

General Information

Under the Allowance for Special Needs Program, students with a major functional disability or other recognized disability are entitled to financial assistance to purchase equipment or materials that compensate for the effects of their disability and that they must have in order to do academic work at home (i.e. a computer and peripherals, a communication aid or adaptive equipment) or to cover the cost of specialized services they need in class or transportation. In the case of specialized services, the amount allowed is based on the number of hours spent with the student and paid by the student, provided no other organization is covering the special need in question.

The term "student with a major functional disability" refers to a person whose disability significantly and persistently limits his or her ability to perform normal daily tasks and to pursue studies. The major functional disabilities are the following: severe hearing impairments, severe visual impairments and motor or organic impairments resulting in significant and persistent limitations. The other recognized disabilities are the following: language or speech impairments, paralysis of a single limb, paresis of one or more limbs and hearing capability corresponding to a hearing threshold of 25 decibels.

The Allowance for Special Needs Program is intended for full-time or part-time students in secondary-level adult education, secondary-level vocational training, college or university. "Part-time" is defined as follows: 20 or more course hours per month or what has been declared as such by the educational institution.

Certain provisions of the Loans and Bursaries Program apply to students with major functional disabilities (see the brochure entitled *Student Financial Assistance*).

For information on the Allowance for Special Needs Program, go to <www.afe.gouv.qc.ca/english>, click on **Information** and then on **Other Programs**.

Required Documents

- If this is your first application for an allowance for special needs, you must attach a proof of citizenship unless you have already provided such proof with your application for financial assistance under the Loans and Bursaries Program.

➤ Canadian citizen by birth	A copy of your birth certificate or copy of act of birth showing the first and last names of both your father and mother
➤ Naturalized Canadian citizen	A copy of both sides of your <i>Commemoration of Canadian Citizenship</i> certificate issued by Citizenship and Immigration Canada
➤ Permanent resident	A copy of the record of landing issued by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (IMM 1000), copy of the <i>Confirmation of Permanent Resident</i> form (IMM 5292) or copy of both sides of your permanent resident card issued by Citizenship and Immigration Canada
➤ Refugee or protected person	<i>Certificat de sélection du Québec</i> (Québec selection certificate) issued by the Ministère de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles AND Notice of decision issued by the Immigration and Refugee Board or Pre-Removal Risk Assessment decision issued by Citizenship and Immigration Canada OR <i>Protected Person Status Document</i> issued by Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Required Documents (cont.)

Required Documents

- If you have a **major functional disability** and wish to apply for an allowance for special needs, you must attach a *Medical Certificate-Major Functional Disabilities and Other Recognized Disabilities* form completed by a general practitioner or specialist. You need not resubmit this form if it has already been submitted and accepted as part of your application for financial assistance under the Loans and Bursaries Program or if this is your second or later application for an allowance and your disability and the resulting limitations have not changed.
- If you have another recognized disability and wish to apply for an allowance for special needs, you must attach a *Medical Certificate-Major Functional Disabilities and Other Recognized Disabilities* form completed by a general practitioner or specialist.
- If you have a motor or organic impairment and have not applied for an allowance for special needs since May 1, 1994, you must attach a *Medical Certificate-Major Functional Disabilities and Other Recognized Disabilities* form.
- Section 6 of this form ("Recommendation") must be completed in all cases to justify the application for an allowance for special needs.
- When applying for an allowance for special needs, you must submit:
 - one estimate only if the amount concerned is lower than \$1 000 or in the case of communication aids
 - three estimates from three different stores if the amount concerned is equal to or greater than \$1 000

Procedure

Procedure

- Please print.
- You must submit this form at the beginning of the first study period of each award year and enclose all required documents.
- You must wait for AFE's authorization before you purchase the equipment.
- In the case of specialized services, enclose a copy of all service contracts along with your application (for details on the information that must appear in such contracts, see the model contract). Once your application has been approved, you will receive an allowance equal to 100% of your estimated services as advance payment. At the end of the study period, you must submit all your receipts to the school administration, the office for students with disabilities or the financial assistance office at your educational institution. Any necessary adjustments will be made at this time.
- The equipment or materials must be purchased within 45 days following the receipt of the allowance (cheque). Send the paid invoice to AFE with the student's name and permanent code.
- The cheque will be made out in your name.
- For more information, contact the financial assistance office or services for disabled students at your educational institution. You can also call us at (418) 646-6006 or at 1-866-946-6006 (toll-free in Canada and the U.S.). If you are hearing-impaired, call 711 (Bell Relay Service) and ask for (418) 646-6006.
- You must send your application by fax to (418) 528-0318 or by mail to this address: 1035, rue De La Chevrotière, Québec (Québec) G1R 5A5.
- If you are not satisfied with the way in which your application was handled, you may, depending on your particular case, report a change in your circumstances, file an application with the Review Bureau or the Examination Committee for Exceptional Cases or send a complaint in writing to AFE.

Specific Information

Specific Information

Material resources

The maximum amount allowed for the purchase of a computer is \$2 000 (including a keyboard, monitor, modem, mouse and printer). The maximum amount allowed for the purchase of a portable computer is \$3 000 if the student is enrolled in a program recognized for this purpose by Aide financière aux études (AFE) and the use of a portable is a requirement in the program. No other peripherals or adaptive devices will be covered except in special cases where they are needed to compensate for the effects of the disability.

Specialized Services

The maximum number of hours which may be reimbursed for each service is equivalent to the number of course hours taken. In the case of interpretation services, two extra hours will be reimbursed for meetings with the teacher or professor. Additional hours may be reimbursed if the student can prove that they were directly related to his or her courses and necessary in order to pass the courses, given his or her disability. Additional hours must also be justified by the appropriate official at the educational institution, who must, for each service concerned, provide details on all the instances in which the service was required, give the hourly rate charged and specify the amount of time (in hours and minutes) for which the service was required. At the college level in the public sector, specialized services are provided by the educational institutions.

