

Respite... YOU deserve it!

Child Disability Benefit 10March2009

The Child Disability Benefit is of interest for families who have a dependent under age 18 who is disabled.

The Child Disability Benefit (CDB) is a tax-free benefit for families who care for a child with a disability under the age of 18. For example, for the 2008 taxation year the benefit is up to \$2,395 per year (up to \$199.58 per month).

By reading this article you will know if you should consider this benefit for a family member and how to apply for it.

In order to claim this credit you must show that:

- . the condition has existed for at least 12 months;
- . there must be an impact on the Activities of Daily Living such as eating, bathing, dressing, getting around, etc.

[This federal government website](#) has a series of questions to help you decide if you should consider claiming the credit for your family member.

You must apply for the credit by filling out a form called the [T2201 \(Disability Tax Credit Certificate\)](#). Then you take the completed form to a health care professional who can verify the disability, such as a doctor, occupational therapist, etc.

[This website](#) explains which health care professional's signature is required for each type of disability. You must send the completed [T2201 Form](#) to your local tax centre. This can be done at any time of the year. In fact, you can make a claim for past years by asking for an adjustment to your tax return.

The exact amount of the Child Disability Benefit will be different for each family. It is calculated based on the family income. The monthly amount is added to the amount you receive for the [Canada Child Tax Benefit](#).

For more information go to [this link](#) on the Canada Revenue Agency website.

The topic of next week's Family Caregiver Weekly is:

This article can also be found at: www.caregiversns.org

Previous issues of the Family Caregiver Weekly can be found at:
<http://www.caregiversns.org/RespitePartnership.php>

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See you next week!

The Nova Scotia Partnership on Respite, Family Health, and Well-Being is made up of:

Autism Society of Nova Scotia;
Caregivers Nova Scotia Association;
Central Region Respite Society;
Halifax Association for Community Living
IWK Health Centre – Autism Research Centre
IWK Health Centre – Children's Health Program;
IWK Health Centre – Social Work;
Northern Region Respite Services;
Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women;
Nova Scotia Association for Community Living;
Nova Scotia Department of Community Services (Services for Persons with Disabilities);
Nova Scotia Disabled Persons Commission;
Progress Centre for Early Intervention;
Society for the Treatment of Autism;
Spina Bifida Association; and
Yarmouth Association for Community Residential Options (YACRO).

The information contained in this Family Caregiver Weekly article is not intended to be formal legal or financial advice. It has been gathered from a variety of sources and is provided as an introduction to the topic. It is not complete and should not be used in the place of professional advice or consultation.

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