

FINANCIAL SUPPORTS

- **Child Care Subsidies**

Parents are eligible for a Child Care Subsidy if they:

- Have a job
- Are looking for a job (limited to 8 weeks every 6 months)
- Are going to school or taking a training program
- Have medical needs (they need a note from the doctor to verify their condition)
- Have special needs (a Special Needs plan must be completed by an appropriate professional).

The amount of the subsidy is calculated by total family income, allowable deductions, number of children in care and the number of days of care required per week. Parents are notified in writing of the amount of the subsidy. The subsidy will be paid by the government directly to the child care.

Child Care Subsidy Applications are available online at www.gov.mb.ca/childcare , at day care centres and from home daycare providers.

For more information, contact:

Manitoba Child Care

102 -114 Garry Street

Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1G1

Phone: 945-2197 Toll-Free: 1-877-587-6224

Web Site: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare>

- **Child-Related Income Support Program (CRISP)**

CRISP helps lower income families with the cost of raising their children. Applications may be submitted anytime during the year. If eligible, you would receive a monthly supplement of up to \$30 per month per child.

You may be eligible if you:

- live in Manitoba;
- have a child or children under 18 living with you and in your care;
- have a valid Manitoba Health Registration Number that includes these dependent children;
- receive the Canada Child Tax Benefit payment for these children;
- have a family income within the specified levels.

Persons who receive [income assistance](#) are not eligible for CRISP benefits; however, those who receive only the [health care benefits](#) portion of income assistance may apply.

If you live in Winnipeg, you can pick up an application at the International Centre of Winnipeg ((204) 943-9158) or Welcome Place ((204) 977-1000). In other towns or cities you can pick up an application form at your municipal office, or contact:

CRISP

PO Box 3000

203 South Railway Street East

Killarney MB R0K 1G0

Phone: 523-5230

Toll-free outside Killarney, Manitoba: 1-800-563-8793

Email: incsupcrsp@gov.mb.ca

Web Site: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/assistance/crisp.html>

- **Healthy Baby Prenatal Benefits**

This is a monthly cheque for low income, pregnant women to help them buy the nutritious food they need during their pregnancy. The benefit can start after your 14th week of pregnancy and ends in the month of your baby's due date. The amount of the cheque depends on how much money you (and your spouse) earned last year. (It must be less than \$32,000). Many people receive about \$80 per month.

For more information, contact:

Healthy Child Manitoba

219 - 114 Garry Street

Winnipeg MB R3C 4V6

Phone: 945-1301 Toll free: 1-888-848-0140

Email: healthychild@gov.mb.ca

Web Site: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/healthychild>

- **Healthy Start for Mom & Me**

This program offers pre and postnatal classes for newcomers who do not speak English. (Those who speak English can be referred to another Healthy Start program in Winnipeg.)

New or expectant families will learn about having a baby in Canada. A nurse and dietitian will be available to answer your questions.

The classes are offered two Mondays per month from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

(Please call 949-5350 if you plan to attend a class, so that an interpreter can be available to assist you.)

Participants will receive:

- On-site babysitting for children under 5 years of age.

- A snack
- Bus tickets, if you need them to attend the classes
- Milk coupons for mothers during their pregnancy and for six months after the baby is born.

For more information, contact:

Healthy Start for Mom & Me

400 Edmonton Street, 2nd floor

Winnipeg, MBR3B 2M2

Phone: 949-5350

Email: healthystart@mts.net

- **Manitoba Shelter Benefit (MSB) for Families**

Financial assistance, of up to \$200 per month, is available to eligible families who rent their living accommodation in the private market and who are required to spend a large portion of their income on rent. The benefit is based on household income and rent paid.

Eligibility:

More than 25% of household income must be spent on rent and the applicant must:

- have one or more dependents under 18 and get the Canada Child Tax Benefit; and
- be a renter in Manitoba; and
- be a Canadian citizen, landed immigrant or refugee claimant; and
- be in a two person family (one parent/guardian with one child) with an annual household income of \$19,380 or less; or be in a three person family (one parent/guardian with two children or two parents/guardians with one child) with an annual household income of \$20,940 or less; or be in a four or more person family (one parent/guardian with three or more children or two parents/guardians with two or more children) with an annual household income of \$21,780 or less.

You **cannot** get the MSB for Families if:

- you rent from The Manitoba Housing Authority, or
- get another type of housing benefit, or
- get Employment and Income Assistance

For more information, contact:

Manitoba Family Services and Housing

Provincial Services

102 - 114 Garry Street

Winnipeg MB R3C 1G1

Phone: (204) 945-2197 Toll-free: 1-877-587-6224

Fax: (204) 945-3930

Email: provservic@gov.mb.ca

Web Site: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/housing/shelterbenefit-families.html>

- **Employment Insurance**

Employment Insurance (EI) provides temporary financial assistance for unemployed Canadians while they look for work or upgrade their skills. Canadians who are sick, pregnant or caring for a newborn or adopted child, as well as those who must care for a family member who is seriously ill may also apply for Employment Insurance.

