

## **PEI AccessAbility Supports**

The **PEI AccessAbility Supports Program** is the new and expanded provincial program replacing the former Disability Supports Program. AccessAbility Supports assists Islanders living with physical, intellectual, neurological, sensory and mental disabilities. It provides 5 kinds of support: Personal, Housing, Community, Caregiver, and Financial. Some of the new or enhanced supports are:

- a new assessment tool to help better understand how the disability affects activities of daily living to make sure the right support is provided;
- new Community Connector positions to focus on improving people's independence and more active participation in community living;
- a supports coordinator to navigate all available support services and develop a personalized plan to meet individual needs;
- More supports for finding or keeping a job, including coaching and skills training
- increased financial help for home and vehicle modifications required because of a disability -\$10,000 every 10 years for home (was \$2,000 in a lifetime) and \$6,000 every 8 years for a vehicle (was \$2,000 in a lifetime); and
- a single point of contact by calling a toll-free number for easier support.

You can find more information on AccessAbility Supports [here](#), or call the toll-free line : 1-877-569-0546

### **PEI AccessAbility Supports**

#### *Application Process*

\*\*\*If your child is currently a disability support client, they will be automatically enrolled in AccessAbility



### **Confirm Your Eligibility**

To be eligible, your child must:

- Be under 65 years old
- Be a resident of PEI and lawfully residing in Canada
- Must have their disability diagnosed by a verified professional
- Have unmet disability needs (ex: respite, one-to-one worker, day programming, peer support etc)



### **Complete General Screening**

You must call the toll-free number, 1-877-569-0546, in order to complete a general screening over the phone of you and your child's eligibility for the program. They will then set up an appointment for you to meet with a Support Coordinator in person, and review over the phone what documents you will need to bring with you to this appointment.



### **Meet with Support Coordinator and Complete a Support Needs Assessment**

At the appointment, you will work with a Support Coordinator to do a Support Needs Assessment. The Support Coordinator will gather information on your current supports and discuss what unmet needs your child may have because of their disability. They will also explain how the program funding works and make a referral to one of the program Assessors to have an assessment completed. The information from the assessment is used to make a support plan and a funding level for the supports. The Support Coordinator will also tell you about government and community based resources that may be of benefit to you and your child.



### **Approved**

If approved, you'll be informed by the Support Coordinator



### **Rejected**

You'll be informed by the Support Coordinator. You can appeal a decision by writing a letter to the Department of Family and Human Services PEI



### **Have a Functionality Assessment Completed**

After meeting with the Support Coordinator, you will have a Functionality Assessment completed at your home, which determines your level of funding based on functionality (ie unmet needs)



### **Develop and Support Plan**

You will meet again with your Support Coordinator to make a Support Plan for you and your child based on the results of your Functionality Assessment. Supports can be both funded and unfunded (ie referrals) that you work with your Support Coordinator to tailor to your needs.