

Provincial Government Assistance for People with Disabilities and/or High Drug Costs

As health related programs come under the jurisdiction of the provinces, the CNELTD Steering Committee is providing this province-by-province summary (in alphabetical order) with contact numbers for you to call. Only provinces in which some Nortel disabled employees live are included in the list. *Please note that provincial drug programs and programs for the disabled and people with low incomes discussed in this section are subject to change. For current information and to learn more about whether you are eligible for these programs, please call the numbers or refer to the websites that we have provided below. In some cases we have included information that applies to seniors (over age 65) for the benefit of disabled employees who are near that age.*

ALBERTA

Alberta Supports Contact Centre

The Alberta Supports Contact Centre is a new contact centre for general inquiries on [income support](#), [adult health benefits](#), [child health benefits](#), [child support services](#), and [Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped](#) (AISH). Advisors will provide general information on these programs and services, make referrals to community agencies and other government programs.

Toll-free in Alberta: 1-877-644-9992

Edmonton Area: 780-644-9992

<http://www.employment.alberta.ca/FCH/3341.html>

Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH)

AISH provides financial, supplementary and health-related assistance to people with severe and permanent disabilities who are unable to work. Although listed under the Senior Alberta website, this program applies to people under age 65.

The AISH Information Line has recorded information about the AISH program. Topics include eligibility criteria, applying for AISH, and health and personal benefits. The line also has program advisors who can help to answer your questions. Assistance is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Edmonton: 780-644-1364

Toll-free in Alberta: 1-866-477-8589

<http://www.seniors.alberta.ca/aish/http://www.seniors.alberta.ca/aish/ProgramResources.asp>

List of Disability Supports in Alberta

The following website contains a list of various forms of support that are provided by the Alberta Government for people who are disabled. For example, "Income Support" provides financial benefits to individuals and families who do not have the resources to meet their basic needs, like food, clothing and shelter.

<http://www.seniors.alberta.ca/DisabilitySupports/>

Health Care Insurance and Prescription Drug Benefit Programs in Alberta

Information regarding healthcare and healthcare insurance in Alberta:

Telephone: 780-427-1432 (Edmonton)

Toll-free in Alberta, dial 310-0000 then 780-427-1423

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List of Drug Benefit Programs in Alberta

The Prescription Drug Programs in Alberta include programs for children, seniors, handicapped persons (AISH), palliative care, non-Group Coverage (see below), and Rare Diseases. For more information and to see the Drug Benefit List, call the phone number above or refer to the following website:

<http://www.health.alberta.ca/AHCIP/drug-benefit-list.html>

Drug Benefit Program: Non-Group Coverage

Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Coverage is a government-sponsored drug benefit program available to all residents of Alberta under the age of 65 years. Albertans with this coverage pay a monthly premium and up to \$25 for each prescription purchased.

A completed Non-Group Coverage application form (Form AHC0201) is required to obtain Non-Group coverage. Coverage will become effective on the first day of the fourth month after Alberta Health and Wellness receives your application.

Monthly premium rates

Full Premium	Single	Family
As of July 1, 2010	\$63.50	\$118

Premium subsidy

Low-income Albertans may apply for a subsidized monthly premium rate. You will still pay up to \$25 for each prescription purchased.

Subsidized Premiums	Single	Family
As of July 1, 2010	\$44.45	\$82.60

You are eligible for a subsidized premium if your taxable income is:

Category	Income
Single	less than \$20,970
Family – no children	less than \$33,240
Family – with children	less than \$39,250

To apply for premium subsidy, you must complete the following: Non-Group Coverage Premium Subsidy application form (Form AHC0208G)

<http://www.health.alberta.ca/AHCIP/premium-assistance.html>

For further information, contact:

Phone: 780-427-7164 (for toll-free access within Alberta, first dial 310-0000)

E-mail: Submit general comments/questions to: health.ahinform@gov.ab.ca

Mailing Address: Alberta Health and Wellness
Attention:
P.O. Box 1360, Station Main
Edmonton, AB
T5J 2N3

Seniors: have premium-free Alberta Blue Cross coverage. Your spouse/partner is also included as are those residents between ages 55-64 who qualify for the Alberta Widows' Pension. Eligible seniors pay 30% of the cost of any eligible prescription drug to a maximum of \$25 for each drug prescribed.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

Information and assistance for persons with Disabilities

For those with disabilities who are not able to work, the Ministry of Social Development provides the security of income assistance along with enhanced medical coverage. The following website provides information and details about how to apply for assistance:

<http://www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/pwd.htm>

The toll free line provides telephone access to the Ministry of Social Development, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: 1-866-866-0800 (available in BC only)

BC Medical Coverage

BC residents must pay for basic medical services which is called the BC Medical Services Plan or BCMP.

