

TRANSITION RESOURCE GUIDE

Disclaimer: These are key services and resources to support YMC transitioning to adult care system based on *currently* available services. This is *not* a comprehensive list of resources and services as youth/caregiver may be eligible for additional supports based on your youth's region and need. Materials presented in this guide are for *information purposes* only. Caregivers and families are advised to seek legal advice regarding decision-making, capacity, Power of Attorney, and Legal Guardianship, or seek support from the appropriate service contact for more information.

This Transition Resource Guide is to be used as a *complementary resource* to the [CCKO Youth Transition to Adult Care Toolkit](#).

Organization	What they do	What I need to do	More Information
<p>Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)</p> <p>Is my youth eligible for this?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Developmental Services Ontario helps adults with developmental disabilities find services and supports. It is the central access point to developmental services in the community, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - residential supports - caregiver respite - Passport funding - day programs and community participation support (e.g., recreation, volunteering, employment or in-home supports) - professional and specialized services - person-directed planning <p>Eligibility requirements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - developmental disability (confirmed by a psychological assessment) - proof of age - proof of residence in Ontario <p>The Passport Program is managed by DSO and provides funding for respite and support services. Speak with your DSO Case Coordinator for more details.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review the DSO website to learn about the services available and eligibility criteria. Learn about this process when your child is 13 years old. 2) Contact your local DSO. It is best to begin this process when youth is 15 and apply the day after the youth turns 16. <i>Waitlists for intake assessment can be very long.</i> DSO requires documentation to confirm your child's eligibility. 3) If your youth has not already had one done, obtain a psychological assessment through your school board, hospital or privately. 4) If DSO determines you are eligible for services, they will book a Support Intensity Scale (SIS) assessment to determine your support needs. 5) Waitlists are prioritized by urgent needs. Contact DSO if there is a significant change in circumstances, such as a crisis or change in needs/illness, to ask for 'Urgent Response' service. 	<p>There are nine DSO agencies located across the province serving different counties and regions.</p> <p>Website to find your area local DSO: www.DSOntario.ca</p> <p>To contact by email or phone: https://www.dsontario.ca/about-us/contact-us</p>

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<p>Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)</p> <p>Is my youth eligible for this?</p> <p>Yes ___</p> <p>No ___</p>	<p>The Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) helps adults with disabilities who are in financial need pay for living expenses, such as food and housing. This is called Income Support. Those on Income Support may also qualify for extra funding for special diets, incontinence supplies, transportation to and from medical appointments, and some medical supplies. ODSP also has dental, vision and drug service benefits for eligible adults.</p> <p>ODSP may also assist with funding necessary items, such as commodes, bath chairs and ceiling lifts. Speak with an occupational therapist (you can get one through the HCCSS/local home care) and your ODSP worker for more information.</p> <p>ODSP also offers Employment Supports that help people with disabilities who can and want to work prepare for and find a job.</p> <p>Please note: If your youth is on Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities Program (ACSD) they do not automatically qualify for ODSP. ACSD payments stop at age 18 and the ODSP application process must be complete to start receiving ODSP payments at age 18.</p>	<p>The ODSP application consists of two steps and should be initiated six months before your youth's 18 birthday:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Financial Assessment: start this application online or call your local ODSP office to book an appointment. 2) Disability Determination: If your youth is financially eligible, ODSP will provide you with a Disability Determination Package that must be filled out by a medical professional. Completed and signed forms must be received by the Disability Adjudication Unit (DAU) within 90 days of when you received them. <p>The DAU reviews the application. This can take up to four months. The DAU's decision will be sent to you and the local ODSP office. If your youth is eligible, they will be assigned a case worker. You can go through an appeal process if they are deemed ineligible.</p>	<p>There are many ODSP offices throughout Ontario. To find your local office, go to:</p> <p>www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/social/odsp/contacts/index.aspx</p> <p>Website:</p> <p>www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/social/odsp/</p>

