



Canadian  
**Down Syndrome**  
Society

Société canadienne du  
**syndrome de Down**

## Transition Services for Individuals with Down Syndrome

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**See the ability**

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# Alberta

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## Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD)

FSCD provides services for children within Alberta. The program recognizes that while all children/youth and their families go through changes, the transitions may be more complex or may require more proactive planning for children with disabilities and their families, hence the need for early planning. Once a child turns 18, they will go from FSCD on to Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD).

- FSCD helps in the transition process by referring families to adult services and programs.
- At age 16, the FSCD worker facilitates a meeting with adult services like PDD and Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH).
- The meeting comprises of the individual and the family, to plan transitions into adult services.
- Transition to adulthood is usually more successful when it starts early.
- Before the youth turns age 18, adult services will work together with youth and their families to plan according to the individual's vision.

### [Transition planning brochure](#)

- For more information, [contact your local FSCD Office](#).

### [My Alberta support](#)

- Call toll-free 1-877-644-9992

## Persons with Developmental Disability (PDD)

Provides funds for programs and services to adults with developmental disabilities in Alberta to live as independently as they can and be a part of their communities. The funds provide staffing supports for programs like:

- Community Living Supports
- Employment Supports
- Community Access Supports
- Specialized Community Supports

To apply for PDD funded services, contact your PDD office location by visiting [this site](#).

## Assisted Income for Severely Handicapped (AISH)

This program provides financial and health-related assistance to adults with a permanent disability that substantially limit the person's ability to earn a living.

To find your nearest AISH office, please [visit this site](#).

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## British Columbia

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The Government of British Columbia offers a huge range of programs and services for people with disabilities.

### Services to Adult with Developmental Disabilities (STADD)

STADD can help individuals and their families plan goals and access supports available for young adults with developmental disabilities as they transition to adulthood. The transition plan process is participant-centered and flexible. STADD navigators can assist in the transition on how to become eligible for Community Living BC services before age 19. With help from a navigator, making big decisions for the future can be much less stressful.

A person can get help from a navigator if:

- They have a developmental disability
- They are between the ages of 16 and 24
- They would like support to plan their transition into adulthood

To get started with a navigator a person can:

- Talk to their facilitator at Community Living BC and ask for a referral;
- If they are receiving services from a local health authority, they ask for a referral;  
or
- Call 1-855-356-5609

[Click here](#) to learn more about STADD Sites.

### Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation

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- Income and disability assistance
- Transitioning into adulthood
- Employment support

### Community Living British Columbia (CLBC)

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- Provides support and services for adults with a disability and their families
- Works in collaboration with youths and their families and other government organizations and ministries to support youth transitioning to adulthood
- Process starts after 16th birthday, family member establishes eligibility
- To begin transition process, contact Child and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) Social worker or Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD).

If you are not connected to MCFD, contact a Community Living British Columbia Facilitator. Phone: 250-952-4203.

Start the application process by calling your local [Service Delivery Area Contact](#).

## Saskatchewan

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### Child and Family Programs (CFP) & Community Living Service Delivery (CLSD)

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This is a policy and planning process jointly managed by Child and Family Programs (CFP) and Community Living Service Delivery (CLSD) in conjunction with the youth, with the aim of providing timely and appropriate services as youth's transition.

- At age 13, CFP recognizes youths eligibility for adult services
- At age 15, youth is referred to CLSD if eligible for joint planning process.
- The planning centers on supports the youth will need to be independent as they leave children services.
- Appropriate referrals are made by the team for eligible programs and services.

### Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID)

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An income support program for people with significant and permanent disabilities.

The program offers individuals choice of services and participation in their community.

SAID benefits include:

- Living Income
- The Disability Income
- The Exceptional need income

SAID beneficiaries are supported by Assured Income Specialists, available in 20 service centers across the province. They help with:

- Filling out applications
- Planning supports
- Referrals to other service providers
- Identify other ministry programs individual might be eligible for.

Inquiry line: 1-888-567-SAID (7243)

[Click here](#) for the Ministry of Social Services website.

Other services available in Saskatchewan include:

- Job support for individuals with disabilities
- Rental housing for people with low income
- Inclusive Housing for People with Intellectual disAbilities:
  - Provides supportive family living environment
  - For age 18 and older
  - Must meet Community Living Services Delivery requirement

Contact CLSD by phone at 306-787-7803.

