

<i>Act/Regulations</i> <i>Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act Gen. Reg. 16</i>	Program	AccessAbility Supports	
	Subject	Clinical Assessments	Policy # 1.2
Effective Date: March 26, 2019		Authorized by:	
Revised Date: November 1, 2021		Deputy Minister David Keedwell	

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To determine an applicant's maximum monthly funding and to identify potential support needs attributable to the applicant's disability.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 **Activities of Daily Living (ADLs):** a series of self-care activities necessary for independent living at home or in the community. ADLs are performed daily and must be accomplished every day for an individual to thrive.
- 2.2 **Applicant:** a person with a disability by whom or on whose behalf an application is made for supports or Assured Income (AI).
- 2.3 **Assured Income (AI):** a component of AccessAbility Supports (AAS) that provides monthly financial supports to eligible applicants with disabilities to use towards securing basic needs.
- 2.4 **Capability Assessment:** a systematic process used by the AAS program for applicants requesting on-going supports to determine if the diagnosis causes a substantial impairment, if the effects of the impairment restricts the applicant's ADLs and IADLs and confirm the applicant's eligibility for AAS.
- 2.5 **Health Care Practitioner:** an individual qualified to provide health care services, has an active license to practice, and has the authority to diagnose medical conditions.
- 2.6 **Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs):** activities that are related to independent living and require more complex thinking and organizational skills. IADLs also reflect on a person's ability to live independently and thrive but are not necessarily required daily.
- 2.7 **Person with a disability:** a person with a substantial physical, intellectual, sensory, neurological, or mental impairment that is continuous or recurrent, and is expected to last for at least one year. The direct and cumulative effect of the impairment on the person's

ability to attend to personal care, function in the community, or function in a workplace results in a substantial restriction in one or more of these activities of daily living.

2.8 **Recipient:** a person with a disability to or for whom supports are provided and includes a person whose supports, or AI has been suspended but not cancelled.

2.9 **Supports:** goods, services or funds to assist a person with a disability to alleviate restrictions in the person's ability to function in the person's home, the community or a workplace that are attributable to the person's disability.

2.10 **Supports Coordinator:** a staff member that provides direction and case management support in delivering a range of social benefits and services to applicants eligible for AAS.

2.11 **Substantial Impairment:** the ability or inability of an individual to independently perform ADLs and IADLs as determined by the completion of a capability assessment.

3.0 POLICY STATEMENTS

3.1 For the purposes of this policy, use of the word applicant is inclusive of recipient.

3.2 Applicants must have an assessment completed that is relevant to their disability and the requested supports as determined by the Department.

3.3 Where an applicant requests one-time only funding, the Department may consider an alternate assessment tool provided by a qualified health care practitioner.

3.4 Where an applicant requests monthly supports, a capability assessment is required at the time of application and according to the *Capability Assessment Schedule* (attached).

3.5 Applicants applying for monthly funded or non-funded disability specific supports and/or AI must be willing to participate in AAS's capability assessment to determine an applicant's abilities and level of support according to the *Maximum Monthly Funding Schedule* (attached).

3.6 Applicants assessed at a Level 0 by the AAS capability assessment do not meet AAS's definition of a person with a disability and are ineligible for supports and/or AI.

3.7 The results of the capability assessment, including the assigned maximum monthly funding level, are final.

3.8 Where an applicant feels that relevant information is missing from the assessment, the applicant may request an amendment to add the additional information to the assessment, which may or may not result in a change to the maximum monthly funding level.

4.0 PROCEDURE STATEMENTS

- 4.1 Where an applicant's documentation indicates an applicant may be eligible for AAS based on a diagnosis, the applicant will be referred for a capability assessment. The capability assessment will determine if the diagnosis causes a substantial impairment, if the effects of the impairment restricts the applicant's ADLs and IADLs and confirms the applicant's eligibility for AAS and maximum monthly funding ceiling.
- 4.2 Where an applicant has open service with AAS, Support Coordinators are responsible to refer the applicant for a capability assessment when:
- according to the *Capability Assessment Schedule* (attached); or
 - there is a material change in the applicant's circumstances, including but not limited to, transition points in aging, residential transitions, disability, or medical status changes, or new co-morbidities that affects the applicant's disability.
- 4.3 Applicants with audiology assessment reports on hearing loss may be approved for one-time only support towards the costs of hearing aids without having to complete a capability assessment.
- 4.4 Applicants requesting one-time only support based on the assessment of a recognized health care practitioner who specializes in that area of disability may be granted one-time only support to address their disability specific (i.e. wheelchair) need without having to complete a capability assessment.
- 4.5 Where an applicant is eligible for one-time only support, the applicant's file will be closed once the support has been provided.
- 4.6 Where an applicant is eligible for one-time only support and requests on-going monthly supports, the Supports Coordinator will refer applicants for a Capability Assessment to determine their eligibility for on-going monthly supports.

5.0 ATTACHMENTS

- 5.1 Maximum Monthly Funding Schedule
- 5.2 Capability Assessment Schedule

HISTORY:

November 1, 2021: Editorial, content, and format changes. Policy title has been changes from Capabilities Assessment to Assessments. Policy number has changed from 1.4 to 1.2. Policy and procedure statements have been expanded.

Maximum Monthly Funding Schedule

Level of Support	Maximum Monthly Funding
Level 1	\$0
Level 2	\$400
Level 3	\$800
Level 4	\$1,200
Level 5	\$1,600
Level 6	\$2,000
Level 7	\$2,400
Level 8	\$2,800
Level 9	\$3,200
Level 10	\$3,600
Level 11	\$4,000

Capability Assessment Schedule

Recipient	Minimum Frequency
Child < 4 years	At age 4 years
Child – Aged 4 – 18 years	Every 2 years
Adult – Level 1 – 10	Every 5 years up to age 65
Adult – Level 11	Every 10 years up to age 65
Adult aged 65 years	Within one year of turning age 65
Material change in circumstances of a recipient < 65 years	On request