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<p>Health Care Connect</p> <p>Will my youth need a new family doctor?</p> <p>Yes ___</p> <p>No ___</p>	<p>Health Care Connect helps Ontarians find a family healthcare provider (family doctor or NP) who is accepting new patients. They can provide referrals to specialists, complete paperwork needed for ‘proof of disability’ and take care of basic healthcare needs (e.g., flu shots, regular checkups, etc.). It can also be used to change family healthcare providers.</p> <p>Please Note: If a family physician or NP is not available in your area/region, identify the most responsible healthcare provider/practitioner to assist with transition needs (e.g., in the Northern regions it may be nurses at the nursing station)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Make sure your youth has a valid health card, their address is up to date with Service Ontario and that they do not have a family doctor. If you are registered with a family doctor, you must call the doctor or Service Ontario to end your enrolment with them. 2) Join the program by registering online or by phone. You will be asked a short series of questions before being assigned a Care Connector, who will help you find a healthcare provider on your nearest Family Health Team or Community Health Team. 3) Speak with your healthcare team to determine future needs of medical professionals (such as, family doctor or NP at 18). Begin this process when your youth is 13 years old. 	<p>Register: by phone: 1-800-445-1822</p> <p>Website: www.ontario.ca/healthcareconnect</p>

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<p>Home and Community Care Support Services (HCCSS)</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p>	<p>Home and Community Care Support Services (HCCSS) connects people with healthcare and support in their community.</p> <p>Professional case managers assess care needs and develop custom plans. Case managers will refer you to professional services to meet at-home care needs, mainly nursing and personal support workers (PSWs). Consultative services, such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy and social workers are also available.</p> <p>HCCSS coordinators manage the needs of children/youth and adults (age 18+) differently. If your youth is currently with HCCSS, they will be transferred to an adult case manager.</p> <p><i>Family-Managed Home Care</i> is a self-directed program through HCCSS that provides eligible clients or their substitute decision maker to receive additional funding that they can use to purchase services or employ care providers. Your HCCSS care coordinator will remain responsible for developing care plans and monitoring outcomes. Connect with youth's team HCCSS care coordinator for more information.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Call your local HCCSS to make a referral for services. If a healthcare provider has already made the referral, the HCCSS Care Coordinator will call you once the referral is processed. Begin this process when youth is 17 years old. 2) You will be asked some questions to help the HCCSS better understand your needs. You will then either be connected with a Care Coordinator, and/or referred to the program or service that is right for you. <p>If your child already receives HCCSS, contact your care coordinator to discuss services changes before the youth turns 18 and understand any differences if plan to receive both, HCCSS and Family-Managed Home Care (e.g., obtaining legal guardianship, etc.)</p>	<p>HCCSS is available to eligible Ontario residents of any age and is funded by the Ministry of Health.</p> <p>Connect with your HCCSS Care Coordinator to begin the referral process before youth turns 18 years old or visit http://healthcareathome.ca/ to find local HCCSS (in some areas, young adult can be followed till age 30).</p> <p>Note: If HCCSS is not available in your region, identify local home care support services that is available in your community to begin this process.</p>

