

Canada Pension Plan Advocacy Program

↳ a program of BC Coalition of People with Disabilities

In 1995, the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities' Advocacy Access Program established the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Disability Benefits Advocacy Program. Since then, the program's advocates have provided individualized service to people with their CPP disability applications, appeals and tribunals.

What is CPP?

The CPP disability benefits program provides a monthly benefit to people who are no longer able to work because

they have a permanent disability. It is not a retirement pension. To receive disability benefits from CPP, you must have contributed to the Plan through employment.

CPP has specific eligibility requirements and restrictions. To apply, you must show that you have a disability that is prolonged (will last for an indefinite period of time) and severe (unable to perform any gainful employment on a regular basis).

An advocate's experience can make the application or appeal process easier and less stressful.

We can provide you with one-on-one assistance with your CPP application or reconsideration. We can also represent you before Review Tribunals and the Pension Appeals Board.

For information and assistance, please contact our office. To meet with an advocate in person, please call first to make an appointment.

Office hours: 8:30 to 4:30
Monday to Friday

Local Calls: 604.872.1278

Toll-Free 1.800.663.1278

TTY (for people who are deaf or hard of hearing): 604.875.8835



Visit our website for more information and current news on CPP-related issues.
Go to www.bccpd.bc.ca.

Applications and Appeals

Advocates help people with disabilities to gather and complete the necessary documents to apply for CPP disability or to appeal denial of the benefit.



Assistance at Appeals

Our advocates help clients to complete the necessary paperwork for their appeals. They also accompany clients to Review Tribunal and Pension Appeals Board hearings.



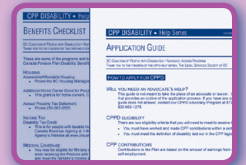
Workshops

If you belong to an advocacy or community group, call us for information on workshops we provide on CPP disability benefits, policies and procedures.



Publications

We publish application and appeal guides for CPP disability. They are available free of charge from our office or our website.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why should I apply for CPP?

A: Unlike provincial disability assistance, CPP is not income tested, and there is no limit to the personal assets you can have.

Q: What if I'm receiving provincial disability assistance?

A: You will not lose your medical coverage or your health supplements when you qualify for CPP. Usually, you will get a top-up from the province. This means you will get some money from CPP and some from the province, unless the amount of CPP you qualify for is more than what the province would give you.

Q: Is CPP taxable?

A: Yes, but you can apply for the Disability Tax Credit from Canada Revenue Agency.

Our Team

The Advocacy Access staff have many years of experience working with people with disabilities who need to access disability benefits programs and services.

We have team members who specialize in CPP Disability. Our advocates are also experienced with many of the unique difficulties people with specific disabilities face in obtaining supports and benefits.

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Contact us

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