

## Alternate Funding Sources for Medical Supplies and Equipment

This list may be used as a resource in addition to patient/spouse's own private insurance coverage. Please also refer to <http://www.northeasthealthline.ca/> for additional information or funding sources.

To report new programs, errors or omissions, please send email to [NE.Contracts@ccac-ont.ca](mailto:NE.Contracts@ccac-ont.ca).

Program	Description	Notes
<a href="#">Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)</a>	<p>The Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services ODSP provides income and employment supports to eligible Ontario residents who have disabilities.</p> <p>To qualify for ODSP income support, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at least 18 years old</li> <li>• be an Ontario resident</li> <li>• be in financial need and</li> <li>• meet the program's definition of a person with a disability, or be a member of a <a href="#">Prescribed Class</a></li> </ul> <p>Note: If the patient is under 18, you can start the application process up to six months before their 18th birthday.</p>	<p>For patients receiving Ontario Disability Support Program Income Support, they <u>may</u> also be eligible to receive additional health benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescription drug coverage</li> <li>• Dental coverage and Vision care</li> <li>• Pregnancy/Breast-feeding Nutritional Allowance</li> <li>• Mandatory Special Necessities benefit: Coverage for medical transportation and medical supplies</li> </ul> <p>Coverage for medical supplies includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diabetic supplies, such as syringes, alcohol swabs and blood glucose monitors.</li> <li>• Surgical supplies, surgical dressings and incontinence supplies.</li> </ul> <p>ODSP will also cover the assessment fees and the consumer co-payment for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Assistive Devices Program (ADP).</p>
<a href="#">Assistive Devices Program (ADP)</a>	<p>The Ontario Ministry of Health has implemented this program to "provide consumer centered support and funding to Ontario residents who have long-term physical disabilities and to provide access to personalized assistive devices appropriate for the individual's basic needs."</p> <p>This program is open to all residents of Ontario who have valid Ontario Health Cards.</p>	<p>ADP covers over 8,000 separate pieces of equipment or supplies in the following categories : prostheses; wheelchairs/mobility aids and specialized seating systems; enteral feeding supplies; monitors and test strips for insulin-dependent diabetics (through an agreement with the Canadian Diabetes Association); hearing aids; insulin pumps and supplies for children and adults with Type 1 Diabetes; respiratory equipment; orthoses (braces, garments and pumps); visual and communication aids; oxygen and oxygen delivery equipment, such as concentrators, cylinders, liquid systems and related supplies, such as masks and tubing.</p> <p>Grants are provided for ostomy supplies, breast prostheses and for needles and syringes for insulin-requiring seniors.</p>

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<a href="#">Ontario Public Drug Programs</a>	<p>The Ontario Ministry of Health has six different programs that provide drug benefits, including related medical supplies, equipment or treatments. Coverage for these programs changes regularly - Review the most recent information on the public website.</p> <p>Patients of any age living in Ontario and have a valid Ontario Health Card. Further conditions apply depending on the program.</p> <p>Any adult or child on care with the NE CCAC with diabetes, infusion or enteral feeding may be eligible for coverage with one of Ontario's Public Drug Programs.</p> <p>To qualify, an Ontario doctor or other authorized prescriber (such as a Nurse Practitioner) must apply on behalf of the patient.</p>	<p><b>Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program:</b> May pay for most of the cost of prescription drugs dispensed by your pharmacist.</p> <p><b>New Drugs Funding Program (NDFP) for Cancer Care:</b> May pay for many newer intravenous cancer drugs.</p> <p><b>Special Drugs Program (SDP):</b> May pay for specific drugs used to treat certain diseases or conditions.</p> <p><b>Inherited Metabolic Diseases (IMD) Program:</b> May pay for drugs, supplements and specialty foods to treat metabolic disorders.</p> <p><b>Respiratory Syncytial Virus Program for High-Risk Infants:</b> May pay for the drug used to treat infants at high risk of getting RSV.</p> <p><b>Visudyne Program:</b> May pay for the drug that slows the eye disease called Age Related Macular Degeneration.</p>
<a href="#">The Trillium Drug Program (TDP)</a>	<p>The Ontario Ministry of Health TDP helps people who have high prescription drug costs relative to their household income.</p> <p>To qualify for the Trillium Drug Program patients must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live in Ontario and have a valid Ontario health card; AND</li> <li>• Are not covered under ODB as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ a senior over 65 years of age</li> <li>➤ someone who receives financial help through Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program</li> <li>➤ a resident of a long-term care home or home for special care</li> <li>➤ someone who receives home care services; OR</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Patient doesn't have private health insurance or the private insurance does not cover 100% of the prescription drug costs.</li> </ul>	<p>TDP covers all drugs and related supplies approved under the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program. For drug products that are not on the list of approved ODB products, a doctor may apply for special approval through the <a href="#">Exceptional Access Program (EAP)</a>.</p>

