

## Disability Tax Benefit (DTB)

### DTB

- Provides direct financial support to people with disabilities who are between 18 and 64 years old

### If you qualify for payments

- You will begin receiving payments the month after your application is received and approved
- You may receive back payments for up to 24 months from when we get your application, but not for any previous months of eligibility prior to June 2025
- Your first payment will be on the third Thursday of the month following your approval and will include back payments if applicable

### Eligibility

- Must have been approved for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC)
- Must be a Canadian resident for income tax filing purposes
- You and your spouse or common-law partner (if applicable) must have filed your 2025 federal income tax return in order to receive payments
- Must be one of the following:
  - a Canadian citizen
  - a permanent resident
  - an individual registered or entitled to be registered under the Indian Act
  - a protected person
  - a temporary resident who has lived in Canada throughout the previous 18 months

### Ineligibility - Incarcerated Persons

- If you are serving a sentence of 2 years or more in a federal penitentiary, you are not eligible for the benefit except for the first and last month of your incarceration
- If you become ineligible due to incarceration, you will need to reapply for the benefit after your release

### Applying

- 4 different ways
  - Online
  - Phone
  - Service Canada Office
  - Printed form
- What you need depends on if you

- Are applying for yourself or if you are applying as a legal representative on someone's behalf
- Received a letter from Service Canada with a unique application code and instructions on how to apply
- **Waiting for Decision**
  - Service Canada expects to send you a letter with an eligibility decision within 28 calendar days of applying for the benefit
  - If a legal representative is applying on your behalf, an eligibility decision should be expected within 49 calendar days of the application
- **Legal Representatives** are the title given to those applying on someone's else's behalf
  - An individual or organization appointed by a **legal document**
  - Has the authority to represent and make decisions on behalf of an applicant
- **Legal Documents**
  - Court order that appoints a person, agency or institution as a trustee, committee or guardian
  - Certificate of guardianship
  - Continuing or Springing Power of Attorney or mandate document that meets the legal requirements under the provincial or territorial Act in which it's executed
  - Cated letter or notice from the public trustee or public curator that contains the required information
  - Confirmation of the tutorship
- **Appointed Legal Representatives**
  - As the guardian, trustee or committee by a court
  - Through a protection mandate
  - Through a Continuing or Springing Power of Attorney

| <b>For Yourself</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>For Someone Else<br/>(Legal Representative)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Letter from Service Canada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Letter's unique 6 digit application code</li> <li>● Social Insurance Number (SIN)</li> <li>● Status in Canada</li> <li>● Maybe also               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Direct Deposit Information</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Letter from Service Canada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Applicants letter's unique 6 digit application code</li> <li>● Applicants Social Insurance Number (SIN)</li> <li>● Applicants Status in Canada</li> <li>● A copy of your proof of legal authority to act on behalf of the applicant</li> </ul> |
| No Letter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Insurance Number (SIN)</li> <li>• Status in Canada</li> <li>• Mailing address</li> <li>• Maybe also <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Net Income (line 23600)</li> <li>○ Direct Deposit Information</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of both sides of <b>your</b> government issued identification (ID)</li> <li>• <b>Your</b> mailing address</li> <li>• Maybe also <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applicants Direct Deposit Information</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>No Letter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants letter's unique 6 digit application code</li> <li>• Applicants Social Insurance Number (SIN)</li> <li>• Applicants Status in Canada</li> <li>• A copy of your proof of legal authority to act on behalf of the applicant</li> <li>• Copy of both sides of <b>your</b> government issued identification (ID)</li> <li>• <b>Applicants AND your</b> mailing address</li> <li>• Maybe also <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applicants Net Income (line 23600)</li> <li>○ <b>Applicants AND your</b> Direct Deposit Information</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Acting in professional capacity with organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the information listed in the section above you'll also need</li> <li>• <b>Your organization's mailing address</b> (instead of your own mailing address)</li> <li>• Copy of a document identifying you as part of the organization</li> <li>• Maybe also <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Your organization's business number</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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### Situation Changes - Share any of these changes **ASAP**

- Address or telephone number changes, contact Service Canada
- Direct deposit information changes
  - please refer to the payment methods of Service Canada's payments page
  - If you are changing bank accounts, don't close your old account until you receive a payment in your new account (this can take up to a month)
  - If we cannot deposit a payment into your account, we will mail you a cheque
- **Note**: changing your information with Service Canada will not change it with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), you will also need to contact them to update your info
- Tell CRA if
  - Your marital or relationship status has changed,
  - Your residency status has changed

### National Organizations Providing Support

- [Canadian Association of the Deaf](#)
- [Disability Alliance British Columbia / Disability Alliance Canada](#)
- [Independent Living Nova Scotia](#)
- [Inclusion Canada](#)
- [Indigenous Disability Canada / British Columbia Aboriginal Networks on Disability Society](#)
- [Mood Disorders Society of Canada](#)
- [Plan Institute](#)
- [Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada](#)

### Application Accommodations

- **Alternate Formats**: Note that Service Canada and CRA forms can be ordered in large print, digital audio (MP3), electronic text, or Braille

### Additional Considerations

#### Different Sources of Income Support

- Typically does not **directly** change or affect your funding from sources like OSAP because they are managed by different levels of government for different purposes (federal tax/benefit administration versus provincial/federal student financial aid)
- However still important to consider
  - **Tax-Free Status**: Regular benefit payments received through federal disability measures are generally treated as non-taxable income. This

means they typically do not negatively inflate the taxable income lines that OSAP evaluates when calculating your financial need.

- **Asset and Income Reporting on OSAP:** When you apply for OSAP, you are required to report your total income and financial resources. While government-funded disability supports are intended to assist with basic needs, specific types of ongoing government assistance must be declared on your application, which can influence your calculated financial need and the breakdown of grants versus loans you receive.
- **Separate Disability Verifications:** Qualifying for a federal tax benefit (like the Disability Tax Credit, which is a prerequisite for the DTB) does not automatically register you as a student with a disability for OSAP. OSAP requires its own distinct disability verification (such as a Disability Verification Form filled out by a health care practitioner) to unlock specialized student funding, such as the Canada Student Grant for Students with Disabilities or the Bursary for Students with Disabilities (BSWD).

#### Deceased Persons

- When someone passes away, please contact Service Canada and also notify the Canada Revenue Agency of the date of death, ASAP to avoid an overpayment
  - You will need to cancel the benefit on behalf of the deceased person
- If a beneficiary dies
  - Their heirs or estate will be eligible to receive a benefit payment for the month in which the beneficiary died (unless the beneficiary has already received the payment for that month)
- If you receive benefit payments and your spouse or common-law partner has died
  - Contact us to provide their date of death. Your benefit amount will be recalculated based on your new family income.

#### Working Income Exemption

- A certain amount of income from employment, self-employment and taxable scholarships is excluded when calculating your benefit amount. This is called the working income exemption.
- For the period of July 2026 to June 2027
  - If you are single, up to \$10,210 of working income will be exempt when calculating your benefit.
  - If you have a spouse or common-law partner, up to \$14,294 of combined working income will be exempt.
- For the period of July 2025 to June 2026

- If you are single, up to \$10,000 of working income will be exempt when calculating your benefit.
  - If you have a spouse or common-law partner, up to \$14,000 of combined working income will be exempt.
- Earning more than the working income exemption does not necessarily mean that your benefit amount will be reduced.