## **Manitoba**

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Transitional planning starts at age 15, to prepare eligible youths to move from children to adult services and ensure the available resources and/or programming are in place before youth turns 18. A child becomes an adult in Manitoba at age 18. It is also called the age of majority. The parent's role changes from making decisions on behalf of their child to helping their adult children make good decisions for themselves.

The transition process has 4 steps:

### **Step 1 – Assessment**

At age 15, a clinical assessment by a qualified clinician (registered psychologist or school psychologist) confirming that the individual has significantly impaired functioning. If the youth attends school, the Child and Family Services (CFS) worker contacts the school counsellor to determine if a clinical assessment was completed by the school psychologist.

### **Step 2 – Referral**

The CFS worker submits a referral application along with other supporting documentation and clinical assessment to CLDS before the youth turns age 16 to establish that the individual meets CLDS eligibility criteria and provides helpful information for future planning purposes.

### **Step 3 – Planning**

Planning starts before the youth's 17th birthday. The CFS worker and Community Service Worker (CSW) meet with the youth, family and other supports and plan on the youth's aspirations for adulthood and determine the resources the youth will need into adulthood.

### **Step 4: Transition**

Through thoughtful and collaborative planning youth can successfully transition into CLDS in a smooth manner. Successful placement requires advanced planning and collaboration between the child and adult systems.

## **Community Living disABILITY Services (CLDS)**

CLDS has a youth transition policy that describes CLDS's role for assisting youth and their care providers before the youth turns 18.

### **Contacting CLDS**

To find the contact information for your local CLDS office, please [click here](#).

## **Income Assistance with Persons with Disability**

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- Provides financial and employment assistance for adults with a disabilities enrolled in the Employment and Income Assistance program.
- Additional financial assistance is provided in recognition of the additional costs of persons with disabilities which are associated with living in the community.

Contact or speak to a representative at nearest service location: [Winnipeg](#), [Rural](#)

Phone: 204-945-2177

## **Ontario**

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### **Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)**

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- The central point of access for services and support for adults with a developmental disability
- DSO is mandated to assist individuals and their families to navigate adult service system and access support in their local community
- Individuals and their families looking for information about what services are available in the adult developmental services system should contact their local DSO to learn about how to apply for services and supports
- Prior to age 18, it is important that parents/guardians apply to Developmental Services Ontario (DSO), through their local DSO agency
- DSO is now the single-point of access to adult developmental services in Ontario
- It is a single window to obtain relevant information and to apply for diverse services and supports in their community. Through their local DSO agency
- Person-Directed Planning Facilitators, based at Community Living Association agencies, assist youths and their families develop links to community resources and establish effective support networks and viable Life Plans
- The local DSO agency determines through the eligibility application process
- The DSO website can be found [here](#)

### **Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS)**

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- Provides programs and services for adults with developmental disabilities to live, work, and participate in the community
  - MCSS works in collaboration with Ontario Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services to establish processes that supports early and integrated transition planning for individuals moving to adult services and developing transition plans for each individual
  - At age 17, youth and family contacts local Ministry of Community and Social Services Office (MCSS) to apply and establish eligibility for Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
  - ODSP worker provides initial screening and set up appointment with application package provided to youth and family
  - The application forms gets submitted to the Disability Adjudication Unit in Toronto
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## **Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)**

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- The ODSP is universal, provincial income program for persons with a permanent developmental disability.
- The allowance provided is paid monthly and is accompanied by drug and dental cards.
- Provides income and employment support
- Offers financial assistances for living expense for you and your family
- Assistance in prescription drugs, dental and vision care
- Supports with employment and career advancement
- Online application is available [here](#)
- You can find more information [here](#)

## **Passport**

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- Passport is funding for community participation
- Allows caregivers to have a break while the individual participates in the community
- Individuals can apply for direct funding for community participation and caregiver respite supports. This option gives people funding to pay for activities that encourage personal development. This support can ease the transition from school to life as an adult in the community.
- Individuals can choose their own activities and use their direct funding to pay for them or pay the community agencies that provides community participation supports.

To Find a Passport Agency, visit [this page](#).

For more information about applying for adult developmental services, please visit the [DSO website](#).

## **Newfoundland and Labrador**

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### **The Department of Health and Community Services**

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Provides funding through the Regional Health Authorities to deliver programs and services for individuals with disabilities and their families.

For Programs Funded through the Department of Health and Community Services, visit [this page](#).

