

## Patient Resources – Financial Support

### Canada-wide:

#### [EI Sickness Benefits](#)

Up to 15 weeks of benefits (up to 55% of salary up to \$573/week) if you are unable to work due to illness.

Due to COVID-19, as of September 2020, until September 2021, you only require 120 insurable hours of work within the past 52 weeks. Typically it is 600 hours. If you have been receiving CERB, the 52-week period to accumulate required insurable hours will be extended.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness.html>

#### [Family caregiver benefit for adults](#)

A critically ill or injured person 18 or over (up to 15 weeks)

#### [Compassionate care benefits](#)

A person of any age who requires end-of-life care (up to 26 weeks)

#### [Allowance for the Survivor](#)

For individuals aged 60 to 64 with low income, who are living in Canada, and whose spouse or common-law partner has died.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/old-age-security/guaranteed-income-supplement/allowance-survivor.html>

The [Canadian Cancer Society](#) offers an in-depth list of financial resources and support, nationwide and by province.

<https://www.cancer.ca/en/support-and-services/support-services/financial-supports-by-province/?region=on>

The [Canadian Cancer Survivor Network](#) provides information about financial support for patients living with cancer.

<https://survivornet.ca/learn/health-concerns-for-cancer-patients/financial-cost-of-cancer/>

## By province:

### Alberta

#### *Alberta Cancer Foundation's Patient Financial Assistance Program*

<https://www.albertacancer.ca/investments/patient-financial-assistance-program/>

Patient Resource Office

Telephone: +1 403-355-3207

#### *Alberta seniors benefit*

The Alberta Seniors Benefit program is an income-based program that provides monthly cash benefit and determines Alberta Health Insurance premium exemptions for eligible seniors.

<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-seniors-benefit.aspx>

#### *Special needs assistance for seniors*

The Special Needs Assistance for Seniors program is an income-based program that provides a lump-sum cash payment to lower-income seniors facing financial difficulties.

<https://www.alberta.ca/seniors-special-needs-assistance.aspx>

#### *Assured income for the severely handicapped*

Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) provides financial and health benefits for adult Albertans who have a permanent disability that severely impairs their ability to earn a living. The level of benefits depends on income and assets. The maximum living allowance is \$1000 per month, and additional benefits (personal income support benefits) may be provided to meet clients' special needs.

#### *Alberta aids to daily living*

The Alberta Aids to Daily Living program helps Albertans with a long-term disability, chronic illness or terminal illness to maintain their independence at home, in lodges or group homes by providing financial assistance to buy medical equipment and supplies. An assessment by a health care professional determines the equipment and supplies that an Albertan can receive through this program.

<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-aids-to-daily-living.aspx>

#### *Income support*

Income Support from Alberta Human Resources and Employment provides financial benefits to individuals and families who do not have the resources to meet their basic needs, like food, clothing and shelter.

<https://www.alberta.ca/income-support.aspx>

## British Columbia

### Disability Insurance

To review criteria please visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/services-for-people-with-disabilities/disability-assistance>

You will need to create an account on the following government site (or log in if you already have one)

<https://myselfserve.gov.bc.ca/>; or call 1-866-866-0800 to speak with an agent

### BC government support for seniors

Low-income seniors receiving the BC Senior's Supplement will receive a COVID-19 crisis supplement of an additional \$300 a month for 3 months

## Newfoundland and Labrador

The Medical Transportation Assistance Program (MTAP) provides financial assistance to people on a Medical Care Plan (MCP) who experience substantial out-of-pocket travel costs for required specialized insured medical services.

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/mcp/travelassistance/>

The [Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Care Foundation](#) program provides short-term financial assistance to people with cancer for treatment-related expenses. Eligibility is based on a demonstrated financial need, and an assessment by a social worker at the Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Centre is required. For more information, call the social work department at the Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Centre at 709-777-7604.

<https://cancercarefoundation.ca/>

[Hope Air](#) is a national registered charity founded in 1986. This organization helps Canadians in financial need fly to medical treatments.

<https://hopeair.ca/>

## Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia Pharmacare Drug Assistance for Cancer Patients is a provincial drug insurance plan designed to help Nova Scotians with the cost of certain cancer-related drugs and supplies. The program is designed to assist low-income Nova Scotians who do not have drug coverage.

<https://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/cancer-assistance.asp>

### Boarding, Transportation and Ostomy Program

Boarding: For patients that must travel 50+ km's one way for treatments

Transportation: .20 cents/km for personal vehicles used to attend treatments. Program will also help pay for public transport costs.

The program may cover some of the costs for a travel companion if a doctor deems it necessary.

<https://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/cancer-assistance.asp>

## Saskatchewan

*Employee Self-Isolation Support Program* offers \$450 a week for up to 2 weeks or \$900 total, for Saskatchewan residents who are forced to self-isolate due to COVID-19 and are not eligible for federal income support.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-for-businesses-and-workers/support-for-workers/self-isolation-support-program>

## Northwest Territories

*Extended Health Benefits* (for services not covered by basic healthcare)

<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/supplementary-health-benefits/extended-health-benefits-specified-disease-conditions>

## Ontario

Information and resources on medical and drug coverage, getting income from your assets, employer-based income programs and more.

<https://www.cancer.ca/en/support-and-services/support-services/financial-help-on/?region=on>

*Canada Revenue Agency – Tax Credits for Medical Expenses*

1 800 959-8281 (Income Tax Enquiries)

*The Trillium Drug Program*

1 800 575-5386

This program helps people who have high prescription drug costs relative to their income

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-help-high-prescription-drug-costshousehold-income>.

*Ontario Disability Support Program*

<https://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/social/odsp/index.aspx>

1 888 789-4199

This program helps people with disabilities who are in financial need pay for living expenses, like food and housing.

*Ontario Works*

<https://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/social/ow/index.aspx>

If you are in temporary financial need, Ontario Works can:

- provide you with money, and
- help you find a job.

## Québec

If an illness or disability persists longer than six months, and the patient has been gainfully employed for 120 hours over the past 52 weeks (COVID amendment), one may be eligible for permanent disability.

[https://www.rrq.gouv.qc.ca/en/invalidite/vivre\\_invalidite/regime\\_rentes/Pages/regime\\_rentes.aspx](https://www.rrq.gouv.qc.ca/en/invalidite/vivre_invalidite/regime_rentes/Pages/regime_rentes.aspx)

## Yukon Territory

The government's *travel for medical treatment program* provides subsidies for pre-approved transportation requests.

<https://yukon.ca/en/medical-treatment-travel>

The *Chronic Disease Program* can cover the following:

- prescription drugs;
- medical surgical supplies;
- medical equipment;
- food supplements; and
- prostheses.

<https://yukon.ca/en/get-help-costs-if-you-have-chronic-disease-or-disability>

The *Paid Sick Leave Rebate* allows Yukon workers and self-employed without paid sick leave to stay at home due to COVID-19 if they become sick or are required to self-isolate while still meeting their basic financial needs.

<https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-information/economic-and-social-supports-covid-19/paid-sick-leave#apply-for-a-paid-sick-leave-rebate-for-employers>