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<a href="#"><u>Catheters PLUS</u></a>	<p>An online medical supplies provider of all major brands of catheters and related supplies. Catheters PLUS offer patients free access to Catheter Specialists for any patient – not just their customers. These experts have years of experience assisting catheter users to review their product information, CIC techniques &amp; other patient education, and reimbursement support.</p> <p>Their portfolio of catheters includes:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Hydrophilic</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Closed system</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Uncoated</td> <td>Foley</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male external</td> <td>Anti-infective</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leg bags</td> <td>All silicone</td> </tr> </table>	Hydrophilic	Closed system	Uncoated	Foley	Male external	Anti-infective	Leg bags	All silicone	<p>Services include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reimbursement Support: Communicate with insurance companies or agencies via 3-way teleconference to maximize the patient's chance of obtaining reimbursement</li> <li>2. Assist with completing claims forms or requests for pre-approval</li> <li>3. Provide price quotations &amp; product information</li> <li>4. Offer direct delivery of supplies to patients' homes (FREE Shipping with minimum order)</li> </ol>
Hydrophilic	Closed system									
Uncoated	Foley									
Male external	Anti-infective									
Leg bags	All silicone									
<a href="#"><u>Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities Program</u></a>	<p>The Ministry of Children and Youth Services program helps parents with some of the extra costs of caring for a child who has a severe disability by providing financial assistance depending on the family's income.</p> <p>Eligibility: A parent or a legal guardian whose child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is under 18 years of age,</li> <li>• lives at home,</li> <li>• and has a severe disability</li> </ul>	<p>Caregivers may receive between \$25 and \$440 a month to help with costs, such as:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel to doctors and hospitals</li> <li>• Special shoes and clothes</li> <li>• Parental relief</li> <li>• Wheelchair repairs</li> <li>• Assistive devices</li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearing aids, hearing aid batteries</li> <li>• Prescription drugs</li> <li>• Dental care</li> <li>• Eyeglasses</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel to doctors and hospitals</li> <li>• Special shoes and clothes</li> <li>• Parental relief</li> <li>• Wheelchair repairs</li> <li>• Assistive devices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearing aids, hearing aid batteries</li> <li>• Prescription drugs</li> <li>• Dental care</li> <li>• Eyeglasses</li> </ul>						
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<a href="#"><u>Easter Seals Society</u></a>	<p>Easter Seals Ontario provides programs, services and financial assistance to children and youth with physical disabilities across Ontario to help them achieve greater independence, accessibility and integration.</p>	<p>Easter Seals provides financial assistance of up to \$3000 per year, per child to help purchase essential mobility equipment such as wheelchair, walkers, ramps or lifts.</p> <p>Easter Seals Ontario administers the Incontinence Supplies Grant Program on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. This program is for children and youth with chronic disabilities that result in irreversible incontinence or retention problems lasting longer than six months requiring the use of incontinence supplies.</p>								
<a href="#"><u>Ontario March of Dimes</u></a>	<p>Ontario March of Dimes' Home &amp; Vehicle Modification Program provides funding for basic home and/or vehicle modifications. The program is intended to assist permanent Ontario residents with a substantial impairment expected to last one year or more. By reducing or eliminating life safety risks, these modifications enable children and adults with</p>	<p>Financial assistance is based on the impact the device or home renovation will have on the individual's personal mobility and independence, as well as on his/her financial needs.</p> <p>Mobility Aids may be funded by the March of Dimes ADP Program. (Note this is not the same as the Ontario ADP Program).</p>								

