

## **BC Autism Funding Program**

The BC Autism Funding Program is a financial support program where the government directly funds eligible service providers that support the needs of your family and child living with a disability.

Through this program, the BC government sets up an account with funding in your child's name. Parents then choose to hire eligible service providers that meet their child's needs. Service providers send their invoices to the BC Autism Funding Branch. The Autism Funding Branch pays the service providers directly.

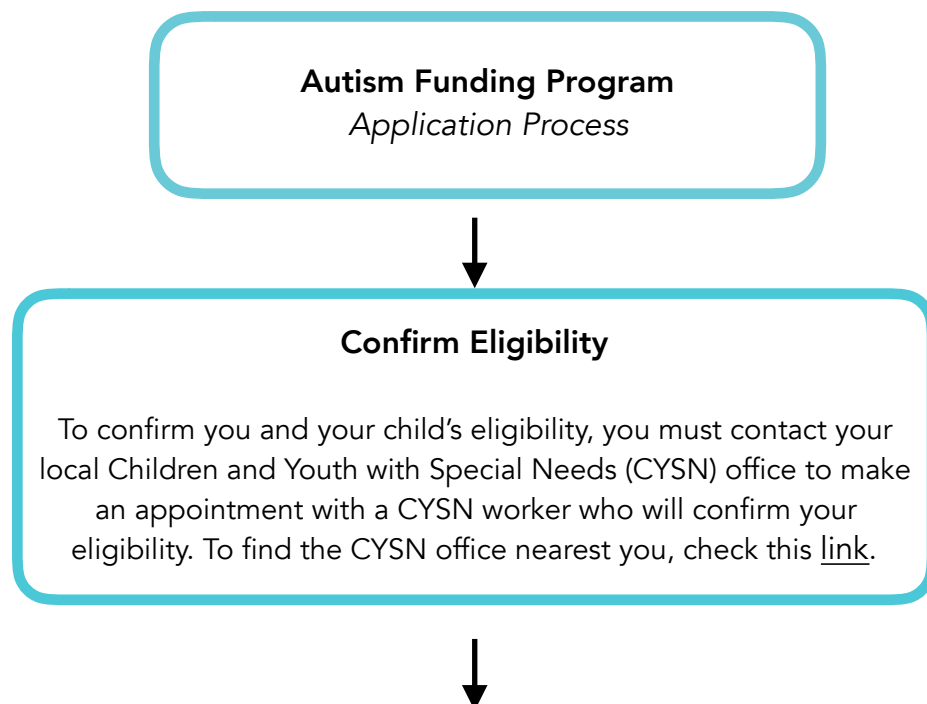
The Government of B.C. offers two types of autism programs that provide funding for autism-specific services for children and young people:

1. Autism Funding for children under the age 6:
  - Families can access up to \$22,000/year to pay for services
2. Autism Funding for children between the ages 6-18:
  - Families can access up to \$6,000/year to pay for services

Both programs help with the cost of paying for services to help your child's individual communication, social, emotional, pre-academic, and functional life-skills development.

Learn more about BC Autism Funding Programs in this [Parent's Handbook](#).

A great community resource for parents with children living with autism to connect with is the ACT organization, linked [here](#).



### **Connect with Staff at Autism Information**

You should reach out to staff at the government Autism Information Department during the process. They can provide you with the right information on the process and connect you with other professionals if you need.

Contact information for Autism Information Department:

*In person: 3688 Cessna Drive, Richmond, B.C.  
8:30am – 4:30pm (M-F)  
No appointment necessary  
Toll Free Line: 1 844 878-4700  
Email (general information): [AutismInformation@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AutismInformation@gov.bc.ca)*



### **Select Service Providers**

After submitting the funding agreement at the CSYN office (part of them determining your eligibility), you will then get a letter that says the funding available to you and when the funding will be given to you.

You must then choose your service providers. For children under the age of six, professionals must be chosen from the Registry of Autism Service Providers (RASP). It's also recommended that families of children over the age of six also choose service providers from the RASP, although it's not required.



### **Receive and Complete the Autism Funding Agreement**

After your appointment with your CYSN office, you will receive two copies of an Autism Funding Agreement in the mail. Both copies must be signed and returned to the Autism Funding Program within two weeks.



## Complete the RTP Form

Once you chose a service provider, you must complete the Request to Pay (RTP) Service Providers / Suppliers Form (PDF) and review it with the service provider to make sure the information is correct. You then submit the form to the Autism Funding Program once it's complete.

### Approved

If the service providers you selected were approved, you will get a letter from the Autism Funding Program saying so.

### Rejected

If the service providers you selected were NOT approved, you will be contacted by the Autism Funding Program. You will be encouraged to choose another service provider and complete and submit another RTP Form.

## Receive Services and Submit Invoices

You will be sent an *Invoice Payment Agreement* that outlines your responsibilities. After services are delivered, the service providers invoice the Autism Funding Program, which pays the service provider directly. For more information on invoicing, see page 41 of the Parent's Handbook

Once approved for funding, it's important for parents to remember:

- Funding can only be used for eligible expenses ( see page 30 of the **Parent's Handbook**)
- To submit appropriate funding forms, when necessary