


**Persons With Disability
(PWD) Designation**

Weekly Information Session at the VDRC
Tuesdays @ 2:30 PM



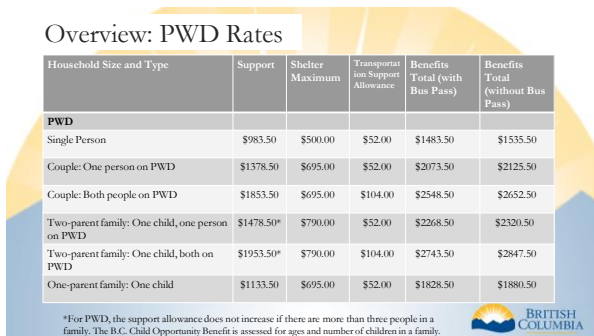


Topics to be discussed:



1. Overview of designation and related-supports
2. Criteria for eligibility
3. Application process






Overview: PWD Rates

Household Size and Type	Support	Shelter Maximum	Transportation Support Allowance	Benefits Total (with Bus Pass)	Benefits Total (without Bus Pass)
PWD					
Single Person	\$983.50	\$500.00	\$52.00	\$1483.50	\$1535.50
Couple: One person on PWD	\$1378.50	\$695.00	\$52.00	\$2073.50	\$2125.50
Couple: Both people on PWD	\$1853.50	\$695.00	\$104.00	\$2548.50	\$2652.50
Two-parent family: One child, one person on PWD	\$1478.50*	\$790.00	\$52.00	\$2268.50	\$2320.50
Two-parent family: One child, both on PWD	\$1953.50*	\$790.00	\$104.00	\$2743.50	\$2847.50
One-parent family: One child	\$1133.50	\$695.00	\$52.00	\$1828.50	\$1880.50

*For PWD, the support allowance does not increase if there are more than three people in a family. The B.C. Child Opportunity Benefit is assessed for ages and number of children in a family.



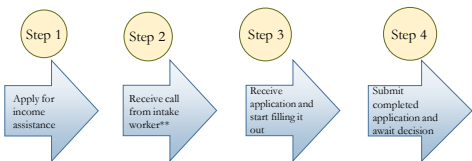
Overview: Designation & Related-Supports

The purpose of a *Persons with Disabilities* designation is for individuals to access programs under the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities* (EAPWD) Act.

As well as monthly assistance, the PWD designation gives access to other benefits, e.g.. MSP coverage, Dental, Glasses, Prescription Drugs as well as other benefits you may be eligible for. Please see [Disability Alliance of B.C Help Sheet #3](#).



Application Process: Overview



Eligibility: Criteria

In order to be eligible for PWD you must:

1. Be at least 18 years of age.
2. Have a severe mental or physical impairment
3. Have a doctor confirm and/or another health professional confirm that your impairment:
 - is likely to continue for at least 2 years
 - significantly restricts your ability to perform daily living activities
4. Show that you need help from a person or from an assistive device to perform daily living activities because of these restrictions.



Eligibility: Defining “impairment”

The impairment must “directly and significantly **restrict** your ability to perform daily living activities”.

A restriction typically mean that:

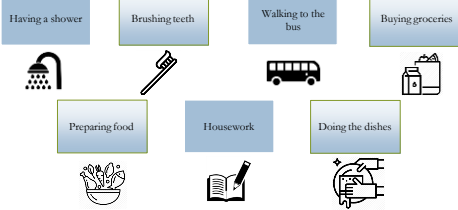
- 1. You have lost your ability to perform the activity.

OR

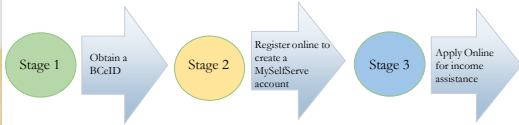
- 2. You can still do the activity but it takes you significantly longer to do it.



Eligibility: Example of Daily Activities



Application Process: Income Assistance



After submitting the online application and documentation requested, you will receive a phone call from a Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (MSDPR) intake worker who will establish your eligibility.