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	<p>mobility restrictions to continue living in their homes, avoid job loss and participate in their communities.</p> <p>The patient must have a permanent physical disability and is in need of financial assistance toward equipment that has been recommended by an occupational therapist or physiotherapist.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual and motorized wheelchairs</li> <li>• Bath aids</li> <li>• Seating inserts and wheelchair cushions</li> <li>• Canes, crutches and walkers</li> <li>• Lifting equipment</li> <li>• Repairs to devices</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#"><u>Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada</u></a></p>	<p>The MS Society provides information, support, educational events and other resources for people with MS and their families.</p> <p>The MS Society offers two types of funding; equipment purchase and permanent loan as well as special assistance programs. The MS Society of Canada does not offer financial assistance for medications or disease modifying therapies.</p> <p>The goal of the program is to enhance quality of life and encourage the person with multiple sclerosis to maintain as much physical independence and emotional wellbeing as possible.</p> <p>Due to limited resources, funding programs are not available in all chapters and divisions. Items that are funded through special assistance programs may also vary from office to office.</p>	<p>Special assistance programs provide limited financial assistance to people with MS to cover services that are not available through any other government or community agency. In some cases, special assistance funds may also be used to augment existing services that do not meet the needs of individuals living with MS (i.e. to supplement a chronic home care program).</p> <p>The most common service provided by most divisions and chapters is assistance with equipment to help people with MS maximize their quality of life. Divisions and chapters manage this service in various ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information and advocacy to assist people in understanding the resources available to them through their own benefits programs and the provincial health system, etc.</li> <li>• Full or partial purchase of equipment or permanent loan</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#"><u>Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada</u></a></p>	<p>Muscular Dystrophy Canada's mission is to enhance the lives of those affected with neuromuscular disorders by continually working to provide ongoing support and resources while relentlessly searching for a cure through well-funded research.</p> <p>MDA offers financial assistance for expenses, such as costly mobility equipment or assistive devices, attendant services, respite care, travel for medical appointments and home renovations.</p> <p>The MDA also provides basic medical equipment, on loan, from a stock of recycled devices such as scooters, manual and electric wheelchairs, and hospital beds.</p>	<p>MDA's equipment program for Ontario helps patients to obtain a wide range of assistive devices to aid with mobility, breathing, sitting and positioning, accessibility, communications, and sleeping including: Access Equipment, Bathroom Aids, Beds and Specialized Mattresses, Breathing Aids, Lifts, Mobility Aids, and Other equipment.</p> <p>Canada Safeway has teamed up with Muscular Dystrophy Canada to raise additional needed funds to support those living with a neuromuscular disorder in Northern Ontario. The Safeway Mobility Grants were created to assist registered clients of Muscular Dystrophy Canada living in Northern Ontario with the purchase of medically necessary mobility related equipment.</p>

