

# TIP SHEET

## Government Disability Services & Tax Benefits in Saskatchewan

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### **Government Disability Services:**

Once you receive a diagnosis of Autism, you may be eligible for particular benefits from the provincial government.

In Saskatchewan The Ministry of Social Services invests in positive outcomes for persons with various disabilities (including Autism) through various programs and services. These include supports in the areas of income support, child and family services, supports for persons with disabilities and affordable housing. They work with citizens as they build better lives for themselves through economic independence, strong families, and strong community organizations.

The following links are taken from [www.saskatchewan.ca](http://www.saskatchewan.ca) website.

### **Adapt a Home for a Person with a Disability**

The 'Saskatchewan Home Repair Program — Adaptation for Independence Program' funds home renovations, repairs and adaptations that help individuals reach independence. Check out the link below to see if you qualify:

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/housing-and-renting/home-repairs-and-renovations/adapt-a-home-for-a-person-with-a-disability>

### **Financial Help for Home Care**

Do you need help at home to assist you with your medical or hygiene needs in order to maintain your independence? Learn about the eligibility requirements and responsibilities of the Individualized Funding Program at the link below:

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/care-at-home-and-outside-the-hospital/individualized-funding-for-home-care>

## **Cognitive Disability Strategy (CDS) Support**

Do you or your loved one have a cognitive disability and struggle with significant behavioural and developmental challenges? Apply for support services and benefits through this program.

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/family-and-social-support/people-with-disabilities/financial-help-and-support-for-people-with-cognitive-disabilities>

## **Health Services for People with Disabilities**

Find more information about the many supports and services available to people living with disabilities. These include specific autism services, audiology and hearing services, therapy services and much more

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/health-services-for-people-with-disabilities>

## **Housing and Support for People with Intellectual Disabilities**

This is a housing and support programs for people with intellectual disabilities. The program staff work to ensure that the physical, emotional, and social needs of people with intellectual disabilities are met and that they are able to live as independently as possible within their own communities.

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/family-and-social-support/people-with-disabilities/housing-and-support-for-people-with-intellectual-disabilities>

## **Approved Private Service Homes**

The Approved Private Service Home (APSH) program provides a certified residential family setting for individuals 18 years and older with intellectual disabilities.

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/family-and-social-support/people-with-disabilities/inclusive-family-housing-for-people-with-intellectual-disabilities>

## **Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID)**

Individuals with 'significant and enduring disabilities' may apply for income support to help with living costs or costs related to the impact of a disability. Find out more at the links below:

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/family-and-social-support/people-with-disabilities/income-support-for-people-with-disabilities>
- <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/233>

## **Job Support for People with Disabilities**

The Workforce Development for Persons with Disabilities (WFD-PD) program provides funding to assist individuals in preparing for, finding, and maintaining a job. Support includes training, skills assessments, job coaching, and costs for a variety of education and training programs.

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/jobs-working-and-training/job-training-and-financial-support-programs/job-support-for-people-with-disabilities>

## **Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement (SRHS)**

Unfortunately, the Government of Saskatchewan has announced as of July 1, 2018, the Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement (SRHS) will suspend the intake of new applications. Current SRHS clients will continue to receive benefits as long as they remain eligible.

## **Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living**

If you have autism but also have a physical or mobility challenge then you may benefit from the Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Program (SAIL). This program can also help you if you need support to manage certain chronic health conditions

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/health-services-for-people-with-disabilities/sail>

## **Respite for Families Caring for a Child with Intellectual Disabilities**

The Family Respite Program provides a temporary or short-term break from the daily responsibilities of care-giving for parents and guardians of children with intellectual disabilities.

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/family-and-social-support/people-with-disabilities/temporary-help-for-families-caring-for-a-child-with-intellectual-disabilities#:~:text=To%20be%20eligible%20for%20the,provided%20by%20the%20branch;%20and>

## Tax Benefits:

Are there tax credits for someone with Autism? Yes! However, you must apply and qualify first.

### CRA Disability Tax Credit

One of the main types of tax benefits related to disability is the 'Disability Tax Credit' through Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). This is a non-refundable tax credit that helps persons with disabilities or their caregivers reduce the amount of income tax they may have to pay. To find out more visit the links below for information on the federal disability tax credits:

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html>

Each person is different and depending on the challenges you face, you may or may not be qualified for extra benefits or tax credits. Sometimes a diagnosis of Autism isn't enough to qualify, but many autistic people deal with co-morbidities that can be covered by medical/tax credits.

Autism Services of Saskatoon can also provide you with more information on how to apply or direct you to someone that can help you. Call them at (306) 665-7013 for more information or to set up an appointment.

### Provincial Low-Income Tax Credit

The Saskatchewan government also offers tax credits to those who are of low or modest income. If you are in this situation make sure to check out the information at the link below.

- <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/taxes-and-investments/tax-credits/low-income-tax-credit>

**This resource was made in collaboration with:**

