

THE DISABILITY TAX CREDIT (DTC)



The [Disability Tax Credit \(DTC\)](#) is a non-refundable tax credit designed to recognize the higher costs associated with living with a disability in Canada. The credit can reduce the amount of income tax a disabled person, or their eligible caregiver, may have to pay

If a person was eligible for previous years but was not claiming the disability amount, they can request a tax adjustment for up to 10 previous years

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A person must meet the [criteria as established by the Canada Revenue Agency \(CRA\)](#).

An eligible person must have a severe and prolonged (lasting at least one year) mental or physical impairment that significantly restricts the ability to perform the basic activities of daily living. These restrictions must be present at least 90% of the time, even with the use of medical aides and medication.

It's not about **what** the disability is, it is about **how** the person is impacted!

Vision - Visual acuity must be 20/200 or less or field of vision is 20 degrees or less

Hearing - Must be unable or take 3X longer to hear in a quiet setting

Dressing - Must be unable, or take 3X longer, to dress themselves

Feeding - Must be unable, or take 3X longer, to prepare food for or feed themselves

Eliminating - Must be unable to independently, or take 3X longer, to manage bowel/bladder function

Walking - Must be unable, or take 3X longer to walk

Speaking - Must be unable to speak so as to be understood in a quiet setting, or takes 3X longer to speak

Life sustaining therapy - Must be required to sustain a vital function and be required at least 3X/week for an average of 14hrs/week

Mental functions - Must have an impairment in mental functions necessary for everyday life, such as adaptive functioning, memory, or judgement

Cumulative effect - If there are restrictions across two or more areas that when combined the cumulative effect is equivalent to being markedly restricted in one

MENTAL FUNCTIONS, EXPLAINED

Mental Functions Necessary for Everyday Life Include:

- Adaptive functioning
- Attention
- Concentration
- Goal-setting
- Judgment
- Regulating behaviour and emotions
- Verbal and non-verbal comprehension
- Memory
- Perception of reality
- Problem-solving

Examples of impairment

- Inability to recall basic information
- Severe lack of attention or concentration
- Unable to manage daily activities and routines
- Unable to manage hygiene or self-care
- Unable to set goals or solve simple daily problems
- Impaired sense of or inability to understand time
- Lacking awareness of environmental cues or dangers
- Responding to problems with inappropriate decisions, actions, or behaviours



HOW MUCH WILL I GET?

If approved, applicants who are 18 years and older (on the last day of the year) may claim up to the base disability amount. If under 18 years old, they may also claim the supplement for children with disabilities.

The [2024](#) maximum federal disability base amount is \$9,872 and the supplement for children with disabilities is \$5,758.

Most provinces also have [their own base and supplemental amounts](#).

Also check out these CRA resources for more information:

- [Demystifying the disability tax credit](#)
- [Disability amount transferred from a dependant](#)
- [Webinars and recordings](#)



The DTC is also a gateway to **other tax measures and programs**, including:

- [Child Disability Benefit \(CDB\)](#)
- [Canada Workers Benefit \(CWB\)](#)
- [Registered Disability Savings Plan \(RDSP\)](#)
- [Home Accessibility Tax Credit \(HATC\)](#)
- [Disability Supports Deduction](#)
- [Canada Caregiver Credit](#)

Learn more [here!](#)



Some of these benefits can be reassessed for previous years.

To request reassessment, you must file a [T1 Adjustment Request \(T1-ADJ\)](#)

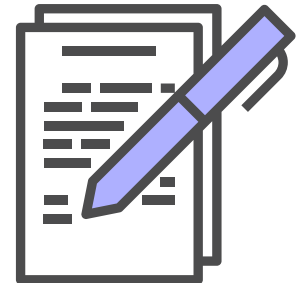


HOW DO YOU APPLY?

[The Disability Tax Credit Certificate \(Form T2201\)](#) must be completed and [submitted to the CRA for approval](#).

You can either mail in the form or, if you have a [CRA My Account](#), it can be submitted online.

- Sections 1 through 4 are completed and signed by either the person with the disability or their guardian/representative.
- The remainder of the form is the medical information and effects of impairment, which is a written explanation of how the disability impacts the activities of daily living.
- Only send additional information or reports if specifically requested.
- The form must be certified by a [qualified medical practitioner](#).



There are DTC promoters (organizations) which help taxpayers navigate the application process, particularly in writing the effects of impairment to achieve a successful result.

The [Disability Tax Credit Promoters Restrictions Act \(DTCpra\)](#) set maximum fee of \$100 for any service or person that charges a tax-payer to assist to submit or claim the DTC.