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<p>Substitute Decision-Maker</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p> <p><i>Disclosure: None of the information presented here is intended as legal advice and is for general education purposes. It is highly recommended that you consult with a lawyer to discuss decision making, capacity, legal guardianship or power of attorney conversations.</i></p>	<p>The legal system in finance is different than in the healthcare system. As youth transition to the adult care system, it is important to have a good understanding of what is needed if you have to speak on their behalf and make decisions around their legal or financial matters.</p> <p>What is a <i>Substitute Decision-Maker (SDM)</i>?</p> <p>In Ontario, a SDM is someone who can make healthcare decisions on behalf of a patient when that patient is unable to make decisions for themselves (i.e., due to capacity). Everyone in Ontario has a SDM even if they have never prepared documentation appointing someone to act in that role (e.g., family members).</p>	<p>It is important to be aware that the <i>Substitute Decisions Act of Ontario (SDA)</i> states that if an adult person is found to be incapable and does not have powers of attorney or a legal guardianship appointment in place, the Ontario Public Guardian and Trustee (OPGT) then becomes the guardian of that disabled person.</p> <p>*Explore other options as OPGT does not apply to those whose permanent residence is on-reserve in Ontario (i.e., OPGT service will not be applicable).</p> <div data-bbox="982 792 1533 1250" data-label="Diagram"> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Court Appointed Guardian</td> <td rowspan="3">Legally Appointed SDMs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney for Personal Care</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Representative Appointed by Consent and Capacity Board</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spouse or Partner</td> <td rowspan="4">Automatic Family Member SDMs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parents or Children</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parent with right of access only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Siblings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Any other relatives</td> <td rowspan="2">SDM of last resort</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Guardian and Trustee</td> </tr> </table> <p>Ontario's Health Care Consent Act, 1996</p> </div>	Court Appointed Guardian	Legally Appointed SDMs	Attorney for Personal Care	Representative Appointed by Consent and Capacity Board	Spouse or Partner	Automatic Family Member SDMs	Parents or Children	Parent with right of access only	Siblings	Any other relatives	SDM of last resort	Public Guardian and Trustee	<p>Speak up Ontario is a resource for learning about how the law works around healthcare decision-making, SDMs, healthcare consent, conversations and engaging in Advance Care Planning discussions: https://www.speakupontario.ca/resources-for-individuals-and-families/</p> <p>The Substitute Decision Maker Hierarchy Healthcare providers must pick the highest ranked person (on the SDM Hierarchy chart at left). If you are a parent or relative, you are still able to make decisions on your adult child/youth's behalf in healthcare settings. https://www.speakupontario.ca/resource/the-substitute-decision-maker-hierarchy/</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Legal Guardianship</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p> <p><i>Disclosure: None of the information presented here is intended as legal advice and is for general education purposes. It is highly recommended that you consult with a lawyer to discuss decision making, capacity, legal guardianship or power of attorney.</i></p>	<p>A guardian is an individual that is appointed by the court to make decisions concerning a disabled adult's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • medical concerns (guardianship of person); and/or • manage finances (guardianship of the estate) <p>For example, Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) will allow a caregiver to act as a 'trustee' and Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) also <i>does not</i> require any formal legal paperwork to manage Passport Funding. In many cases families do not need to pursue any kind of formal paperwork (i.e., legal guardianship). They can use a joint bank account opened before the person turns 18 and manage funds through ODSP and DSO without any formal documentation.</p> <p>Other organizations or individualized funding programs (e.g., Family-Managed Home Care) <i>requires</i> legal guardianship for caregivers to manage finances on behalf of the person with disability/complexity.</p> <p>Signing a power of attorney form might not be an option for a young person with a significant intellectual disability. The person signing the forms must be considered 'mentally capable' of understanding the forms they are signing.</p>	<p>If you wish to be your youth's legal guardian after they turn 18 or if they are enrolled in individualized funding programs, begin this process when the youth is 17.5 years old.</p> <p>Step 1: At age 18, having OPGT appointed as a statutory guardian</p> <p>Family member asks a qualified capacity assessor to assess incapable person's capacity and see if OPGT would become statutory guardian of property. Find a list of capacity assessors here: https://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/pgt/capacity/rosters/central.php</p> <p>The Capacity Assessment Office offers a Financial Assistance Program to cover the cost of an assessment in certain situations where an individual can't afford the fees. Applications for financial assistance can be obtained by contacting the Capacity Assessment Office at: 1-866-521-1033.</p> <p>Step 2: As a relative: apply as soon as possible to replace the OPGT as statutory guardian after the capacity assessment is completed by completing two forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form 1: Application to replace the OPGT • Form 2: Management plan <p>Information on how to apply is on the OPGT's website. https://www.ontario.ca/page/office-public-guardian-and-trustee</p>	<p>To find a lawyer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call toll-free number for Legal Aid at 1-800-668-8258. https://www.legalaid.on.ca/services/how-do-i-apply-for-legal-aid/ 2. You can also check with your local children's hospital for any pro-bono legal services or here: https://www.probonoontario.org/ 3. If your income is too high for Legal Aid, you can look on the 'professional services directory' of Partners for Planning (P4P), a non-profit organization that has lawyers recommended by other parents of children/youth with disabilities. https://www.planningnetwork.ca/en-ca/professional-services-directory

