issued by CRA
 - income is based on Line 15000 (gross income) of your tax return less amounts reported on Line 32000 (education related tax deductions), and Lines 33099 and 33199 (medical related tax deductions)
 - in the event of a recent loss of income, or if you and your spouse or partner were not required to file a Canadian tax return, you can [contact us](#) to request an evaluation of income and education estimates

HOW: online **[Child Care Subsidy Application](#)**

For help or questions call Toll free: [1-877-644-9992](tel:1-877-644-9992)

Alberta Child Health Benefit

Low income families can apply to this program to get eyeglasses, prescription drugs, and dental care for their kids.

The Alberta Child Health Benefit covers health benefits for children in low-income households. This health plan is for children up to 18 years of age. Children who are 18 or 19 years old also qualify, if they are living at home and attending high school.

This program provides coverage for:

- dental care
- prescription drugs
- eye glasses
- essential diabetic supplies
- emergency ambulance services
- essential over-the-counter medications

What is covered

- Dental care - basic and preventative services like fillings, x-rays, examinations and teeth cleaning
- Optical benefits - Eye glasses every year
- Prescription drugs - The list of eligible prescription drugs found here:
 - § [Interactive Drug Benefit List](#)
 - § Some over-the-counter products, such as children's vitamins
- Ambulance services - Emergency ambulance trips to the nearest hospital
- Diabetic supplies - such as injection supplies, testing strips and lancets

Talk to your doctor, dental provider, optical provider or pharmacist to learn which items are paid for by this health benefit plan.

Eligibility: you and members of your family must:

- live in Alberta
- be Canadian citizens or have permanent resident status in Canada
- meet the guidelines below
- not be receiving health benefits from other government programs:
 - Income Support
 - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH)
 - Child and Youth Support Program
 - Canadian government programs for Albertans with First Nations or Inuit status (Non-Insured Health benefits program)

Your total net household income must fall below these maximum income guidelines based on family size.

Table 1. Maximum income guidelines based on family size

Family	Maximum income
1 adult + 1 child	\$26,023
1 adult + 2 children	\$31,010
1 adult + 3 children	\$36,325
1 adult + 4 children*	\$41,957
Couple, no children	\$23,212
Couple + 1 child	\$31,237
Couple + 2 children	\$36,634

Family	Maximum income
Couple + 3 children	\$41,594
Couple + 4 children*	\$46,932

*For each additional child, add \$4,973

HOW

Step 1. Fill out the application form

Alberta Child Health Benefit application (PDF, 1 MB)

Step 2. Mail or fax your application form

Mailing address:

Health Benefits Contact Centre

PO Box 2222 Station Main

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 5H3

For help call the Health Benefits Contact Centre:

Phone: 780-427-6848

Toll free: 1-877-469-5437

HEALTH

Alberta Adult Health Benefit

The Alberta Adult Health Benefit program covers health benefits for Albertans in low-income households who are pregnant or have high ongoing prescription drug needs.

- Dental care
 - Basic services like extractions, fillings and dentures
 - Preventative care like x-rays, examinations and teeth cleaning are also covered
- Eye exams and glasses
 - An eye exam and eye glasses for adults every 2 years
 - Eye glasses each year for dependents up to 18 years of age
- Prescription drugs
 - The list of eligible prescription drugs can be found here:
 - § [Interactive Drug Benefit List](#)
 - Some over-the-counter products, such as prenatal vitamins for expectant mothers and children's vitamins
 - Your family doctor or pharmacist has a list of what is covered under this health benefit plan
- Ambulance services
 - Emergency ambulance trips to the nearest hospital
- Diabetic supplies
 - Diabetic supplies such as injection supplies, testing strips and lancets

Talk to your doctor, dental provider, optical provider or pharmacist to learn what is paid for by this health benefit plan.

Eligibility:

- are pregnant
- have high ongoing prescription drug needs
- are leaving the [Income Support](#) or [Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped \(AISH\)](#) programs due to excess income from employment, self-employment or CPP-D benefits

You and members of your family must:

- live in Alberta
- be Canadian citizens or have permanent resident status in Canada
- meet the guidelines below
- not be receiving health benefits from other government programs:
 - [Income Support](#)
 - [Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped \(AISH\)](#)
 - [Child and Youth Support Program](#)
 - [Canadian government programs for First Nations people and Inuit \(Health Canada Non-Insured Health Benefits Program - NIHB\)](#)
 - [sponsored immigrants](#)
 - [victims of human trafficking](#)
 - [Alberta Seniors Benefit](#)
 - [incarcerated individuals](#)

Your total net household income must fall below these maximum income guidelines based on family size.