Transportation

- The maximum allowed is two trips per day.
- Students who use their car or car pool because public paratransit is unavailable where they live are not required to submit receipts. They will be granted the maximum weekly amount allowed under the Loans and Bursaries Program for transportation costs.
- When a student considered to be living with his or her parents claims a reimbursement for transportation costs, the student must contribute a minimum amount toward these costs. This minimum contribution will therefore be deducted from the amount claimed. If the student is allowed an amount for transportation costs under the Loans and Bursaries Program, this amount will be taken into account in determining the amount of the reimbursement. If the student is not receiving financial assistance under the Loans and Bursaries Program, he or she must nonetheless contribute toward these costs. In such cases, the amount allowed for transportation costs under this program is deducted from the amount claimed.
- Students who live outside a 50-km radius of their educational institution are strongly advised to rent a special needs room on campus or in the vicinity. A monthly maximum of \$100 is added to cover the cost of a special needs room in the case of students who move close to the educational institution when they had the option of living with their parents and using paratransit.

Section 2 Education (cont.)

College or university studies

Attach proof of registration indicating the name of the educational institution, the study period concerned, the name of the program, the courses taken and, for each course, the number of hours or credits. In addition, you must provide the information requested in the following sub-section.

Situation 1 From

Y	M	D

 to

Y	M	D

Name of the institution Name of your program

Number of hours (college) or credits (university) for the study period concerned:

--	--	--

 hours

--	--	--

 credits

Situation 2 From

Y	M	D

 to

Y	M	D

Name of the institution Name of your program

Number of hours (college) or credits (university) for the study period concerned:

--	--	--

 hours

--	--	--

 credits

Situation 3 From

Y	M	D

 to

Y	M	D

Name of the institution Name of your program

Number of hours (college) or credits (university) for the study period concerned:

--	--	--

 hours

--	--	--

 credits

Section 3 Special Needs

Specialized services

Once your application has been approved, you will receive an allowance equal to 100% of your estimated services as advance payment. At the end of the study period, you must submit all your receipts to the school administration, the office for students with disabilities or the financial assistance office at your educational institution. Any necessary adjustments will be made at this time. (See appended model receipt.) Check the services that you require and indicate the study period(s) concerned.

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Enclose a service contract for each service required. (See appended model receipt.)

Material resources

- Equipment and adaptive devices**
 - Have section 6 ("Recommendation") completed.
 - Attach:
 - one estimate only if the amount concerned is lower than \$1 000 or in the case of communication aids
 - three estimates from three different stores if the amount concerned is equal to or greater than \$1 000
 - You must purchase the equipment or materials within 45 days following the receipt of your allowance (cheque) and send the paid invoice to AFE with your name and permanent code.

Section 3 Special Needs (cont.)

Material resources (cont.)

Reproduction in braille (Note that reproduction does not include translation, transcription or typing.)

on paper

on diskette

- During the study period, send in the bills for payment.

Transportation

Please check the appropriate box for each study period.

Public paratransit⁽¹⁾

From

 to

Alternatives to paratransit

Personal vehicle

From

 to

Car pooling

From

 to

Private paratransit⁽²⁾ or taxi⁽²⁾⁽³⁾

From

 to

Special needs housing⁽⁴⁾

From

 to

1. Attach a letter from the carrier confirming the monthly cost.
2. Attach a letter from your CLSC confirming your eligibility for paratransit and its unavailability in your area for the current award year. You must submit such a letter each award year.
or
Attach a letter from the regional paratransit corporation or the appropriate authority at your educational institution confirming your eligibility for paratransit and explaining why your needs cannot be met (conflicting schedules, the educational institution is located outside the territory served, etc.).
3. Attach an estimate by the carrier (including the taxi licence number) indicating the cost of a return trip between your residence and the educational institution. For each study period, attach your schedule and give the dates on which courses begin and end, the number of return trips required for the study period and the estimated total cost for the study period. Enclose a copy of your institution's academic calendar.
4. Attach a copy of a lease, a proof of your home address and a proof of your second address.

Section 4 Consent

Student Consent for the Release of Personal Information

Any information I provide in my application for an allowance for special needs and any information related to my special needs file may be released to the personnel of the office for students with disabilities or its equivalent at my educational institution so that they can take the appropriate action.

Signature X _____

(If the student is unable to sign, the form must be signed by the holder of parental authority.)

This consent is optional and may be withdrawn at any time.

Date

Section 5 Signature

Student Signature

I hereby certify that the information I have given is accurate and complete.

Signature X _____

(If the student is unable to sign, the form must be signed by the holder of parental authority.)

Date

Receipt

Receipt

At the end of the study period, you must submit all your receipts to the school administration, the office for students with disabilities or the financial assistance office at your educational institution. Any necessary adjustments will be made at this time.

You may copy this receipt and use it each time you need to issue a receipt for a specialized resource person.

Received from _____ Permanent code assigned by the Ministère
Student's name

the sum of _____ for _____
Amount Services rendered

Study period (check one box only): FALL 2006 WINTER 2007 SUMMER 2007

Period covered by the receipt from _____ to _____ Number of hours _____
Y M D Y M D

Signatures

Signatures

Student signature **X** _____ Date _____
Y M D

Signature of the specialized resource person **X** _____

Signature of the appropriate authority at the educational institution **X** _____
(School principal or person responsible for the office for students with disabilities or the financial assistance office)