Service	What they do	What I need to do	More Information
<p>Assistive Devices Program (ADP)</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p>	<p>ADP provides funding support to individuals with long-term physical disabilities who need equipment (e.g., mobility devices, orthotics; NOT bathroom equipment, home renovations, etc.).</p> <p>Equipment needs to be prescribed by an “ADP authorizer” (physiotherapist or occupational therapist). ADP may not cover the entire cost of equipment (typically up to 75% of the cost) and will only cover certain brands/types of equipment from authorized vendors.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Book an appointment with an authorizer for assessment. If you are not connected with an authorizer, ask your equipment vendor if they can help connect you. 2) Ask the authorizer about other funding sources. ODSP may assist with costs; check with your case worker to determine what is covered. You can also apply to charitable organizations for support. <p>This can be completed when needed.</p>	<p>Website: for more information, and to see eligible items, visit: www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/adp/default.aspx</p> <p>Email: adp@ontario.ca</p>
<p>Disability Tax Credit</p> <p>Is my youth eligible for this?</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p>	<p>The Disability Tax Credit (DTC) is a non-refundable tax credit used to reduce the amount of income tax payable for eligible individuals. To be eligible, a person must have a "severe and prolonged mental or physical impairment".</p> <p>A qualified practitioner must fill out the paperwork. Visit the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)’s website and click on the “Definition of Disability and List of Qualified Practitioners” to learn which practitioners qualify.</p> <p>A supporting person may be able to claim all or part of a dependent’s Disability Tax Credit providing that both the supporting person and the dependent were residents of Canada during the tax year. This can be completed anytime online or mail.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review eligibility criteria to determine if your youth qualifies. 2) Review the list of qualified practitioners. Book an appointment with a ‘qualified practitioner’ to have them fill out the Disability Tax Credit Application. 3) Download and print the Form T2201 for the qualified practitioner to fill out. Be sure to include any documentation about date of onset. If your youth had the disability in previous tax years, but you had not registered for DTC, you may be able to claim back money paid in taxes from these previous years. 4) Send the original signed form to CRA. Sending your form before you file your annual income tax and benefit return may help us assess your return faster. 	<p>Eligibility Criteria for Disability Tax Credit and more information websites:</p> <p>www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html</p> <p>canada.ca/disability-tax-credit</p> <p>or Call: 1-800-959-8281.</p>

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<p>Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)</p> <p>Do I want to do this?</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p>	<p>A Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) is a federal tax-supported savings approach that encourages people to save for the future needs of a person with a disability.</p> <p>The Government may contribute Canada Disability Savings Grants of up to \$3,500 a year, for up to 20 years, depending on the number of contributions made to the RDSP.</p> <p>The Government may also pay a Canada Disability Savings Bond of up to \$1,000 a year, for up to 20 years, into the RDSPs of low-income and modest-income Canadians. No contributions are necessary to receive the bond. Earnings accumulate tax-free until money is taken out of the RDSP. People with disabilities must be 49 years old or younger to receive grants or bonds.</p>	<p>1) To be eligible for the Registered Disability Savings Plan, your youth needs to first qualify for the Disability Tax Credit.</p> <p>2) Most banks provide RDSP programs. Ask at your local branch for more information. You may want to ask for a staff member who has had previous experience setting up an RDSP. Consult with other parents and/or adults with disabilities to find a financial advisor or bank employee with knowledge about RDSPs.</p> <p>This can be completed anytime. Setting this up <i>earlier</i> will be helpful even if youth may not reach retirement age. This allows families to access these funds penalty-free (e.g., for any equipment/home modifications, respite, etc.) for the youth/family if MD deems life expectancy to be limited.</p>	<p>Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services: www.mcscs.gov.on.ca/en/mcscs/programs/social/what/rdsp.asp</p> <p>Canada Revenue Agency: - General summary: www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/topics/registered-disability-savings-plan-rdsp.html</p> <p>Call the CRA's general enquiry line: 1-800-959-8281</p>
<p>Henson's Trust</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p>	<p>A Henson Trust, also known as a discretionary trust, is structured to protect the assets of a person living with a disability, as well as their right to collect government benefits and entitlements such as those from ODSP.</p>	<p>It is important to consider the trustees you appoint. The Trustee is responsible for handling the assets that have been left in the trust for the youth. The Trustee(s) responsibilities can extend over a long period of time and end when the trust is terminated.</p>	<p>When setting up a Henson's Trust, you will want to consult a lawyer who has experience setting up this type of trust.</p> <p>Visit the Professional Services Directory for a list of lawyers at P4P - Planning Network. https://www.planningnetwork.ca/resources/henson-trust</p>