Application Process: Income Assistance

STAGE 1: Getting a BCeID

- To get a BCeID go online to www.bccid.ca and follow the instructions to get a basic BCeID.
- During this process you will be required to create a user ID, password, and provide answers to 3 security questions.
- We recommend you record these items in a secure location. You will need them to access the subsequent stages of the application.



Application Process: Income Assistance

STAGE 2: Creating a MySelfServe Account

- You will use your basic BCeID to create a MySelfServe account.
- You will also need an email address, and a social insurance number.
- Go to www.myselfserve.gov.bc.ca in order to create this account.



Application Process: Income Assistance

STAGE 3: Completing the online application

- Once you have created your MySelfServe account, you will now create a service request.
- A service request to apply online for income assistance.
- You will now respond to the 92 questions, one of which you will indicate that you are applying for Persons With Disability (PWD).
- During this process you will be asked to upload a variety of documents.
- You also may drop off the documents at the Ministry office or fax them in.



Application Process: PWD Booklet

Once you have applied and submitted your application online, you must wait 5 to 10 business days (on average) to hear from a ministry intake worker.

This phone call will establish your eligibility for income assistance and then you must request an application for PWD.

You can then pick up your booklet or have it mailed to you.

This is the only way to get an application for PWD



Application Process: PWD Booklet

Persons with Disability's (PWD) Designation Application (HR2883) has three-parts:

- Section 1: Client information to be completed by the applicant
- Section 2: A Medical Report to be completed by a *medical practitioner*
- Section 3: An Assessor Report to be completed by a *medical practitioner*
OR another *prescribed professional*



Application Process: PWD Booklet

Section 1: Completed by the applicant (often with help)



Please look at Section 1 in your sample PWD application form and open Help **Disability Alliance of B.C. Help Sheet #2, page 11.**

Client information:

As you go through the Checklist of Daily Living Activities, (a recommended tool on pages 11 to 14) mark each activity that is difficult for you to do **ON YOUR WORST DAY.** This will help you create a more complete picture of the personal restrictions that you face. This will help you fill in Section 1 in a way that is representative of how your disability limits daily activities. As you do this please record how much longer it takes you to do these activities if at all.



Application Process: PWD Booklet

Section 2: **Physician Report** to be completed by a medical practitioner

1. Make an appointment with your doctor/nurse practitioner to fill out the form.
2. During the appointment, go through the form and questions with your doctor/nurse practitioner before they fill it out.



Application Process: PWD Booklet

What to bring to your appointment

1. Your PWD form, with Part 1 Applicant Information Section completed.
 2. Your completed checklist from Help Sheet #2 (pages 11-14).
 3. It is very important to discuss this with your doctor/nurse-practitioner prior to filling out this section in order to ensure they understand your full scope of limitations you face on a daily basis.
 4. Page 9 of Help Sheet #2 - Letter to doctors/nurse practitioners.
- You **DO NOT** have to pay any fees for this service from your physician. MSP covers it.



Application Process: PWD Booklet

Section 3: Assessor report to be completed by a *medical practitioner* or another *prescribed professional*

- The assessor can be:
Your doctor **OR** nurse practitioner (they can fill in both section 2 and 3) or any of the following professionals:
- A registered nurse
 - A registered psychiatric nurse
 - A registered psychologist
 - A physical therapist
 - A registered social worker
 - A chiropractor
 - An occupational therapist



Application Process: PWD Booklet

What to bring to your appointment:

1. Your PWD form, with your Part 1 Applicant Information Section completed AND the Part 2 Medical Section completed.
2. Page 10 of Disability Alliance of B.C. Help Sheet #2 - Letter to Assessors.
3. Your completed checklist from Help Sheet #2 (pages 11-14).



Application Process: PWD Booklet

- It is important that all sections are filled out in a detailed way to be a strong application.
- Also please ensure you have a photocopy (or a copy saved using a reliable saving device) of this completed document for your records.
- After it is completed, and then signed by you, mail or drop off your application and wait up to 3 months for a response.



Questions