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<p><a href="#"><u>President Choice® Children's Charity</u></a></p>	<p>Supports children with special needs by providing individual financial grants for essential specialized equipment and essential therapies.</p> <p>To be considered a candidate for assistance, applicants must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child (18 and under)</li> <li>• Diagnosed physical or developmental disability</li> <li>• Household annual income \$70,000 or less</li> <li>• Must be a Canadian citizen and/or have permanent resident status in Canada</li> </ul>	<p>Caregivers may request direct financial support by filling out an application form themselves. Applications may be from families whose children have been diagnosed with a range of disabilities including cerebral palsy, autism, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida and various developmental delays.</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity</u></a></p>	<p>A charitable organization that offers financial assistance associated with caring for a special-needs child.</p> <p>The need for financial assistance must result from extraordinary costs which are incurred directly as a result of the child's illness or disability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The child must be diagnosed with a serious illness or permanent disability by a Canadian Medical Practitioner.</li> <li>• The child must be 18 years of age or younger.</li> <li>• The child and parent or guardian must be a Canadian Citizen or Landed Immigrant and be a permanent resident of Ontario. Refugee/Convention refugee status does not qualify.</li> <li>• The family's combined gross annual household income must be \$60,000 or less. Exception to income will only be considered if there is more than one child with special needs in the family.</li> <li>• The family must have used up all other financial resources available to them. These include: Government funding; and Funding from service agencies and non-profit organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospital and Treatment Costs (including transportation)</li> <li>• Household Costs (Must be directly related to child's medical issues) such as Utilities, Nutritious Groceries, Vehicle Repairs associated with safely transporting your child.</li> <li>• One to one in-home respite care</li> <li>• Medical Treatment costs such as Special Formula recommended by a doctor, Prescription Medication and Disposable Medical &amp; Feeding Supplies</li> <li>• Therapies (can only apply once in a 12 month period) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Speech Therapy</li> <li>➤ Occupational Therapy</li> <li>➤ Physiotherapy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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Program	Description	Notes
<p><a href="#"><u>ALS Society of Canada Equipment Program</u></a></p>	<p>Provides access to equipment and assistive devices essential for maintaining safety, comfort and functioning for persons living with ALS.</p> <p>The ALS Canada Equipment Program consists of three pillars:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Used equipment for loan</li> <li>2. Funding assistance for leasing of equipment</li> <li>3. Funding assistance for renting of equipment</li> </ol> <p>To access the ALS Canada Equipment Program, a registered Occupational Therapist must complete the application form.</p>	<p>The categories of equipment available are:</p> <p>Mobility devices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walkers</li> <li>• Wheelchairs (manual as well as power driven)</li> </ul> <p>Bathroom Aids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commode chair transfer boards</li> <li>• Bath lifts and other items</li> </ul> <p>Lifts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient transfer lifts (hydraulic, battery powered)</li> <li>• Straight stair lifts</li> <li>• Ceiling track systems</li> </ul> <p>Miscellaneous equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lift chair</li> <li>• Hospital beds</li> <li>• Pressure relief systems and other items</li> </ul> <p>Communication devices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic communication devices (financial assistance may be available for ADP eligible communication devices)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#"><u>Non-Insured Health Benefits for First Nations and Inuit (NIHB) Program</u></a></p>	<p>There are a number of health-related goods and services that are not insured by provinces and territories or other private insurance plans. To support First Nations people and Inuit, Health Canada manages the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program to provide coverage for a limited range of goods and services when they are not insured elsewhere.</p> <p>The Federal Government posts regular updates on the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program on their <a href="#"><u>public website</u></a> to share important news and benefit or policy updates about the NIHB Program.</p>	<p>The Non-Insured Health Benefits Program is Health Canada's national, medically necessary health benefit program that provides coverage for eligible First Nations people and Inuit for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A specified range of drugs,</li> <li>• Dental care,</li> <li>• Vision care,</li> <li>• medical supplies and equipment,</li> <li>• short-term crisis intervention</li> <li>• mental health counselling and</li> <li>• medical transportation</li> </ul> <p><a href="#"><u>The Drug Benefit List</u></a> is posted on the public website and is a listing of the drugs provided as a benefit by the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program. The listed drugs are those primarily used in a home or ambulatory setting. Benefit Updates to the Drug Benefit List are generally issued on a quarterly basis.</p>

