

Passport Funding: What Can I Use It For?

These tips suggest how Passport funding can help adults with a developmental disability participate more fully in the community. For a complete list of supports and expenses covered under Passport, please see the <u>Passport Guidelines</u> at ontario.ca/bxj7.



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING

- Programs, classes and supports that help develop independence, social and life skills (e.g., literacy, cooking, managing money, computer skills, assistance with personal care needs).
 This includes fees and supplies.
- Participation in community activities and events (e.g., recreation, club memberships, admission to festivals and museums, sports).
- Pre-employment and employment supports (e.g., skills training, resume development and job coaching).
- Transportation for activities (e.g., transit, mileage, taxis).
- Paying a support worker to help with community participation and daily living activities. This includes a support worker's expenses while providing support (e.g., meals, transportation and activity fees, expenses for accompanying the individual during trips).



CAREGIVER RESPITE

Caregiver respite is temporary help to provide a break to primary caregivers. This can be during the day, evening or weekend, and can be in-home or out-of-home.

Respite includes supervising or providing supports for individuals with daily living activities such as personal care, while caregivers get a temporary break.



PERSON-DIRECTED PLANNING

Passport funding (up to \$2,500) can be used to develop a person-directed plan that builds on the individual's strengths and interests and identifies supports to help them achieve their goals. These supports can be purchased from independent planners, facilitators or developmental services agencies.



ADMINISTRATION

Passport funding can cover some employer costs (e.g., Canada Pension Plan contributions, Employment Insurance and Workplace Safety and Insurance Board premiums, vacation pay).

Passport recipients can also use up to ten per cent of Passport funding for administrative supports such as bookkeeping, bank fees, payroll and scheduling support workers.



Expenses NOT covered by Passport

- Housing and home maintenance (e.g., rent, home renovations or modifications, housekeeping)
- Household items and electronics (e.g., furniture, appliances, computers)
- **Indirect** respite services and supports (e.g., cleaning, meal preparation, snow removal, care of other family members)
- Holiday travel (e.g., personal or family vacations)
- Telephone/telecommunications (e.g., home phone and internet service, cell phone services)
- Groceries, food, and restaurant meals
- Clothing and personal goods and services (e.g., toiletries, spa treatments, aesthetic and cosmetic services)
- Dental care and services
- Fees for therapies/specialized services (e.g. speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nursing, massage therapy)
- Assistive devices and specialized equipment
- Services already received through the Ontario Disability Support Program (e.g., drug benefits, medical aids)
- Tuition for post-secondary programs which can be paid for by government assistance programs (e.g. the Ontario Student Assistance Program), or supports available through an on-campus accessibility office
- Vehicle purchases and/or modifications, leases and rentals

Note: In exceptional cases, the Passport agency may allow expenses that are not normally covered under the program.



Questions

If you have questions about the new Passport guidelines, please contact your local Passport agency at ontario.ca/bxnq