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<p>Respite Services</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___</p> <p>No ___</p>	<p>Respite is an occasional and temporary service providing support to families caring for a family member with a developmental and/or physical disability. It also provides support to the caregiver as the youth gets older. Respite Services links families and individuals to services in communities across Ontario.</p> <p>You may already have respite services before your youth turns 18 but it's important to consider what you and your youth will need once they have completed high school. For example, you may need to plan care for the hours that the youth was once in school.</p> <p>There are also opportunities to obtain some respite services through HCCSS.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Plan for your respite needs for when your youth is over 18. Begin when your youth is 17 years old. 2) Register by completing the “Online Family Registration” or print the forms and submit them by mail or fax. 3) Once your registration is received, the Respite Coordinator will contact you to confirm your request for in-home support. <p>You can then use the Support Worker CHAP Program to select a Support Worker based on your family’s needs and the worker’s availability and skills.</p>	<p>Website: respiteservices.com</p> <p>Email: info@respiteservices.com</p> <p>Please Note: If respite services are not available in your region, explore respite options (e.g., with social worker or DSO contact) for this support as it will vary in remote communities (e.g., connect youth to day programs in DSO Passport Program).</p>

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<p>Transitioning into the School System and/or High School</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___</p> <p>No ___</p>	<p>For a YMC, there are additional concerns about accessibility, having access to different therapies, or whether child will get the assistance they need to be successful in the classroom. Good transition planning and open communication are key to successful transition into school.</p>	<p>Consider discussing these questions with your local school or school board personnel when thinking about starting school or high school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are my child's needs and what supports they might need? • What resources or supports will my child get? • What can I do to get my child ready for a new school? • Is there a formal intake process when my child goes to school? • How much do I have to tell the school about my child's special needs? • Will my child have a full-time assistant to help in class? • What if my child is not toilet trained? • Who will I speak to if I have questions regarding my child's health concern? • Who do I go to for help with schooling? • Does the school have Health Support Services and how do I access it? • Who should I get to know to help advocate for my child at school? <p>Ask questions if not familiar with the following terminology:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IPRC (Identification, Placement and Review Committee) 2. IEP (Individualized Educational Plan) 3. Psychological assessment 4. SEAC (Special Education Advisory Committee) 	<p>Therapies in school are accessed through Home and Community Care Support Services and Children's Treatment Centres or with private contact with Education Authorities.</p> <p>Special Education Legislation Act and other information:</p> <p>http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html</p>

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<p>March of Dimes Home and Vehicle Modification Program</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes ___</p> <p>No ___</p>	<p>The March of Dimes Home & Vehicle Modification Program provides funding for basic home and/or vehicle modifications. The program assists permanent Ontario residents with substantial impairments that are expected to last for a year or more. By reducing or addressing life safety risks, these modifications enable children, youth and adults with mobility restrictions to continue living in their homes, avoid job loss and participate in their communities.</p> <p>The applicant must have a substantial ongoing impairment that impedes mobility and participation in activities of daily living (e.g., personal care, community functioning).</p> <p>Applicants who meet program criteria can apply for grant funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$15,000 lifetime maximum for home modifications; used before 18 years old then funds for home modifications are maxed out. • Up to \$15,000 every ten years for vehicle modifications; you are responsible for purchase of the vehicle and ensuring it is relatively new and in good shape. 	<p>The application is a two-step process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) First part of application, the Applicant Assessment, can be found online and asks the applicant a variety of questions about their abilities and income to identify individuals in the greatest need. 2) If the stage one application is approved, you will be notified in writing and sent the stage two application – the Modification Proposal. You can appeal applications that are denied. 3) The stage two application requires supporting documentation, including two competitive vendor quotes, a completed Verification of Disability form, proof of residency and home or vehicle ownership, and proof of income. <p>This is completed as needed.</p>	<p>Phone: 1-877-369-4867</p> <p>Fax: 519-432-4923</p> <p>Email: hvmp@marchofdimes.ca</p> <p>Website: www.marchofdimes.ca/EN/programs/hvmp/Pages/HomeandVehicle.aspx</p>