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<a href="#">Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB)</a>	<p>The WSIB is an independent trust agency that administers compensation and no-fault insurance for Ontario workplaces</p> <p>As per applicable law, the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, if a Worker is entitled to WSIB benefits they may also be entitled to such health care as may be necessary, appropriate, and sufficient as a result of the injury.</p> <p>This healthcare service includes assistive devices and prostheses as well as modifications to a person's home and vehicle and other measures to facilitate independent living.</p> <p>The WSIB may authorize the purchase of one or more health care products that fall into the category of health care equipment/supplies when an injured worker requires the health care product(s) as a result of a work-related injury/disease.</p> <p>The WSIB expects Ontario workers to purchase health care equipment/supplies from preferred suppliers that have entered into an agreement with the WSIB for the provision of these health care products to injured workers.</p>	<p>The WSIB may authorize health care equipment/ supplies prescribed by a health professional when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The claim is allowed and there is ongoing entitlement to benefits and/or services, and</li> <li>• Recent health care reports provide objective clinical findings, confirm the need for the health care equipment/supplies, outline treatment goals including duration of use and need, and</li> <li>• The health care equipment/supplies are required as a result of a work-related injury/disease, and</li> <li>• The health care equipment/supplies are used to treat and/or alleviate the effects of the work-related injury/disease, or are used to improve or maintain the worker's independent living.</li> </ul> <p>Purchases of approved health care equipment and supplies for workers are made from one of these four preferred suppliers: McKesson Retail Banner Management, Motion Specialties, Ontario Home Health or Shoppers Home Health Care.</p> <p>Health care equipment and supplies are products used as a treatment or functional aid during the worker's recovery, or to improve or maintain their independent living. This includes items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adjustable bed frames, mattresses and surfaces,</li> <li>• assistive devices (e.g., canes, crutches, walkers),</li> <li>• braces and supports (e.g., wrist, ankle and elbow supports),</li> <li>• consumables or medical supplies (e.g., wound care supplies, urinary supplies)</li> <li>• Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulator (TENS) units and supplies.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Veterans Affairs Canada</a>	<p>Department within the government of Canada with responsibility for pensions/benefits and services for war veterans, retired/honourably discharged and still-serving members of the Canadian Forces and Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their families.</p>	<p>The Department may fund special equipment appropriate to the health-related needs of the client including,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistive devices</li> <li>• Mobility devices</li> <li>• Home modifications</li> </ul> <p>Simpler, less costly equipment should be considered before more complex and costlier equipment.</p>

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<b>Community Service Clubs</b>	Most service clubs do not have established programs for funding medical equipment but may help out people who have exhausted other avenues of funding and are still short of the total needed. When applying to a service club for funding it's a good idea to have a record of the funding sources already approached and the result of each.	Check your local listings for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kinsmen/Kinette Clubs</li> <li>• Rotary Clubs</li> <li>• Lions Club</li> <li>• Kiwanis Club</li> <li>• Knights of Columbus</li> </ul>
<b>Wish Foundations</b>	Various groups who offer to grant the wishes of children with severe disabilities or terminal illness. Please see each foundation for additional information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a Wish Foundation Canada - <a href="http://www.make-a-wish.ca">www.make-a-wish.ca</a></li> <li>• Starlight Children's Foundation - <a href="http://www.starlightcanada.org">www.starlightcanada.org</a></li> <li>• Sunshine Dreams for Kids - <a href="http://www.sunshine.ca/dreams.htm">www.sunshine.ca/dreams.htm</a></li> <li>• The Children's Wish Foundation - <a href="http://www.childrenswish.ca">www.childrenswish.ca</a></li> </ul>
<b><u><a href="#">Canada Revenue Agency</a></u></b>	The CRA offers tax deductions for eligible medical expenses for medical supplies and equipment that the CCAC does not offer or will not provide long-term including drugs and equipment purchased via Health Canada's Special Access Program (SAP).  <i>List of eligible items is updated regularly on the public website.</i>	Items include mobility aides, catheters, catheter trays, tubing, incontinence pads/diapers, bath aids, crutches, hearing aids, lab services, ambulance services, ileostomy and colostomy pads including pouches and adhesives, infusion pump including disposable peripherals used in treating diabetes, etc.