

Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) and Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

Fact Sheet for AISH Recipients

The Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) launched in June 2025. As noted in the rules for AISH eligibility, Albertans receiving AISH are expected to apply for all income they may be eligible for, including federal programs such as the CDB.

What is the Canada Disability Benefit (CDB)?

The CDB is a federal disability benefit program that provides up to \$200 per month to eligible Canadians with disabilities aged 18 to 64. Learn more at:

Canada.ca/en/services/benefits/disability/canada-disability-benefit.html

What actions do AISH recipients need to take?

In order to be eligible for the CDB, applicants must first apply and be approved for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC).

AISH recipients are required to provide the outcome of their CDB/DTC application(s) to an AISH office or Alberta Supports including:

- if your application for CDB is approved, including the amount, or if it is denied
- if your application for DTC is denied
- if your application for CDB is denied

Updates can be provided by:

- completing the web form available on www.alberta.ca/aish
- calling Alberta Supports or your AISH office
- emailing Alberta Supports or AISH
- visiting your AISH office or nearest Alberta Supports Centre for help applying for the DTC/CDB

What is the Disability Tax Credit (DTC)?

The DTC is a non-refundable tax credit that helps Canadians with severe and prolonged impairments, or their supporting family members, reduce their income tax.

Learn more at: Canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html

Applying for the DTC

There are two parts to a DTC application.

1. An applicant needs to fill out part 1 of the application found on the DTC webpage at: Canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit/how-apply-dtc.html
2. An applicant needs to ask a medical professional to complete part 2 of the form.

A medical practitioner may charge DTC applicants a fee for completing the medical portion of the application form.

Financial aid for medical assessments

The federal government has announced its intention to provide a one-time supplemental CDB payment of \$150 by March 2027 to offset the cost of the DTC medical assessment for all individuals approved for the CDB.

In the interim, the AISH program will cover the full cost of the DTC medical assessment for eligible clients to support their access to the CDB. Payment requests should be supported by an invoice or cost estimate from a medical professional. Upon approval, the AISH program will issue a supplemental benefit to the client, who will be responsible for paying the medical professional. AISH clients will be required to repay the full amount provided by the AISH program.

AISH recipients who don't apply for the CDB

AISH recipients who do not apply for the CDB or who do not provide confirmation of their application status, approval, or denial, will have their monthly benefits reduced by \$200.

Applying for the CDB

To apply for the CDB, AISH recipients need to ensure they file a tax return and apply for the DTC. They can then fill out the CDB application at: Canada.ca/en/services/benefits/disability/canada-disability-benefit/apply.html

AISH income and the CDB

The CDB will be treated as non-exempt income for AISH recipients, meaning Albertans on AISH will continue to receive the same overall monthly support that they do today.

Supports for accessing federal benefits

Albertans on AISH are encouraged to reach out to their AISH office for help accessing federal disability supports.

There are also other organizations that can help, such as:

- Voice of Albertans with Disabilities at: VadSociety.ca
- Organizations providing disability benefits navigation services at: Canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/social-development-partnerships/disabilities/organizations-benefits.html

Questions?

Help is available:

Call

211
1-877-644-9992 toll-free

Come In

To find an AISH office, visit: Alberta.ca/contact-aish
To find an Alberta Supports Centre, visit:
Alberta.ca/alberta-supports