

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Resources - Toronto

Ontario Autism Program (OAP) Services

Ontario government funded services for children up to 18 years old who have a diagnosis of ASD. See below for program specific details. www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-autism-program

AccessOAP:

Telephone: 1-833-425-2445 E-mail: info@AccessOAP.ca

Website: www.accessoap.ca

Intake agency that manages registration. Care Coordinators can support families to register, learn about the OAP and connect to services. **Families can register online, by mail or phone.**

Foundational Family Services:

Free caregiver workshops, individual caregiver coaching and support groups for caregivers and siblings. Can register online for workshops.

- Surrey Place: www.mysurreyplace.ca/event
- Lumenus Community Services: www.lumenus.ca/foundational-family-services
- Strides Toronto: www.stridestorontoautismservices.ca/program-service/autism-foundational-family-services
- Kerry's Place: www.kerrysplace.org/autism-services-ontario/learning-and-development

Caregiver-Mediated Early Years Program:

Programs to teach caregivers therapeutic strategies to support their child's social interaction, play, communication and self-help skills. Programs are for children 1-4 years old and last 6-12 weeks. Can register online after receiving invitation.

- Toronto Autism Services Network: www.torontoautismservices.ca/early-years-services
- AlphaBee/SAAAC: www.alphabee-saaac.com
- Monarch House: www.monarchhouse.ca/services
- New Haven: www.newhavencentre.com/products/esi-scerts & www.newhavencentre.com/products/prt
- Autism in Mind: www.autisminmind.org/parent-caregiver-training-project-impact

Entry to School Program:

Skill-building program to help children develop school-readiness skills or consultation to a child care centre. Programs are for children who are beginning Kindergarten or Grade One for the first time. Can register online after receiving invitation.

- Toronto Autism Services Network: www.torontoautismservices.ca/entry-to-school-program

Core Clinical Services Funding:

Website: www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-autism-program-core-clinical-services

Annual funding for ABA therapy, speech-language pathology, occupational therapy and/or mental health services. After receiving an invitation, a Care Coordinator from AccessOAP will complete a "Determination of Needs" interview with family to determine funding amount.

Urgent Response Service:

Telephone: 1-833-575-5327

Short-term service for children who are experiencing an urgent need. Intended to prevent a crisis or reduce the risk of harm. Register online or call to determine eligibility.

- Surrey Place: www.surreyplace.ca/services/autism-services/urgent-response-services-for-autism

Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

150 Kilgour Road, Toronto ON Canada M4G 1R8

T 416 425 6220 T 800 363 2440 F 416 425 6591 www.hollandbloorview.ca

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Funding & Other Benefits

Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

Telephone: 1-800-959-8281

Website: www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit/about-dtc.html

Non-refundable tax credit that can reduce one's income tax. May also qualify for the monthly Child Disability Benefit. Eligibility is based on child's needs. Application form to be completed with the assistance of a health care professional. If approved for the DTC, one can open a **Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)** is a long-term savings plan through a financial institution.

Special Services at Home (SSAH)

Telephone: 416-325-0500

Website: www.ontario.ca/page/special-services-home

Annual funding for respite and/or programs that support the personal growth and development of eligible children under 18 years old. There are no income requirements.

- For assistance to complete the SSAH form, find options through OAP Foundational Family Services. www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-autism-program-foundational-family-services

Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD)

Telephone: 416-325-0500

Website: www.ontario.ca/page/assistance-children-severe-disabilities-program

Monthly funding to assist with additional costs associated with having a child with additional developmental or physical needs under 18 years old. There is an income eligibility for this funding. Includes financial assistance for prescription drugs, dental and vision care.

- For assistance to complete the ACSD form, find options through OAP Foundational Family Services. www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-autism-program-foundational-family-services

Easter Seals Ontario - Incontinence Supplies Grant

Telephone: 416-421-8778 ext. 314 Website: <https://igprogram.easterseals.org/ig/>

Annual grant to assist with the cost of incontinence supplies (e.g. diapers). Eligible to children 3-18 years old with a disability, who use these supplies during the day. Application form to be completed with the assistance of a doctor or nurse practitioner.

Access2 Card

Telephone: 416-932-8382 Website: www.access2card.ca

Free or discounted admission for a support person, accompanying an individual with a disability at select movie theatres and attractions across Canada. Application form to be completed with the assistance of a health care professional.

TTC Support Person Assistance Card

Telephone: 416-393-3030 Website: www.ttc.ca/Fares-and-passes/Other-passes/support-person-assistance-card

Allows fare exemption for a support person accompanying a person with a disability on Toronto public transit. Application form to be completed with the assistance of a health care professional.

Holland Bloorview Family Support Fund

Telephone: 416-425-6220 ext. 6303 Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/our-services/family-workshops-resources/holland-bloorview-family-support-fund

Financial support to clients of Holland Bloorview. Provide funding for equipment, recreation, respite and/or medication. Application form needs to include a support letter from a health care professional.

For more information on financial planning see Special Needs Planning Group www.specialneedsplanning.ca and Partners for Planning. www.planningnetwork.ca

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Autism Services

The following agencies provide a range of services including free caregiver education workshops, caregiver and sibling support groups, fee-for-service programs including skill building/social skills groups, respite programs, camps, ABA, speech and occupational therapy and mental health services.