Table 1. Maximum income guidelines based on family size

Family	Maximum income
Single adult	\$16,580
1 adult + 1 child	\$26,023
1 adult + 2 children	\$31,010
1 adult + 3 children	\$36,325
1 adult + 4 children*	\$41,957
Couple, no children	\$23,212
Couple + 1 child	\$31,237
Couple + 2 children	\$36,634
Couple + 3 children	\$41,594
Couple + 4 children*	\$46,932

*For each additional child, add \$4,973

HOW: [Alberta Adult Health Benefit application](#) (PDF, 450 KB)

Step 2. Mail or fax your application form

Contact Mailing address:
Health Benefits Contact Centre
PO Box 2222 Station Main
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 5H3

For Help: Connect with the Health Benefits Contact Centre:

Phone: [780-427-6848](tel:780-427-6848)

Toll free: [1-877-469-5437](tel:1-877-469-5437)

Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan

To be covered for insured health services in Alberta, you must be registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP). You need to apply for coverage. Once your AHCIP application is received, it is reviewed to see if you are eligible.

Eligible residents

You are eligible for Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) coverage if you are:

- legally entitled to be or to remain in Canada and make your permanent home in Alberta
- committed to being physically present in Alberta for at least 183 days in a 12-month period
- not claiming residency or obtaining benefits under a claim of residency in another province, territory or country
- any other person deemed by the regulations to be a resident or [temporary resident](#), not including a tourist, transient or visitor to Alberta

HOW: [Download the application form for AHCIP coverage](#) (PDF, 200 KB).

For Canadian children of non-eligible parents: [Application form for AHCIP Coverage: Canadian Children of Non-Eligible Parents](#) (PDF, 169 KB).

Step 2. Gather your supporting documents

When you apply for AHCIP coverage, you must provide supporting documents that prove:

1. Alberta residency
2. identity
3. legal entitlement to be in Canada

Alberta residency documents include:

- Alberta driver's license
- bills such as utilities and phone bills
- mortgage or rental agreement
- home insurance
- vehicle registration

Identity documents include:

- Canadian passport
- Permanent resident card (both sides)
- First Nations/Inuit/Métis card (both sides)
- Alberta driver's license
- Alberta registries ID card
- Canadian citizenship card

Legal entitlement to be in Canada documents include:

- Canadian passport
- Permanent resident card (both sides)
- First Nations/Inuit/Métis card (both sides)
- Canadian birth certificate
- Canada entry document (both sides)
- Canadian citizenship card or certificate (both sides)

Submit the application

In person - Bring the completed application form and your original documents to an [authorized registry agent](#). There is no charge for this service.

By mail - Send your completed application form and photocopies of your supporting documents to the AHCIP office:

Alberta Health

Attention: Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan

PO Box 1360, Station Main

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N3

For help call Phone: 780-427-1432 Toll free: 310-0000 before the phone number (in Alberta)

Non-Group Coverage

The Non-Group Coverage program ensures all Albertans have access to an economical supplementary health benefits program. The program provides coverage for a variety of health-related services not covered by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP).

- Alberta Blue Cross administers Non-Group Coverage on behalf of the Alberta government.
- A monthly premium is charged for Non-Group Coverage.

Monthly Rates	Single	Family
Full Premium	\$63.50	\$118.00
Subsidized Premiums (complete the Application for Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Coverage Premium Subsidy)	\$44.45	\$82.60

Benefits you get:

