

Verification of Eligibility Form for Students with Disabilities

Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Integrated Student Financial Assistance Program

General Information:

In Budget 2021, the Government of Canada announced its intent to extend disability supports under the Canada Student Financial Assistance Program to recipients whose disabilities are persistent or prolonged beginning in 2022-23. Pending Government of Canada approval, you may be eligible for such benefits if you have a persistent or prolonged disability.

To be eligible, students must have a disability which is defined as any impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment – or a functional limitation – that:

- Restricts your ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or to participate in the labour force;
- Has lasted, or is expected to last, for a period of at least 12 months **or** is expected to remain for your expected life. (For more details, see Definitions section on page 3)

For students with a Learning Disability only:

- Complete only **Section A and B**; and
- Submit a copy of your Psycho-Educational Assessment (or a comprehensive educational assessment) completed within the last 5 years or at the age of 18 or older that confirms the diagnosis of a learning disability and lists functional limitations/impairments because of your confirmed learning disability.

For all other students:

- Complete **Section A**;
- Have **Sections C, D and E** relating to your disability completed by the appropriate qualified medical/educational assessor. Your medical/educational assessor must clearly identify any functional limitations/impairments restricting your ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or participate in the labour force.

For Medical/Educational Assessors:

- StudentAidNL uses this Verification of Eligibility Form as one of the criteria to determine this student’s eligibility to receive the Canada Student Grant for Students with Disabilities. Please ensure the diagnosis represents this student’s disability and identifies the functional limitations/impairments that restrict/impact the student’s ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or participate in the labour force.
- Complete all parts of **Sections C, D and E** of this form pertaining to the disability diagnosis and return the form to the student.

A. Student’s Personal Information and Consent

Consent for the Collection and Disclosure of Personal Information

Your personal information is protected by the **Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act** (Newfoundland and Labrador). I understand that, to determine and verify my eligibility for student financial assistance and related programs, to administer and enforce the Canada - Newfoundland and Labrador Integrated Student Financial Assistance Program, Student Financial Services Division may need to obtain my personal information.

I consent to Student Financial Services Division collecting my personal information from the qualified medical assessor and/or educational assessor who completes the Verification of Eligibility Form, and to Student Financial Services Division providing personal information as may be necessary to obtain the information Student Financial Services Division requires or as may be necessary to administer and enforce the Integrated Student Financial Assistance Program. I also consent to these persons and entities disclosing my personal information to Student Financial Services Division for these purposes.

Student’s First Name	Student’s Last Name	Student’s Social Insurance Number (SIN) XXX-XXX-
Student’s Signature		Date

B. Students with a Learning Disability

Are you applying as a student with a Learning Disability only? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**:

- Submit a copy of your Psycho-Educational Assessment (completed within the last 5 years or at the age of 18 or older that confirms the diagnosis of a learning disability and lists functional limitations/impairments)
- Do not complete the remainder of this Form.

If **No**, complete **all** remaining sections of this form.

C. Determining Eligibility (To be completed by Medical/Educational Assessor)

1. Does the applicant have a permanent or a persistent/prolonged disability? (See “Permanent Disability” and proposed “Persistent/Prolonged Disability” in the Definitions section on page 3)

- ☐ **Yes – Permanent Disability.** Proceed to # 2
- ☐ **Yes – Persistent/Prolonged Disability.** Proceed to # 2
- ☐ **No – Stop!** The student is not eligible.

2. The applicant must also have a functional limitation or impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment to post-secondary education and/or the labour force (complete all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Secondary Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Labour Force |
|---|---------------------------------------|

List the functional limitations/impairments that restrict/impact the applicant’s ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level.

List the functional limitations/impairments that restrict/impact the applicant’s ability to perform the daily activities necessary to participate in the labour force.

1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

Notes: StudentAidNL may use the list of functional limitations/impairments indicated in this table to determine eligibility for the Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Disabilities (CSG-DSE). (See separate Application Form). **If no functional limitations/impairments exist for participation in post-secondary education, the student is not eligible for the CSG-DSE.** If more space is required, please attach a sheet to this completed form.

D. Nature of Disability – Check at least one box and Complete Section E
(To be completed by Medical/Educational Assessor)

<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disability/Mobility Impairment	Primary Diagnosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Impairment	Primary Diagnosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Impairment	Primary Diagnosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatric/Psychological Disability	Primary Diagnosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Speech or Language Impairment	Primary Diagnosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Neurological Disability	Primary Diagnosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Primary Diagnosis

E. Certification of Medical/Educational Assessor					
I certify that the information provided in this form is complete and accurate.					
Name of Assessor (please print)			Medical Office Stamp		
Mailing Address		Telephone			
City/Town		Province			Postal Code
Professional Designation/Accreditation		Registration/Certificate #			
Assessor's Signature		Date			

Definitions*:

- Permanent Disability** is any impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment – or a functional limitation – that:
 - Restricts your ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or participate in the labour force, and
 - Is expected to remain with you for your expected life.
- Persistent or Prolonged Disability** is any impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment – or a functional limitation – that:
 - Restricts your ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or to participate in the labour force;
 - Has lasted, or is expected to last, for a period of at least 12 months; and
 - Is not a permanent disability.
- Functional Limitation or Impairment is** any impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment (functional limitation) that restricts your ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or participate in the labour force.

***Note:** Definitions are pending Government of Canada approval, and could change prior to the start of the academic year (August 1, 2022). Please consult www.canada.ca for the latest information.

Additional Information:

Students with a disability may:

- Be eligible for a non-repayable grant of \$4,000 per academic year;
- Have extra time to complete the program with the help of student financial assistance;
- Qualify as a full-time student with a smaller, more manageable course load. (Students with a disability are considered full-time if they are taking 40% or more of a full course load);
- Qualify for extra funding specifically designed to help pay for exceptional expenses related to the disability, such as: specialized equipment, specialized textbooks, learning support services.

Additional Funding:

- Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment - Students with Disabilities, and the Grant for High Need Students with Disabilities - designed to help pay for education-related services and equipment associated with the disability.
- There is a separate application form required to access these additional funding programs.

For complete details on the full range of services and benefits available for students with disabilities, please visit us online at:
www.gov.nl.ca/studentaid

Collection and Use of Information:

This personal information is collected under the authority of the **Canada Student Loans Act, Canada Student Financial Assistance Act**, and the **Student Financial Assistance Act, 2019** (Newfoundland and Labrador) as amended from time to time and will be used to determine and verify eligibility under the federal and provincial student financial assistance programs. For any questions about the collection and use of this information, contact the Director, Student Financial Services Division, Department of Education, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, A1B 4J6 or (709) 729-5849.
 Submit completed form by email to studentaidmailbox@gov.nl.ca, fax to 709-729-2298, or mail to Student Financial Services Division, Department of Education P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL A1B 4J6