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<p>March of Dimes Assistive Devices Program</p> <p>Will my youth require this?</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>No _____</p>	<p>The March of Dimes Assistive Devices Program (different from the Ministry of Health Assistive Devices Program) can help you buy, repair and maintain a wide variety of mobility or assistive equipment (including wheelchairs). The program may also help you find alternate funding sources in your area.</p> <p>Funding is provided for devices that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help adults live safely and independently in their homes; • allow for discharge from a hospital or rehabilitation center; • help avoid job loss; and • support opportunities for participation in educational, developmental and community activities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To be eligible, the applicant must have an ongoing physical limitation that requires the use of an assistive device, be in financial need, be 19 years of age or older and be a permanent Ontario resident. 2) Complete and submit the application along with supporting documentation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A price quote from an equipment vendor • A letter of assessment/support from an Occupational Therapist • Income information (Notice of Assessment for the previous tax year) <p>This is completed as needed.</p>	<p>Phone: 519-642-3700 or 1-866-765-7237</p> <p>Fax for completed applications: 519-432-4923</p> <p>Email: adp@marchofdimes.ca</p> <p>Website: www.marchofdimes.ca/EN/programs/adp/Pages/Adp.aspx</p>

FAQ

1. Where can I get a psychological assessment completed for my youth?
 - Speak with your youth's school Principal or Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) and request a referral to school board's Psychology Services.
 - Speak with a clinician at your tertiary hospital and request the assessment.
 - Private assessments are also available, and are usually faster, for approximately \$2,000. These can be completed by a certified psychologist. (A member from complex care team can help find funding sources for psychological assessment).
2. How current does the psychological assessment have to be?
 - This depends on level of functioning and age of onset of health complexities; contact [Developmental Services Ontario](#) for guidance.
3. How do I know if my youth is eligible for Developmental Services Ontario?
 - You can review more information at <https://www.dsotoronto.ca/access-services/eligibility-for-developmental-services-and-supports/>
4. Will my youth continue to receive Special Services at Home (SSAH) respite funding after they turn 18 years old?
 - No. SSAH funding ends when your youth turns 18. If your youth is eligible for DSO, they may also be eligible for the [Passport Program](#), which provides funding for respite and support for adults with developmental disabilities.
5. Will the funding for the Passport Program begin as soon as my youth turns 18?
 - Not necessarily. You may be on a waitlist to receive the funding. Be sure to emphasize your youth's needs to your DSO case coordinator to ensure they are aware.
 - Because the funding may not begin at 18 years of age, consider planning for the financial impact this could have. For example, if your youth is no longer attending school and will require support during the day, you may have to pay out-of-pocket for care until you start receiving Passport funding.
6. Is everyone eligible for funding with the Passport Program?
 - No. Only people who are eligible for DSO can receive this funding.
7. Will I continue to receive Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) funding once my youth turns 18?
 - No. This funding ends at 18.
 - Your youth, or you on behalf of your youth, can apply to the **Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)** when they are 17.5 years old.

8. Do I still have to apply to ODSP if my youth is eligible for DSO?
 - Yes. They are two separate agencies.
 - If your youth is eligible for DSO, you can provide the letter of eligibility to ODSP, and this will decrease the amount of paperwork required.

9. When applying to ODSP, do they look at parents' income to determine eligibility?
 - No. They only consider your youth's income, assets, etc.