Vancouver: 604-683-7151

Toll-free: 1-800-663-7100

A new self-pay account should have been set up automatically when your group account with Nortel was cancelled, and you will be billed for premiums. Note: you should contact MSP if you do not receive a premium billing notice within 90 days and have not qualified for a 100 per cent premium subsidy.

For information regarding premiums, including premium assistance, refer to

<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoben/premium.html>.

For further information, including the application for premium assistance, refer to:

<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoben/index.html>

BC PharmaCare

Most B.C. residents are eligible for coverage under Fair PharmaCare, a plan that provides assistance based on income and requires a one-time registration. Assistance is available to single people or to families. You can register for Fair PharmaCare online or by mail.

For more information, visit PharmaCare's Web site:

http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/index.html#redirect_notice_display_301Health

Insurance BC administers the Ministry of Health Service's PharmaCare program and can answer your questions about both the Medical Services Plan and PharmaCare. From Vancouver, call 604-683-7151, and from the rest of B.C. call toll-free 1-800-663-7100.

Fair PharmaCare Administration

PO Box 9655 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria BC V8W 9P2

All other PharmaCare enquiries:

PharmaCare PO Box 9655 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria BC V8W 9P2

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MANITOBA

Contact information for the Manitoba Disabilities Issues Office

Disabilities Issues Office
Room 630 - 240 Graham Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3C 0J7

Phone: 204-945-7613

Fax: 204-948-2896

TTY: 204-948-2901

E-mail: dio@gov.mb.ca

Website: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/dio/contact/index.html>

Pharmacare Program

You qualify for the Manitoba Pharmacare program if you are eligible for Manitoba Health coverage and if other provincial or federal programs do not cover your prescriptions. For more information, please contact:

Manitoba Health
Provincial Drug Programs
300 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 3M9

Phone: (204) 786-7141

1-800-297-8099 (toll free)

FAX: (204) 786-6634

TTY/TDD Relay Service: (204) 774-8618

Outside Winnipeg: 711 or 1-800-855-0511

E-mail: pharmacare@gov.mb.ca

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Disability Policy Office

Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment
3rd Floor Confederation Building, West Block
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Telephone: 1-709-729-6275

Toll Free: 1-888-729-6279

TTY: 1-888-729-5440

E-mail: disability.policy.office@gov.nl.ca

Medical Care Plan

Website: <http://www.healthquotes.ca/MCP-Newfoundland.aspx>

Phone: 1-709-729-4984

Income Support

The quickest way to apply for Income Support is to complete a telephone application by contacting the appropriate toll free number to the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment for your [region](#):

Avalon - Toll-free: 1-877-729-7888 TTY: 1-888-380-2299

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Central - Toll-free: 1-888-632-4555 TTY: 1-877-292-4205
Western - Toll-free: 1-866-417-4753 TTY: 1-888-445-8585
Labrador - Toll-free: 1-888-773-9311 TTY: 1-866-443-4046

Applications and more information about the income supports are also available online at:
<http://www.hrle.gov.nl.ca/hrle/income-support/application.html>

In order to apply for these types of support you must also use the income support application. Even if you do not qualify for income support, you might be eligible for some of the following healthcare-related forms of support:

- [Vision Care](#)
- [Prescription Drug Program](#)
- [Medical Transportation](#)
- [Medical Equipment and Supplies](#)
- [Dental Services](#)
- [Technical Assistance Devices](#)
- [Special Diet Allowance](#)

NOVA SCOTIA

Programs for People with Disabilities

The Income Assistance program provides people in financial need with assistance with basic needs such as food, rent, utilities like heat and electricity, and clothing. In some cases emergency dental care, vision care and prescription medications can also be covered.

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/coms/disabilities/>
http://www.gov.ns.ca/coms/employment/income_assistance/index.html

Disability Links for Income Support

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/disa/income.htm>

Nova Scotia - Pharmacare

<http://www.healthquotes.ca/MSI-Nova-Scotia.aspx>

General Inquiries: 1-902-429-6565 (local)
1-800-544-6191 (toll free)

ONTARIO

Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

Provides eligible disabled individuals and their families with income support and disability support including prescriptions, dental, extended health coverage, and medical supplies. People on CPP Disability automatically qualify for the “disability eligibility” part of the program and their children qualify as eligible dependents. To qualify for the financial eligibility, the family can have a house, and a car, but there are maximum limits for the family’s income and assets. Some types of money are not considered as part of the family’s income.