- Prescription drugs - The co-payment is 30% to a maximum of \$25. To avoid surprises, ask your pharmacist about the cost of your prescription before it is filled.
- Diabetic supplies - For insulin-treated diabetics only. Up to a maximum of \$600 per eligible person each benefit year, that is, July 1 to June 30, for diabetic supplies purchased from a licensed pharmacy. Diabetic supplies include needles, syringes, lancets and urine- and blood-glucose testing strips.
- Ambulance services - Ambulance services are covered to the maximum rate established by the Alberta government for treatment, and transportation to and from a general, active treatment hospital in the event of illness or injury.
- Clinical psychological services - Coverage for clinical psychological services are up to \$60 per visit, to a maximum of \$300 per family each benefit year, for treatment of mental or emotional illness by a registered chartered psychologist.
- Home nursing care - Coverage for home nursing care is up to \$200 per family each benefit year for nursing care provided in the patient's home by written order of a physician. Home nursing care must be provided by a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse who is not a relative of the patient.
- Prosthetic and orthotic benefits - Coverage for prosthetic and orthotic benefits is up to 25% of the maximum allowable amount for items included on the benefit list. Coverage includes the purchase or repair of artificial eyes, prosthetic devices – except myoelectric-controlled prostheses – and braces required for 6 months or longer. A physician's written order is required. Foot orthotics are not included as a benefit.

- Mastectomy prosthesis - Coverage for mastectomy prostheses is up to 25% of the maximum allowable amount for the mastectomy prosthesis included on the benefit list. This does not apply to the purchase of a supporting brassiere.
- Hospital accommodation - In a publicly funded active treatment hospital, you are covered for the difference in cost for a private or semi-private hospital room. Show your Alberta Blue Cross card when you are admitted, as all Alberta hospitals bill Alberta Blue Cross directly.

Eligibility:

- Non-Group Coverage is available to all Alberta residents under 65 years of age and their dependants, as registered under the AHCIP.
- Single coverage – available to Alberta residents with no dependants
- Family coverage – available to Alberta residents and eligible dependants. The same dependants covered under the subscriber's AHCIP account must be included on the subscriber's Non-Group Coverage:
 - spouse
 - adult interdependent partner
 - unmarried children under 21 years of age who are fully dependent on the subscriber
 - unmarried children under 25 years of age who are in full-time attendance at an accredited educational institute
 - unmarried children 21 years of age or older who are fully dependent on the subscriber because of a mental or physical disability

HOW:

[Complete the application for Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Coverage \(PDF, 174 KB\)](#)

Palliative care health benefits

The Palliative Coverage Program provides subsidized benefits to Albertans who are diagnosed as palliative and remain in their home or in a hospice where access to publicly funded drugs, diabetic supplies and ambulance services are not included.

Eligibility - The program is open to Albertans registered with the AHCIP and who have been diagnosed as being palliative. Palliative refers to patients who have been diagnosed by a physician or nurse practitioner as being in the end stage of a terminal illness or disease. Patients are aware of their diagnosis and have made a voluntary informed decision related to resuscitation, and the focus of care is palliation and not treatment aimed at a cure. The program excludes patients who live in residences that provide publicly funded drugs, diabetic supplies and ambulance services. These residences include long-term care facilities, acute care hospitals and psychiatric hospitals.

Benefits provided:

- Prescription drugs - Prescription medications, specific laxatives and solutions for hydration therapy are covered if listed in the [Alberta Drug Benefit List](#) or [Palliative Care Drug Benefit Supplement](#).

- Diabetic supplies - For insulin-treated diabetics only. Up to a maximum of \$600 per eligible person each benefit year, that is, July 1 to June 30, for diabetic supplies purchased from a licensed pharmacy. Diabetic supplies include needles, syringes, lancets and urine- and blood-glucose testing strips.
- Ambulance services - Ambulance services are covered to the maximum rate established by the Alberta government for treatment, and transportation to and from a general, active treatment hospital in the event of illness or injury.

HOW: Download and complete the [Palliative Coverage Program application form](#) (PDF, 156 KB)

The application form must be completed and signed by both the patient and physician or nurse practitioner.

Mail it to:

Alberta Health

Attn: Alberta Palliative Coverage Program

PO Box 1360 Station Main

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N3

Specialized drug benefits

Prescription drugs provided during care received in hospitals, auxiliary hospitals and nursing homes are covered under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP).

Outpatient cancer drugs

The Outpatient Cancer Drug Benefit Program provides select medications used in the direct treatment of cancer to patients at no cost.

