Students with Permanent Disabilities

Student funding for students with permanent disabilities

For student funding purposes, a permanent disability is a functional limitation caused by a physical or mental impairment that restricts the ability of a person to perform the daily activities necessary to participate in studies at the post-secondary level or the labour force. The disability is expected to remain with the person for the person's expected natural life.

Before applying...

Talk with an advisor at your school about your educational goals and what kind of supports may already be in place at your chosen institution. It's also a good idea to apply as early as possible.

Students with permanent disabilities may be eligible for:

- Canada Student Grant for Persons with Permanent Disabilities
  $2000 per loan year and/or
- Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities
  Up to $8000 per loan year and/or
- Alberta Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities (applies to services/equipment)
  Up to $3000 per loan year for students not eligible for federal funding

How to apply for funding?

- **If you will be applying as a full-time student, you may apply online**.
  If this is the first time you are applying as a student with a permanent disability, you must submit a completed Schedule 4 along with all supporting medical documentation to Alberta Students Finance.
  Click here >> alis.alberta.ca/forms to print off a Schedule 4.

  Mail to >> Students Finance
  PO BOX 28000 Station Main
  Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R4

- **Or, you may submit a paper application** (includes a Schedule 4) as either a full-time or part-time student.

Once you are approved for funding as a student with a permanent disability, you will automatically be considered for the Canada Student Grant for Persons with Permanent Disabilities in your future applications, and will not be required to submit another Schedule 4. **However, when you request funding for assistive services and equipment, you must include a Schedule 4 in each study period/session** that you apply for additional funding.

What documentation may be required with your Schedule 4?

Proof of your permanent disability: Medical documents identifying your permanent disability and describing how it restricts your ability to participate in post-secondary studies must be submitted with your first Schedule 4.
The documents may include: copies of a medical certificate, a learning disability assessment, or a document proving that you are in receipt of federal and/or provincial disability assistance such as AISH.

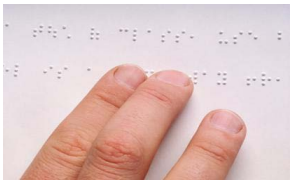
Assessment fee: If you require a Learning Disability Assessment, you may qualify to be reimbursed for the costs of this service. If eligible, your assessment may be dated no earlier than six months before you start your studies.
A receipt demonstrating that you paid for this service is required.

Estimates of equipment costs: If you request funding for equipment, you must provide two separate estimates of your equipment costs. New estimates will be required each additional time you request funding for equipment.

Who has to sign your Schedule 4?

You may want to consult with your school disability office about your needs for specialized services and/or equipment. Following this, an authorized consultant at an Alberta Service Centre or Canada-Alberta Service Centre must review your Schedule 4 along with your supporting medical documentation. After reviewing, the consultant must sign your Schedule 4. You may be required to make an appointment to meet with an authorized consultant. Go to **alis.alberta.ca/lmic** for contact numbers and locations.

Note: If you will attend the University of Alberta, Grant MacEwan University, SAIT Polytechnic, Mount Royal University or Lethbridge College, a coordinator for disabled students at your school must sign your Schedule 4 rather than an authorized consultant at a service centre. These schools are participating in a pilot project for 2011-2012 and are authorized to sign your Schedule 4.



If you are studying outside of Alberta and cannot meet with an authorized consultant in person, mail your application and/or Schedule 4 along with supporting documentation to:

Northgate Centre
Unit 2050, 9499-137 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5E 5R8 Tel: 780-422-9440

Information on assistive services and equipment

If you received funding for assistive services or equipment, you must supply receipts before the end of your study period/session demonstrating that the funds were used for the services/equipment indicated on your Schedule 4. Please remember to write your Social Insurance Number and name on each receipt. Any unused funds must be returned to Students Finance. Mail your cheque or money order payable to the Minister of Finance and Enterprise along with your receipts to:

Students Finance (Disability Grants)
PO BOX 28000 Station Main
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R4

You may find the Reconciliation Worksheet available at **alis.alberta.ca/forms** to be a useful tool to help you track and reconcile your receipts for services and equipment submissions.