



Caring for a child or youth with disabilities comes with many challenges. Here are some funding options that may be helpful for your family. If you have questions or need help filling out applications, please contact us. We're here to help.

## Special Services at Home (SSAH)

<b>Funded by:</b>	Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS)
<b>How can it help?</b>	<p>This program helps families care for children with developmental or physical disabilities in their own home and community.</p> <p><b>Families can get help for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respite services</li> <li>• Programs like special summer camps, not covered by other community services</li> <li>• Developmental services, like paying someone to help the child develop skills</li> </ul>
<b>Who can it help?</b>	<p>This program can help families who have a child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the age of 18 with a developmental and/or physical disability</li> <li>• Living in Ontario</li> <li>• Needing more support than you can provide</li> <li>• Living at home with you, or is not living at home with you and is not being helped by other residential services</li> </ul>
<b>How do I apply?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Visit the <a href="#">SSAH website</a> to download the <a href="#">application form</a>, or call your local MCCSS office to ask for a copy.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To fill out the form online, you must have Adobe Reader.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Review the <a href="#">program guidelines</a> and the <a href="#">April 2020 addendum</a> for more information about temporary COVID-19 changes to eligible expenses</li> <li>3. Attach a medical statement or psychological assessment to your application. It should include:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A description of the disability</li> <li>b. Explanation of why you need the services</li> <li>c. How much it will cost</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Mail the completed application form and the medical assessment to your <a href="#">nearest regional office</a>.</li> </ol>
<b>Contacts:</b>	Special Agreements Officer (SAO)
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/special-services-home">https://www.ontario.ca/page/special-services-home</a>
<b>More information:</b>	All applications are assessed based on your child and family's unique needs and circumstances. Please notify the local <a href="#">regional office</a> of any changes to your information to keep your file updated.



## Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

<b>Funded by:</b>	Canadian Government
<b>How can it help?</b>	<p>If you have a child with special needs, the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) is a non-refundable tax credit that helps people with disabilities, or their supporting persons reduce the amount of income tax they may have to pay. People may claim the disability amount once they are eligible for the DTC. This amount includes a supplement for persons under 18 years of age at the end of the year. This tax credit can be transferred to a supporting family member who provided regular and consistent support for one or more of the basic necessities of life such as food, shelter or clothing to the person.</p> <p>Being eligible for the DTC can open the door to other federal, provincial, or territorial programs like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registered Disability Savings Plan</li> <li>• Working Income Tax Benefit</li> <li>• Child Disability Benefit</li> </ul>
<b>Who can it help?</b>	<p>Parents or legal guardians may apply for the DTC, if their child has a severe and prolonged impairment that has lasted or is expected to last at least 12 months, and has effects of an impairment that fall into one or more of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision</li> <li>• Life sustaining therapy</li> <li>• Basic activities of daily living: walking, speaking, dressing, hearing, feeding, eliminating (bowel or bladder functions), mental functions, or the cumulative effect of significant restrictions.</li> </ul>
<b>How do I apply?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete Part A of Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate.</li> <li>2. Have Part B of Form T2201 completed and certified by the child's medical practitioner.</li> <li>3. Send the completed and signed original form to the Canada Revenue Agency. *A medical practitioner can be a medical doctor, physiotherapist, optometrist, psychologist, occupational therapist, speech-language pathologist, or audiologist.</li> </ol>
<b>Contacts:</b>	Call 1-800-959-8281
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/taxcredits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/taxcredits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html</a>
<b>More information:</b>	You may claim the disability amount on your income tax and benefit return once the person with the disability is eligible for the DTC. To claim the disability amount for your child, see line 318 on the return.



## Community Living Respite

<b>Funded by:</b>	Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS)
<b>How can it help?</b>	As a parent or caregiver of a child or youth with special needs, you may need extra support or a break from time to time. If eligible, we can help you by providing funding to purchase supports, including relief from the day-to-day care of your child.
<b>Who can it help?</b>	<p>This program can help families who have a child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under 18 years of age</li> <li>• Living at home</li> <li>• In need of intensive care and constant monitoring on a 24-hour basis</li> <li>• Medically fragile and/or technology dependent, meeting one of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Relies on medical and technological equipment, such as mechanical ventilators, apnea monitors, renal dialysis, urinary catheters, colostomy bags</li> <li>○ Is administered drugs intravenously</li> <li>○ Relies on tracheotomy tube care, suctioning, oxygen support or tube feeding</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>How do I apply?</b>	Reach out to your local Community Living for a copy of the application.
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://respiteservices.com/">https://respiteservices.com/</a>
<b>More information:</b>	Each Community Living across the province has unique list of available services. We urge you to reach out and see what supports match your family's needs

## Enhanced Respite Funding

<b>Funded by:</b>	Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
<b>How can it help?</b>	<p>Respite funding is available to families to enhance Community Living, SSAH and ACSD funding and can be used in-home and out-of-home dependent on need.</p> <p>Hands offers Special Activity funding to support a worker engaging in a community activity with a child/youth with autism. We also offer Crisis funding for unexpected, short-term supports.</p>
<b>Who can it help?</b>	<p>This program can help families who have a child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living in Muskoka, Parry Sound or Nipissing Districts</li> <li>• Under 18 years old</li> <li>• With a diagnosis of ASD (Autism, Asperger Syndrome, PDD-NOS).</li> <li>• *Other criteria specific to usage - see applications</li> </ul>
<b>How do I apply?</b>	Find our applications online or call Hands Autism and Behavioural Services for more information at 1-800-668-8555 ext. 1333
<b>Contacts:</b>	AutismRespite@handsthfn.ca



**Website:** <https://thefamilyhelpnetwork.ca/resources/#Autism>

## Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD)

<b>Funded by:</b>	Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS)
<b>How can it help?</b>	<p>This program helps parents with some of the extra costs of caring for a child with a severe disability. This funding aims to help children with disabilities live as normal a life as possible at home and in the community.</p> <p>Depending on your household income, the size of your family and your child’s disability related costs, the program may provide between \$25 and \$500 a month to help with costs such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel to doctors’ appointments, hospitals and other appointments related to the child’s disability</li> <li>• Special shoes and clothes</li> <li>• Parental relief, such as respite</li> </ul>
<b>Who can it help?</b>	<p>Depending on income, this program can help families who have a child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under 18 years of age</li> <li>• Living at home</li> <li>• With a severe disability</li> </ul>
<b>How do I apply?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contact your local <u>regional office</u> and ask for an application form</li> <li>2. Complete the application form and return it to the regional office along with any documentation asked for</li> <li>3. A special agreements officer will review your application and will contact you if they need more information</li> <li>4. You will receive a letter stating whether or not you qualify for a grant and, if so, how much you will receive</li> </ol>
<b>Contacts:</b>	Special Agreements Officer (SAO)
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/assistance-children-severe-disabilities-program">https://www.ontario.ca/page/assistance-children-severe-disabilities-program</a>

**Disclaimer:** Information in this fact sheet is meant only to give general information. We do not take any responsibility for any loss, injury, claim, liability or damage of any kind resulting from the content. Always contact an accounting, tax or health professional for more information on financial assistance.