To qualify for this program, you must:

- be a resident of Alberta
- be registered with the AHCIP and have not opted out of the plan
- be registered in the Cancer Registry with a disease classified in the International Classification of Diseases for Oncology
- require drugs to treat cancer

High cost drugs

The Specialized High Cost Drug Program provides funding for drugs used in highly specialized procedures, such as organ transplants and major heart surgeries. This Program is available to all Albertans in addition to basic health services.

To qualify for this program, you must:

- be a resident of Alberta
- be registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan and have not opted out of the plan
- require an eligible high cost drug to treat an eligible medical condition specified in the program

The Specialized High Cost Drug Program provides for high cost drugs such as:

- transplant drugs – transplant patients are eligible for immunosuppressants

- HIV drugs – drugs for the treatment of patients with human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection are dispensed through the Southern and Northern Alberta Clinics
- other drugs funded include:
 - Pulmozyme – for cystic fibrosis
 - human growth hormone – for pediatric growth hormone deficiency and chronic renal failure
 - Flolan – for primary pulmonary hypertension
 - Visudyne – for the classic form of wet age-related macular degeneration

Insulin pump therapy

The Insulin Pump Therapy Program (IPTP) is designed to support Alberta residents living with type 1 or type 3c diabetes.

Albertans who meet the eligibility and clinical criteria will be able to receive coverage for the cost of an insulin pump and its supplies as well as other diabetes management supplies. The program currently covers the Omnipod Insulin Management System and the MiniMed 630G Insulin Pump System and their supplies.

RAPID program

The Retina Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Program for Intraocular Disease (RAPID) pilot project began October 2015, in partnership with the Retinal Society of Alberta. RAPID allows patients with certain eye conditions to be treated with Avastin, Lucentis or Eylea to prevent vision loss.

The full cost of all 3 drugs is paid for by the Alberta government with no co-payments. This saves patients \$25 per treatment or about \$300 per year.

Avastin is a lower cost drug but Lucentis and Eylea are also covered for patients who are registered in a government-sponsored drug plan and are treated by a physician who is not a member of the Retina Society of Alberta.

Patients must receive treatment directly from their physicians.

Patients and physicians may choose either Avastin, Lucentis or Eylea.

All program participants, regardless of which drug they use, are monitored for safety and effectiveness of their treatment.

Talk to your retina specialist about RAPID.

Disease control and prevention

Public health strategies to control notifiable communicable diseases include:

- preventing infection through education and/or preventative medicine, including immunization
- minimizing transmission of infection through prompt investigation and follow-up of notifiable communicable diseases incidents and implementation of protective measures
- providing epidemiologic data for reporting and public health response measures
- continuous monitoring and surveillance of communicable disease incidences in the community to quickly identify and respond to emerging illnesses or outbreaks of disease

Prescription drugs for the treatment of tuberculosis and sexually transmitted disease are provided at no charge to the patient.

SENIORS

Alberta Seniors Benefit

Seniors with low-income can get financial assistance to help with monthly living expenses.

In general, a single senior with an annual income of \$29,285 or less, and senior couples with a combined annual income of \$47,545 or less, may be eligible for a benefit. These income levels are guidelines only, and are for seniors whose income includes full Old Age Security pension.

The amount of benefit you may be eligible to receive is determined by:

- your income, combined with your spouse/partner's income, regardless of age
- whether you receive the federal Old Age Security pension (you have lived in Canada for 10 years)
- your accommodation category
- your marital/cohabitation status

Eligibility:

- be 65 years of age or older (benefits may start the month of your 65th birthday)
- have lived in Alberta for at least 3 months immediately before applying
- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- receive the Old Age Security pension from the Government of Canada
- meet financial eligibility criteria
- you and/or your spouse/partner have chosen to defer or delay receipt of Old Age Security (OAS), you are **not** eligible for seniors financial assistance programs.

Use the Seniors Benefit Estimator to help determine your eligibility for Seniors Financial Assistance programs. **Get an estimate**

The Supplementary Accommodation Benefit supports eligible seniors who reside in a designated supportive living or long-term care facility with monthly accommodation charges. The amount received is determined by:

- your personal income from all sources (line 15000 of the previous year's income tax return) combined with your spouse/partner's income (regardless of age)
- the maximum monthly accommodation charge in designated supportive living and long-term care as set by [Alberta Health](#)
- the monthly disposable income amount of at least \$322 (this amount may be used for personal expenses such as personal hygiene, telephone, cable, etc.)