Geneva Centre for Autism (East York & Midtown)

Telephone: 416-322-7877 Website: www.genevacentre.ca

Kerry's Place (North York)

Telephone: 1-833-775-3779 Website: www.kerrysplace.org

Lumenus – Autism Services (Etobicoke & North York)

Telephone: 416-222-1153 Website: www.lumenus.ca/programs-and-services/autism-services

Strides Toronto – Autism Services (Scarborough)

Telephone: 416-438-3697 Website: www.stridestorontoautismservices.ca/programs-services

Surrey Place – Autism Services (Downtown, Etobicoke, North York & Scarborough)

Telephone: 1-833-575-5437 Website: www.surreyplace.ca/services/autism-services

* For more information on additional fee-for-service options see **OAP Provider List**: www.oaproviderlist.ca

Online Resources:

Autism Ontario: www.autismontario.com/programs-services/learning-resources

Autism Speaks: www.autismspeaks.org

Connectability: www.connectability.ca/category/kids

Holland Bloorview: www.hollandbloorview.ca/services/family-workshops-resources

Kerry's Place: www.kerrysplace.org/what-is-autism/resource-guides-and-videos

Surrey Place: www.surreyplace.ca/resources

Holland Bloorview Services

Music and Arts Programs

Telephone: 416-425-6220 ext. 3317

Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/services/programs-services/music-and-arts

Fee-for-service music, visual and performing arts programs for children and youth.

Robotics

Telephone: 416-425-6220 ext. 3704 Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/robotics

Fee-for-service robotic LEGO program for children ages 6-14 years old.

Snoezelen Room and Snoezelen Pool

Telephone: 1-800-855-0511 to get Bell Operator. At prompt give 416-422-7049

Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/snoezelen

Fee-for-service sensory room and a sensory pool with music, lighting effects and tactile sensations.

Swim Programs

Telephone: 416-425-6220 ext. 3539 Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/swim

Fee-for-service swimming programs for swimmers with a disability and their family.

Transitions, Recreation and Life Skills Services

Telephone: 416-425-6220 ext. 6208

Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/services/programs-services/transitions/life-skills

Free and fee-for-service recreation and life skills programs for children over 7 years old.

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Preschool Services

Surrey Place - Preschool Speech and Language Program

Telephone: 1-833-575-5437

Website: www.surreyplace.ca/services/preschool-speech-and-language-program

Free speech and language services for children up to school age in various locations across Toronto. Registration is online or by phone.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Website: www.ontario.ca/page/find-earlyon-child-and-family-centre

Free caregiver and child programs in various locations in Toronto for children up to 6 years old. Some centres offer specialized programs for children with developmental support needs. Virtual programs and telephone support available.

Specialized Early Intervention Options

Free individualized support to caregivers who have a child up to 6 years old with developmental support needs. Registration online or by phone.

- **Surrey Place – Infant and Child Development Program**
Telephone: 1-833-575-5437
Website: www.surreyplace.ca/directory/infant-and-child-development-program
- **Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital – Infant Development Program**
This program is for children who are not enrolled in child care or school.
Telephone: 416-782-1105
Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/services/programs-services/early-learning-and-development-infant-development-program

Child Care Services

Toronto Children’s Services

Telephone: 416-338-8888 ext. 2 Website: www.toronto.ca/licensed-child-care

E-mail: kidslines@toronto.ca

The online child care locator allows families to find a licensed child care centre. Once registered in a child care centre, a resource consultant may be available to provide guidance to child care staff on how to support a child’s needs. Speak with the child care supervisor/director about accessing this service. A **Child Care Fee Subsidy** may be available to help families with the cost of childcare.

School

Registration

Toronto District School Board (TDSB): www.tdsb.on.ca/Find-your/School/Registration

Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB): www.tcdsb.org/page/kindergarten-registration

Special Education Information

TDSB: www.tdsb.on.ca/Learning-Equity-and-Well-Being/Special-Education-and-Inclusion

TCDSB: www.tcdsb.org/o/specialservices/page/special-education-plan

Ministry of Education: www.ontario.ca/page/special-education

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Youth/Transition Services

Holland Bloorview Transition to Adulthood Supports

E-mail: transitionpop-up@hollandbloorview.ca

Website: www.hollandbloorview.ca/services/programs-services/transitions/transition-pop-ups

Workshops that help clients and/or families prepare for the transition to adulthood.

Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) – Toronto Region:

Telephone: 1-855-372-3858 Website: www.surreyplace.ca/services/dso-toronto-region

Government funded services for adults with intellectual disabilities. Can register online or by phone. Registration can begin at 16 years old.

Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

Telephone: 1-888-999-1142

Website: www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-disability-support-program#section

Monthly income support to assist with living expenses, including food and rent. Can register online. Registration can begin at 17.5 years old.

Information provided in this list is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement of services by Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital. Resources listed have different eligibility requirements and wait times.

This list was compiled by Holland Bloorview Social Workers in the Communication, Learning and Behaviour Program. Revised 2024.