10. Would a Henson Trust, RDSP and/or RESP, etc. for my youth make them ineligible for ODSP?
 - It's best to review the ODSP website or speak with a representative to determine which assets will impact eligibility. You can also speak with a financial planner to determine the best plan for saving for your youth's future.
 - It's a good idea to open a joint bank account with your youth in preparation of them receiving ODSP.
 - When saving money for your child's future, consider keeping accounts, trusts, etc. in your name if it will impact your youth's eligibility for ODSP.

11. Will my youth need to find a new family doctor once they turn 18?
 - If your youth sees a paediatrician, **they will need a family doctor for when they are an adult.** Speak with your care team to determine the need.
 - If youth also see specialists, speak with the specialists about what happens when your youth is over 18.

Source: Information in the *Transition Resource Guide* has been modified and adapted from the *Grandview Kids - Transition Guide to Adult Supports and Services*.

Following clinicians developed the *Grandview Kids - Transition Guide to Adult Supports and Services*:

- Alice Wong, OT Reg. (Ont.)
- Brittany Thordarson, MScOT, OT Reg. (Ont.) - now at Toronto Rehabilitation Institute Lyndhurst Centre
- Mandy Doherty, MSW RSW

Additional Resources



Community Support Services

211 Ontario

Free referral service to find information on community and social government services. Certified Referral Specialists can link you to an appropriate provider if there is an immediate need
Phone: 2-1-1; *Email:* officeadmin@211ontario.ca; *website:* www.211ontario.ca

Community Networks of Specialized Care

Information on specialized service systems across healthcare sectors that support adults with developmental disabilities with high support and complex care needs (through DSO)
<http://www.community-networks.ca/>

Accessible and Specialized Transportation Services

<https://aoda.ca/specialized-transportation-in-ontario/>
<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/transit/municipal-transit-systems-in-ontario.shtml>



Funding Support

Ceridian Cares

Provides financial assistance to families that require support

<https://www.ceridiancares.ca/evaluation>

Children's Wish Organizations

Helpful when looking to fulfil youth's/families' wishes (e.g., family portraits, re-doing rooms, etc.)

Websites: www.sunshine.ca; <https://makeawish.ca>; <https://www.acvf.ca/>;

<https://starlightcovidsupport.org/>

Easter Seals Ontario

Services and funding support for children/youth and their families

<https://www.easterseals.org/>

Jordan's Principle

Responds to unmet needs of First Nations children no matter where they live in Canada

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396042341/1568396159824>

https://www.afn.ca/uploads/Social_Development/Jordan%27s%20Principle%20Handbook%202019_en.pdf

Muscular Dystrophy Canada

Helps clients obtain assistive devices to help with activities of daily living

www.muscle.ca

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)

Provides coverage for a wide variety of health benefits for eligible First Nations and Inuit clients

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1576790320164/1576790364553>

Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy (OFCP)

Funding assistance for OFCP members

www.ofcp.ca/funding.php



General Guidelines and Resources for Youth Transitioning from Paediatric to Adult Care Services

Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres

A Guideline for Transition From Paediatric to Adult Health Care for Youth with Special Health Care Needs: CAPHC Transitions Community of Practice – A National Approach (2016)

<https://ken.childrenshealthcarecanada.ca/xwiki/bin/view/Transitioning+from+Paediatric+to+Adult+Care/A+Guideline+for+Transition+from+Paediatric+to+Adult+Care>

Got Transition

<http://www.gottransition.org>

Provincial Council for Maternal and Child Health

Report of the Transition to Adult Healthcare Services Work Group (2013)

<https://www.pcmch.on.ca/health-care-providers/paediatric-care/pcmch-strategies-and-initiatives/transition-to-adult-healthcare-services/>

Ontario Health/Provincial Council for Maternal and Child Health Transitions from Youth to Adult Health Care Services Quality Standard Advisory Committee

Transitions from Youth to Adult Health Care Services: Care for Young People Aged 15 to 24 Years (2022)

<https://www.hqontario.ca/Portals/0/documents/evidence/quality-standards/qs-transitions-from-youth-to-adult-health-care-services-quality-standard-en.pdf>

Transition Hub

<http://www.transitionhub.ca>