The Supplementary Accommodation Benefit is combined with the Alberta Seniors Benefit. You will receive one combined payment each month. Seniors with low income not eligible for the federal Old Age Security pension, who are residents of designated supportive living and long-term care facilities, are considered for the Supplementary Accommodation Benefit.

HOW:

Complete the Seniors Financial Assistance application:

- [Apply online](#)

OR

- Download and print the [Seniors Financial Assistance application form](#) (PDF, 114 KB)
- Date of birth validation for you and your spouse/partner (if applicable) must be included with your application. Attach a photocopy of **one of the following documents**:
 - § Canadian birth certificate
 - § A valid Canadian driver's license
 - § A valid Alberta identification card

- § Passport
- § Canada Entry Documents
- § Canadian Citizenship Document
- § Permanent Resident Card (front and back)

Fax to 780-422-5954

Mail to:

Alberta Seniors and Housing
 Seniors Financial Assistance
 PO Box 3100
 Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4W3

If you need help completing an application, call the Alberta Supports Contact Centre toll-free at 1-877-644-9992.

Dental and Optical Assistance for Seniors

Eligible seniors can get help covering the cost of basic dental and optical services.

Marital status, income and benefits:

Marital status	Total household annual income	Dental benefits (For allowable procedures up to the program fee maximums)	Optical benefits
Single senior	\$0 to \$29,285	100% (maximum coverage)	Up to \$230
	\$29,286 to \$31,675	99 to 10% (partial coverage)	Up to \$115
	Over \$31,675	Not eligible	Not eligible
	\$0 to \$58,570	100% (maximum coverage)	Up to \$230

Marital status	Total household annual income	Dental benefits (For allowable procedures up to the program fee maximums)	Optical benefits
Senior couple	\$58,571 to \$63,350	99% to 10% (partial coverage)	Up to \$115
	Over \$63,350	Not eligible	Not eligible

Eligibility:

- be 65 years of age or older
- be an Alberta resident and have resided in Alberta for at least three months before applying
- be a Canadian citizen or admitted to Canada for permanent residence (landed immigrant)
- have submitted a completed Seniors Financial Assistance programs application form
- have an annual income within the limits allowed by the program

HOW: complete and submit the [Seniors Financial Assistance application form](#) (PDF, 124

KB) to:

Seniors Financial Assistance
 PO Box 3100
 Edmonton, AB, T5J 4W3.

Seniors Home Adaptation and Repair Program (SHARP)

The Seniors Home Adaptation and Repair Program (SHARP) allows seniors to use their home equity to remain in their homes and maintain their independence. Eligible seniors can apply for a low-interest home equity loan with the Government of Alberta to cover repairs, adaptations and renovations to their primary residence.

The intent is to help seniors:

- remain independent in their homes
- be safe in their homes
- adapt and modify their homes to improve accessibility and mobility
- improve the energy efficiency of their homes

Some project examples are:

- bathroom or walk-in tubs
- furnace and hot water tank upgrades
- stair lifts
- widening of doorways
- roof and window replacement

Eligibility

You (and your spouse, if applicable) must have an annual combined income of \$75,000 or less and a minimum of 25 per cent equity in your home.

To qualify you must be:

- age 65 or older and listed as a registered owner of a residential property in a Land Title Office (only one spouse/partner needs to be 65)
- a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- an Alberta resident for a minimum of three months

Property qualifications

- Only your primary residence is eligible
- Property covered by home insurance at full replacement value
- Sufficient equity of at least 25 per cent
- Only residential properties qualify.

Minimum equity - To qualify for a loan you must maintain a minimum of 25 per cent equity in your home after the loan amount is applied. All charges registered against the land title cannot exceed 75 per cent of the property's assessed value.

Registered charges affecting eligibility for a loan

Any charges registered against your home that may prevent you from being able to repay your loan must be removed from your land title certificate before you can qualify for a loan. Examples of charges are:

- Certificate of lis pendens (pending litigation)
- Reverse mortgage
- Maintenance enforcement
- Bankruptcy

SHARP grant

If you are not eligible for a loan, your application may be considered for a grant to help cover some basic and essential repairs. You may not be eligible for a loan if you are not a fee simple owner, have insufficient equity, or you are a mobile homeowner on rented land.