Ottawa

Ministry of Community and Social Services
Ontario Disability Support Program
Income Support and Employment Supports:
351 Preston Street
2nd floor
Ottawa ON K1S 3H8

General Inquiry: (613) 234-1188
Toll Free: 1-800-267-5111
TTY: (613) 787-3959
Fax: (613) 783-5958

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http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/social/odsp/income_support/index.aspx

Trillium Drug Program

The Trillium Drug Program is intended for Ontario residents under age 65 who have a valid Ontario Health Card and who have high prescription drug costs in relation to their household income. Details and application forms can be found at your pharmacy or online.

You must indicate that your healthcare coverage and LTD income stopped as of Dec. 31, 2010. The program runs from Aug.1 of one year to July 31 of the next and you have to pay a deductible for prescriptions, which is based on your 2009 income. The CNELTD Steering Committee is trying to get the Ontario Government to expedite the application process and allow Nortel Disabled Employees to have their deductibles determined by their 2011 income.

Phone 1-800-575-5386 or refer to the website: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca>

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

The PEI Disability Support Program

Website: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/sss/index.php3?number=1018613>

Phone: (902) 620-3777 or Toll-free: 1-866-594-377

Drug Programs in PEI

The following website provides a list of drug programs in PEI, including programs for particular medical conditions, as well as the PEI drug formulary:

<http://www.healthpei.ca/index.php3?number=1026180&lang=E>

Health PEI

General Inquires: 1-902-368-6130

Website: <http://www.healthpei.ca/index.php3?number=1028395&lang=E>

E-mail: healthinput@gov.pe.ca

Address : Health PEI

PO Box 2000

Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8

Tel: (902) 368-6130

Fax: (902) 368-6136

QUEBEC

Rules have been established around health care provided by the Régie de l'Assurance Maladie du Québec (RAMQ) that differ significantly from other provinces. RAMQ coverage is mandatory and paid for through the income tax process every year in April. Here is a snapshot of coverage under RAMQ:

Everyone must be insured by a health insurance plan for prescription drugs. If a Quebec resident is eligible for a private group health plan (typically the spouse's or a professional group plan) it takes precedence over the provincial RAMQ prescription drug plan. If the group plan terminates and the person is not eligible for any private group plan, then the coverage must be with the provincial RAMQ plan.

If you are under 65, and are not eligible for a group health plan (spouse's group plan or professional association) then you can apply to the RAMQ Prescription drug plan, by calling 1-800-561-9749. You need to have a valid Quebec Medicare card and coverage is effective the next business day.

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For more information or to register with RAMQ call:
Montreal 514-864-3411
Quebec City 418-646-3411
Outside these areas 1-800-561-9749 (toll free)
<http://www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca/en/courrier/index.shtml>

SASKATCHEWAN

Services for People with Disabilities

Website: <http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/disability-services>

Office of Disability Issues

Website: <http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/office-disability/>

Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disabled

The SAID program, designed in collaboration with members of the disability community, will provide an income for persons with significant and long-term disabilities separate from the Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP).

For further information see the related link below or call the SAID program at 1-888-567-SAID (7243) or TTY 1-866-995-0099 [in Regina call 798-SAID (7243) or TTY 787-1065]. You can fax information to (306)787-9993 or visit their website: <http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/SAID>

Special Support Program

This program helps those whose drug costs are high in relation to their income. Based on the information provided on the application form along with Drug Plan records, the Drug Plan determines the amount of benefit for which you are eligible.

A family may qualify for Special Support based on the family's annual adjusted income. Income adjustments are made by deducting \$3,500 for each dependent less than 18 years of age. The family's co-payment is determined by the amount that the family drug costs exceed 3.4 per cent of the adjusted combined family income. If the annual benefit drug cost exceeds 3.4 per cent of the adjusted income, the family pays a portion of each prescription to reduce their share of drug costs and spread the cost over the six-month benefit period.

Families with a deductible due to receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), Saskatchewan Income Plan (SIP) or Family Health Benefits (FHB) may be eligible for further benefits under the Special Support Program.

Call the Drug Plan at: (306) 787-3420 (in Regina) or 1-800-667-7581 to request an application form. Forms are also available at community pharmacies.

<http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/special-support-program>

Please note that individuals who have registered with the CNELTD and have provided them with an email address will also receive an electronic version of this document by email, which will enable easy access to various websites through the provided links.

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