

# Accessibility Grant Guidelines

Alternate formats available. Please call 1-888-729-6279 or email  
CSSDGrantPrograms@gov.nl.ca.

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## Purpose

The Accessibility grant's purpose is to improve accessibility and inclusion across Newfoundland and Labrador (NL) including communications, events, built environment and implementing solutions to barriers through innovation. The goal is to move forward by practicing accessibility and inclusion to ensure persons with disabilities participate and contribute to all aspects of society.

The grant follows:

- the Nothing Without Us About Us principle
- the **Accessibility Act** (<https://www.gov.nl.ca/cssd/accessibility-act/>)
- the provincial government's commitment to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Two streams of applications are available to ensure increased opportunities for inclusion and accessibility. This will assist in equitable opportunities in the awarding of funding.

## Stream 1: Small to Medium Accessibility Projects

Stream 1 will improve accessibility in facilities and infrastructures in organizations and municipalities and improve access and participation in events and meetings.

Maximum funding request is \$15,000.

Quotes are required with details of project costs (refer to application). Please clearly describe your project, costs of project, and potential outcomes.

Examples include:

- Building/Repairing indoor accessible features such as ramps, door openers, accessible washrooms, tactile features/lighting for way finding, sensory friendly equipment, etc.
- Building/Repairing outdoor accessible features such as raised garden bed, paved walkways instead of gravel, deck, community monument, etc.
  - Note: this excludes public roads, curb cuts, and highways that receive funding from municipalities or other departments.

- Providing disability related supports for accessible events and meetings such as real time captioning services, purchasing hearing assistive technologies, sign language interpretation services.

**Important Note:** Stair lifts or platform lifts for buildings are not eligible because of the safety and accessibility concerns raised by the disability community in the province.

## **Stream 2: Medium to Large Accessibility Projects**

Stream 2 projects will improve the lived experience and inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society. The focus is accessibility from a cross-disability lens expanding beyond built environment, accessible supports, and communications. The goal of this stream is preventing barriers to inclusion by implementing innovative solutions and practicing them in a meaningful way.

Maximum funding request is \$25,000.

Examples include:

- Research projects identifying creative solutions and actionable outcomes to address barriers experienced by persons with disabilities (i.e., employment, access to disability related supports, accessible transportation, etc.)
- Using technology to help remove and prevent barriers to accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- Awareness campaigns on disability or accessibility related topics to educate on barriers and innovative solutions to barriers.
- Workshops to develop innovative ways to boost persons with disabilities' participation and experiences in any setting (i.e., workplace, social group, community, etc.)

### **Who can Apply?**

- NL based nonprofit organizations (community, disability groups, churches, social enterprises)
- Municipalities and Local Service Districts
- Indigenous governments and groups

## Who can Not Apply?

- Government run facilities (schools, school boards, health board, provincial parks, etc.)
- Businesses (small, medium, and large including franchises)
- Private owned corporations and agencies (private owned parks, hiking trails)
- National and international based organizations
- Applications that are not focused on accessibility e.g., electrical panel, heat pumps, sewage systems, partial accessible construction (ex: has ramp but still have high lip to access door)

## Review Process

Eligibility considerations will include:

- Community (and surrounding area if relevant) or provincial region (east, central, south, west, north, Labrador, Labrador West, and northern Labrador areas).
- Projects that increase accessibility in events/conferences and built environment that have the broadest impact.
- Projects that are innovative to prevent barriers experienced by persons with disabilities, including using technology to prevent barriers, research projects, and campaigns related to outreach and awareness.

Other eligible considerations include:

- Projects based in rural Newfoundland and Labrador
- Projects submitted by Indigenous organizations.
- Projects submitted by groups who do not have financial resources or other funding programs to improve accessibility in their area.

**Note:** Late applicants will not be included in the screening process and will be encouraged to re-apply the following year.

## Successful Applicants

When the review process is complete, successful applicants will receive an email that will include an approval letter and contract. The successful applicant must sign and return contract to [CSSDGrantPrograms@gov.nl.ca](mailto:CSSDGrantPrograms@gov.nl.ca).

Funding will be awarded and paid in full when contract signed by applicant.

Applicants must complete their projects by March 31<sup>st</sup> of the same fiscal year. (i.e., successful applicants for 2024-25 have until March 31, 2025, to complete their project.

Successful applicants must also provide a written project summary or report, on or prior to March 31<sup>st</sup>, to Children, Seniors and Social Development at [CSSDGrantPrograms@gov.nl.ca](mailto:CSSDGrantPrograms@gov.nl.ca).

### **Unsuccessful Applicants**

When the review process is complete, unsuccessful applicants will receive an email advising of their non-approval status and will be encouraged to re-apply next fiscal year.

### **Friendly Tips in Applying**

- Please read the Accessibility NL Grant guidelines.
- Complete your application with clear project description and cost.
- Supporting documents are strongly encouraged.

### **Resources**

Other funding opportunities related to accessibility to consider:

- Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation
  - Active NL fund <https://www.gov.nl.ca/tcar/>
- Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs
  - Accessible Communities Grant <https://www.gov.nl.ca/mpa/funding/>
- Federal funding opportunities
  - Enabling Accessibility Funding (EAF)  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/enabling-accessibility-fund.html>