Strengthening Families. Building Communities.

Children’s Special Services
What is Children’s Special Services?

Children’s Special Services is a program that assists families who have children with developmental and/or physical disabilities with some of the additional needs they may have. Services are intended to strengthen families and support parents to care for their children at home in their own communities, where children grow and thrive.

Children’s Special Services believes that parents and family members are the most important people in a child’s life, and that parents know best the needs of their family and their child.

Who is Eligible for Children’s Special Services?

Children under the age of 18 living in Manitoba who live with their birth, adoptive or extended families are eligible. A medical diagnosis must confirm they meet the qualifying upper limit of one or more of the following conditions:

- mental disability;
- developmental delay;
- Autism Spectrum Disorder;
- lifelong physical disability;
- a high probability of developmental delay due to a pre-existing condition; a parent who has a mental disability; or, significant prematurity with medical and/or biological factors.
How do I Get Started?
Families can be referred to Children’s Special Services by the Child Development Clinic, a physician, or they can contact the office in their community to apply for the program directly. Written confirmation of the child’s diagnosis is needed to apply.

Once eligibility is determined, a Family Services Worker is assigned to the family to discuss their needs, goals and priorities with them. The worker informs families about the supports that may be available through Children’s Special Services as well as supports that may be helpful from other service agencies, such as child care facilities, schools, and voluntary organizations. The worker can help families arrange the services they need. A worker will remain involved with the family until the child turns 18 years of age or the family no longer needs service.

What Services and Supports are Available?

Respite
Respite is a break from care giving. It can be provided in or outside of the child’s home for parents who may need a short-term break. For children who have lifelong, complex medical needs, respite can be provided by a registered nurse.

Child Development Program for Pre-School Children
Child Development Workers work with parents to identify their child’s strengths and goals. Together they find ways to assist the child to develop and learn new skills. Service may be provided in the child’s home or a child care setting.
Therapy
A Family Services Worker can refer families with children with disabilities to the Provincial Outreach Therapy for Children (POTC) program or the Children’s Therapy Initiative (CTI). Therapies that may be available include: occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, and audiology, and can be provided in the family home, in a child care setting or in schools.

Behavioural Services
Behavioural specialists may provide an assessment of a child’s challenging behaviours, and together with the family, develop a plan that addresses the child’s needs.

Applied Behaviour Analysis for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Parents raising children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder may be eligible for Applied Behaviour Analysis, an intensive intervention program that teaches parents strategies to support their child’s behavioural development.

Summer Gap Programming
Children’s Special Services helps children maintain their skills during the summer months by providing for the extraordinary costs needed to help children access the programs and activities that promote what they have learned.

After School Care for Adolescents
After school care is provided in a group setting and may be available for adolescents who are no longer able to access child care but still require care and supervision outside of school hours.
Supplies and Equipment

*Children’s Special Services* may cover the cost of certain supplies and equipment that are necessary as a result of a child’s disability.

Home/Vehicle Modifications

Funds may be available for making modifications to a family’s home or vehicle to accommodate the child’s disability. Examples are: railings, lifts, and widened doorframes.

Transportation

Assistance may be available for families who need financial support to cover the costs of transportation to and from medical appointments and specialized services for their child with disabilities. This is mainly for families in rural and northern Manitoba.

Are there Limits to these Services?

*Children’s Special Services* recognizes that the circumstances of each family are different and assesses the needs of each family individually. The amount of service a family receives will depend on eligibility for service, assessed need and the resources available.

Who do I Contact?

To speak with someone about *Children’s Special Services*, please contact the Manitoba Family Services and Housing regional office in your community.
REGIONAL OFFICES

CENTRAL REGION
Regional Office
63 Stephen Street
Morden, MB R6M 1Z6
Phone: 204-822-2870
Fax: 204-822-2879

Area Office
25 Tupper Street North
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3K1
Phone: 204-239-3092
Fax: 204-239-3198

WESTMAN REGION
Regional Office
2nd Floor, 340 – 9th Street
Brandon, MB R7A 6C2
Phone: 204-726-6336
Fax: 204-726-6539
Toll Free: 1-800-230-1885

PARKLAND REGION
Regional Office
309 – 27 2nd Avenue SW
Dauphin, MB R7N 3E5
Phone: 204-622-2035
Fax: 204-638-3278

INTERLAKEN REGION
Regional Office
Box 9600, 3rd Floor Administrative Bldg.
Selkirk, MB R1A 2B5
Phone: 204-785-5100
Fax: 204-785-5109

EASTMAN REGION
Regional Office
Box 50, 20-1st Street South
Beausejour, MB RoE OcO
Phone: 204-268-6028
Fax: 204-268-6222
Toll Free: 1-866-576-8546

Winnipeg Offices

DOWNTOWN / POINT DOUGLAS COMMUNITY AREA
Downtown West
2-391 York Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P4

Downtown East / Point Douglas
2A-111 Rorie Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 3N1

Intake: 204-948-4092
Fax: 204-948-1334

RIVER HEIGHTS / FORT GARRY COMMUNITY AREA
River Heights & Fort Garry
Unit 6-677 Stafford Street
Winnipeg, MB R3M 2X7
Intake: 204-938-5299
Fax: 204-938-5311

ST. BONIFACE / ST. VITAL COMMUNITY AREA
St. Boniface and St. Vital
100-614 Des Meurons Street
Winnipeg, MB R2H 2P9
Intake: 204-945-8040
204-945-2270 (French)
Fax: 204-948-3282

ST. JAMES ASSINIBOIA / ASSINIBOINE STH. COMMUNITY AREA
St. James Assiniboia & Assiniboine South
2-2015 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3J 0K3
Intake: 204-940-8365
Fax: 204-940-2636

SEVEN OAKS / INKSTER COMMUNITY AREA
Seven Oaks & Inkster
Unit 3-1050 Leila Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R2P 1W6
Intake: 204-938-5600
Fax: 204-938-5609

For more information, please contact
Children’s Special Services
119-114 Garry Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 1G1
Phone: 204-945-0808, Fax: 204-945-0082

Visit Our Website: www.gov.mb.ca/fs/pwd/css.html
(Français au verso)