### **Employability Assistance for Persons with Disabilities**

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- Assists individuals with disabilities to get skills and necessary support to enter or remain in the workforce.
- Age 18 and older to be eligible
- Visit [this page](#) to apply
- Toll-free: 1-800-563-6600
- St. John's area: 729-6600

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## Nova Scotia

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### **Disability Support Program**

Provides services for children, youth and adults with disabilities in the community. They provide residential and vocational voluntary programs to support individuals at different stages of development and independence.

Adults with disabilities seeking admission to an Adult Service Centre can apply directly to the center in their home area.

Please refer to the [Council for Vocational Services Society](#).

### **Direct Family Support (DSF)**

This program provides support and services, including Enhanced Family Support (EFS) to both children and adults with disabilities who live at home with their families. The intent of the program is to support and provide funding to eligible families to enable them to support their family member with a disability at home. For eligibility for the adult services, the individual has to age 19 or over and reside at home with family

The purpose of the DFS program is to:

- Enable individuals with disabilities to live at home
- Maximize family supports and community participation
- Prevent and/or delay the need for an out-of-home placement
- Establish smooth and seamless transition between children's and adult's supports and services

### **Labour Market Agreement for Persons with Disabilities Program Information (LMAPD)**

- Develops employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities
- By improving employability skills and increasing the opportunities for employment
- The funded programs are:

#### ***Skills Work LMAPD***

Funding is available to community based service providers for projects focusing on activities that support participants to connect to employment opportunities.

Projects may offer pre-employment intervention activities, job specific skill development activities, job coaching supports and work experience opportunities.

Applications are available through the Labour Market Program Support System (LaMPSS). Program guidelines can be found at <http://www.novascotia.ca/coms/esslampssguidelines/skillswork/index.html>.

### **Workplace Support Programs**

The program objective is to improve employment outcome for individuals with disabilities.

Workplace Attendant Support Program is intended to support individuals with significant disability, starting an employment opportunity that requires support related to the performance of the job. The support is intended for employment in competitive labor market.

Technical Aids and Assistive Devices Program is intended to support individuals with disability, that is employed or starting an employment opportunity in the competitive labor market and requires support to do the job.

## **New Brunswick**

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### **Disability Support Program**

Provides flexible personalized support to individuals with disabilities. With person centered approach, supports that might be provided under this program include:

- Home Support Worker
- Respite
- Personal supports and assistance within and outside the home
- Supports for community involvement and participation
- Personal living skills training
- Transportation supports that are disability specific
- Technical supports and assistive devices not covered under other programs
- Residential facility services

Eligibility:

- Age 19 and older
- Have a long term disability

There are 3 ways that the application and information gathering process can be completed:

- By yourself or with help from family or friends
- Staff of department of Mental Health
- An independent facilitator

For more information, please visit [this page](#).

## Prince Edward Island

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The Department of Family and Human Services (DFHS) provides assessment, financial support and support worker which is individualized and based on individual's needs. Transition starts from age 18. The schools often initiates the transition process from grade 9 with an individual Transition Action Plan. The transition process involves teachers, a consultant from the district, the student and their family, and a government representative.

### Disability Support Program

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- Supports independence for individuals with disabilities
- Offers and responds to specific needs of individuals

This program offers:

- Adult Disability Support to increase independence
- Employment and Vocational Supports to increase long term and supported employment

To apply, call the Health Region office in your area:

West Prince Health Region 859-8862

East Prince Health Region 432-2740

Queens Health Region 368-5996

Kings Health Region 838-0703 or 687-7016

For more information, [click here](#).

## Yukon

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Offers Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) up to age 19.

### Adult Community Services

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- Provides different services for individuals with disabilities to have good quality of life
- Employment counselling
- Financial assistance
- Supportive outreach services

For more information, contact Yukon Health and Social Services

Phone: 867-667-5674

Toll Free (Yukon, Nunavut and NWT): 1-800-661-0408 ext. 5674

## **Northwest Territories**

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### Learning Support for Persons with Disabilities

The Learning Support for Persons with Disabilities Fund provides financial assistance to individuals living with disabilities and organizations serving individuals with disabilities to help achieve their learning goals.

For eligibility you must:

- Be living with a disability
- Be involved in a learning activity
- Demonstrate commitment to achieving education, employment or personal goals
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Be a resident of the Northwest Territories

For further information, please contact: NWT Disabilities Council 1-800-491-8885 or visit [this page](#).

## **Nunavut**

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Those living in Nunavut should contact their local Service Canada Centre to find out what resources are in their area. Offices can be found [here](#).