Your 2020 income must be less than \$29,285 (single senior) or \$47,545 (senior couple) to be considered for a grant beginning July 1, 2021.

Complete a SHARP application and staff will contact you to review your eligibility.

HOW:

Submit all of the following:

- A completed application form
- Signed loan agreement and Canada Revenue Agency statement of consent
- Direct deposit information
- Your current property tax bill or assessment
- Receipt(s) or estimate(s) for requested home repairs, adaptations and renovations

Complete and sign the [Loan Application and Agreement](#). Original signatures are needed to accept an application. You must mail your completed and signed application to the address below:

Seniors Home Adaptation and Repair Program (SHARP)

PO Box 1050 STN Main

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2M1

For help call Toll free: [1-877-644-9992](tel:1-877-644-9992)

Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program

The Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program allows eligible senior homeowners to voluntarily defer all or part of their residential property taxes, including the education tax portion. This is done through a low-interest home equity loan with the Government of Alberta.

Monthly re-payments are not required. You can choose to repay the loan at any time, but it will automatically become due when:

- you sell your home
- you are no longer a registered owner
- the home is no longer your primary residence

Use the [loan estimator](#) to estimate your loan and interest charges for the Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program.

Eligibility:

Eligibility is **not** based on your income.

To be eligible for this program, you must:

- be 65 years of age, or older (only one spouse/partner needs to be at least 65)

- be an Alberta resident, having lived in the province for at least 3 months
- own a residential property in Alberta and the home must be your primary residence (the place where you live most of the time)
- have a minimum of 25% equity in your home to allow the government to secure the loan and ensure repayment when the loan is due

Property eligibility

Only residential properties are eligible for the Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program.

The following will also be considered:

- mobile and manufactured homes on residential property owned by the senior
- residential portions of farmland and
- residential portions of commercial property

HOW:

You can apply at any time of the year. you must apply at least 30 days before the municipal property tax deadline (usually June 30th) to avoid penalties and allow enough time for the application to be processed and for the tax payment to be made on your behalf to your municipality.

- Complete and sign the [Loan Application and Agreement](#). Include a copy of your municipal property tax bill for the year you are applying for.
- You must mail your completed and signed application to the address below:

Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program
PO Box 1200 STN Main
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2M4

Special Needs Assistance for Seniors

Seniors with low-income can get financial assistance to help afford the cost of appliances and specific health and personal supports.

The maximum assistance available in a benefit year is \$5,105. The amount you may be eligible to receive is determined by:

- your accommodation category
- your marital or cohabitation status
- your income – combined with your spouse/partner's income

In general, a single senior with a total annual income of \$29,285 or less, or a senior couple with a total combined annual income of \$47,545 or less, may be eligible to receive assistance.

Health supports

- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machine and supplies
- Diabetic supplies
- Nutritional beverages
- Podiatry
- Prescription costs

Personal supports

- Bed bug treatment
- Celiac groceries

- Clothing
- Home clean-up
- Housekeeping and yard maintenance
- Medical trips
- Medically supervised transportation – long-term care relocation
- Medication administration fee
- Personal response service monitoring fees
- Relocation of washer and dryer
- Respite care
- Utility disconnection
- Wigs

Appliances and furniture

Eligibility:

- be 65 years of age or older
- be an Alberta resident
- be a Canadian citizen or have been lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence
- meet financial eligibility criteria
- have provided a [Seniors Financial Assistance](#) application

HOW: already be enrolled in the Seniors Financial Assistance programs (same application used for the above senior health programs)

Coverage for Seniors:

provides coverage for medical needs, such as prescriptions drugs, diabetic supplies, ambulance services, home nursing care, chiropractic services and clinical psychological services.

Eligibility: To be eligible for Coverage for Seniors, you must provide proof of being 65 years of age or older.

HOW: When AHCIP records indicate an Albertan will be turning 65, a package is mailed to the address on their AHCIP file providing information about programs and services for seniors.

- This package will include a letter asking you to submit proof-of-age documents if required.
- If you did not receive the package, or have further questions, [contact the AHCIP office.](#)
- If we have a proof-of-age document on your AHCIP file, Coverage for Seniors is automatically added to your AHCIP account.