To find out if you qualify for this program, visit the Service Canada Centre or submit an on-line application to:

Human Resource and Social Development Canada

Winnipeg Service Canada Centre

391 York Avenue

Winnipeg MB R3C 0P4

Phone: 1-800 206-7218

Web: <http://www100.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/ae-ei/dem-app/english/home2.html>

- **Employment and Income Assistance (EIA)**

EIA is a program that helps people who have no other way to pay for basic personal and family financial needs. Wherever possible, the program helps them find a job or get back to work.

Employment and Income Assistance does the following:

- provides income assistance to persons in need;
- provides employability assessments, personal job planning, work incentives and other supports to help participants enter or re-enter the labour force; and
- offers additional financial assistance to persons with disabilities who are receiving income assistance, to help them pay for some of the costs associated with their disability.

For more information, contact:

**Employment and Income Assistance
Manitoba Family Services and Housing**

119 - 114 Garry Street

Winnipeg MB R3C 4V7

Phone: (204) 945-4437

Email: csd@gov.mb.ca

Web Site: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/assistance/eia.html>

- **Manitoba Student Aid**

Student Aid offers financial assistance for post-secondary studies. Loans, grants and bursaries are available to those who meet the eligibility criteria which includes an assessment of financial need. Student Aid has Student Advisors who can assist students who need more support to understand the Student Aid program.

For more information, contact:

Student Aid office
Manitoba Advanced Education and Training
401 - 1181 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB
Phone: 945-6321
Web site: www.studentaid.gov.mb.ca

Canada Revenue Agency Tax Benefits

- **Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB)**

The Canada Child Tax Benefit is a tax-free monthly payment made to low and middle income families to help them with the cost of raising children who are under the age of 18. To be eligible for CCTB, you must live with the child and be a resident of Canada. Visit their site at: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits/cctb/menu-e.html>

The CCTB includes these supports:

National Child Benefit (NCB) Supplement is an additional benefit for low income families with children. Visit: <http://www.nationalchildbenefit.ca/ncb/proqdesc.shtml>

Child Disability Benefit (CDB) is a tax-free benefit for families with children under 18 years of age who have a mental or physical disability. Visit: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits/disability-e.html>

- **Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB)**

This is a program for Canadian families that supports child care choices through direct financial support. A \$100 per month payment is paid on behalf of children under the age of 6. Visit: Web Site: www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits/uccb/menu-e.html

For more information contact:

Canada Revenue Agency
325 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 4T4

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

Income tax assistance for low income people. Specially trained volunteers help people to complete their income tax return if their tax situation is simple.

Volunteers do not complete income tax returns for deceased persons, bankrupt individuals, or individuals who have capital gains or losses, employment expenses, or business or rental income and expenses.

Tax preparation clinics are offered in February, March and April of each year in various locations. For more information, contact Service Canada at 1-800-959-8281 or <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tax/individuals/volunteer/menu-e.html>

- **Goods and Services Tax Credit**

The GST credit is a tax-free quarterly payment that helps individuals and families with low and modest incomes to offset all or part of the GST or HST that they pay.

To receive the GST/HST credit, you have to apply for it, even if you received it last year. To apply, **you have to file an income tax and benefit return for 2005**, even if you have no income to report. You may be eligible for a refund anyway.

For more information, contact Service Canada at 1-800-959-1953 or visit <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits/gsthst/menu-e.html>

- **Tax Credit for Public Transit Pass**

This is a tax credit for the cost of buying monthly bus passes. You will be able to claim the tax credit on your 2006 income tax return for the amounts you have paid for bus passes after June 30, 2006.

You must keep your expired monthly transit passes every month after June 2006 to support your claim.

For more information visit:

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/whatsnew/items/transit-e.html>

- **Lifelong Learning Plan**

The Lifelong Learning Plan (LLP) allows you to withdraw amounts from your RRSP to finance training or education for you or your spouse or common-law partner. You cannot use the RRSP funds to finance a child's education, such as your child or the child of your spouse or common-law partner.

For more information, contact:
Canada Revenue Agency
325 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 4T4
Toll free: 1-800-387-1193
Web Site: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/menu.html>

- **Canada Pension Plan (CPP)**

The Canada Pension Plan can provide Canadians with a retirement pension as early as age 60. This Plan also offers disability, survivors and death benefits. The amount of the pension or benefit depends on how much and for how long a person contributes to the Canada Pension Plan.

For more information, please call or visit the Service Canada Centre nearest you or call toll free: 1 800 277-9914 or visit their web site at www.servicecanada.gc.ca

- **Old Age Security (OAS)**

Old Age Security provides a monthly pension to most people over 65 who have lived in Canada for at least ten years. The Old Age Security Program also provides other benefits for low-income seniors, such as the Allowance, the Allowance for the survivor and the Guaranteed Income Supplement.

For additional information, please call or visit the Service Canada Centre nearest you or call toll free: 1 800 277-9914 or visit their web site at www.servicecanada.gc.ca