

Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities (CSG-PDSE)

Standard Costs and Frequency of Entitlement

May 15, 2015

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The following tables outline the types of services and equipment covered under this grant, including maximum costs and frequency of entitlement. Requests are reviewed on a on a case-by-case basis to establish applicable costs for exceptional education-related services and equipment related to a student’s disability and circumstances. This is not an all-inclusive list and students are encouraged to contact the Student Financial Services Division office for assistance or clarification.

Note: The provincial Assessment Officers have discretion, on a case-by-case basis, to establish applicable costs for education-related services and equipment related to a student’s permanent disability and circumstances. The service costs indicated are to be used as guidelines only.

Equipment

Equipment Category	Cost	Frequency of Entitlement <small>Note: A loan year runs from August 1 to July 31.</small>	Notes
1. Computers, printers, accessories, and associated software			
<u>Complete</u> computer system, including peripheral devices (keyboard, mouse, printer), required software, warranty (if not included), and taxes.	Up to \$2,000	Once every 4 loan years (upgrade or new system, whichever is less).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Exceptional circumstances may be reviewed on an individual basis. → Includes desktops and laptops. → If funding is provided for a desktop or a laptop, additional funding should not be provided for a tablet (note: tablets are included in this table under

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			portable computing devices). → Computer system purchase price should include a warranty (strongly recommended).
Laptop/tablet carry case	\$70	Once every 2 loan years.	→ Carry cases should only be considered if not included in initial laptop package.
Printer	\$200	One time.	→ Printers should normally be included as part of a complete computer system; however, if a student (1) already has a computer and only needs a printer, or (2) was previously approved a computer purchase without a printer, then a printer purchase should be approved.
MS Office (Student Edition)	\$300	Once every 2 loan years.	→ MS Office should be included as part of a complete computer system; however, if a student (1) already has a computer and only needs MS Office, or (2) was previously approved a computer purchase without MS Office, then the software purchase should be approved.

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Operating System	\$250	Once every 2 loan years.	→ All computers should come with an operating system; however, if a student uses (or intends on using) disability assistive software that requires an updated operating system, then the software purchase should be approved.
Large Screen Monitor (over 19 inches)	Case-by-case	One time.	→ Large screen monitors should only be approved for students with low vision.
Scanners	\$350	One time.	→ A scanner should be included as part of a complete computer system; however, if a student (1) already has a computer and only needs a scanner, or (2) was previously approved a computer purchase without a scanner, then the software purchase should be approved.
2. Portable computing devices (tablets)			
Tablets	\$650	Once every 4 loan years.	→ Note: Only one computer package (i.e., desktop, laptop, or tablet) should be approved. If a student already received funding for a computer system

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			<p>(desktop or laptop), they should not also receive funding for a tablet.</p> <p>→ Tablets that run computer software and other applications may be recommended to perform a number of functions, including note-taking, time management, digital recorder, electronic reader, assistance with oral communication, etc.</p> <p>→ Tablets should only be approved if a student has documentation demonstrating that the device is needed to perform multiple functions not performed by any other device (or combination of devices) at a similar cost.</p>
Mini-Tablet	\$300	Once every 4 loan years.	<p>→ To be approved for personal organization requirements only. Detailed justification is required.</p> <p>→ Mini tablets may be approved in addition to a computer system or standard tablet.</p>

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Examples of spell checkers include: → Franklin Language Master 6000B → Franklin Language Master 6000SE	\$200 \$550		→ Learning Disability users → Blind/low vision
6. Braille products			
Braille portable note taker	\$5,000	Once every 5 loan years.	
Refreshable braille display	\$6,000 (initial purchase) \$500 (restore/refurbish)	Once every 5 loan years.	→ Students should be encouraged to have their refreshable braille display restored/refurbished if possible.
Braille embosser (printer)	\$2,500	Once every 5 loan years.	
7. FM systems (assistive listening devices)			
For use <u>without</u> hearing aids	\$800	One time.	→ For students who are hard of hearing or have auditory processing disorders.
For use with hearing aids	\$4,000	One time.	→ For students who are hard of hearing.
8. Assistive technology package			

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<p>A variety of assistive technology products (e.g., scan and read, talking dictionary, text to audio, e-text reader, screen magnification) included in a single package</p> <p>Example: → Key to Access (Premier Literacy)</p>	\$500	One time plus upgrades every 2 loan years.	
9. Software			
<p><u>Voice recognition software</u></p> <p>Examples Include: → Dragon Naturally Speaking → iListen</p>	<p>\$250 (standard version)</p> <p>\$1,100 (professional version)</p>	One time plus upgrades every 2 loan years.	<p>→ Standard version: Speech to text software for individuals who can access the keyboard and mouse.</p> <p>→ Professional version: Speech to text software for individuals who cannot access the keyboard and mouse. Note: Rationale outlining requirement for professional version must be provided.</p>
<p><u>Audio to text conversion software</u></p> <p>Digital recorder with Dragon Naturally Speaking bundle</p>	\$500	One time.	→ Allows for transfer of voice recorded notes to computer for conversion to text.
<p><u>Screen reading software</u> (Visually Impaired)</p>	\$1,400	One time plus upgrades every 2	→ Software should include a maintenance (update) agreement.

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Examples Include: → JAWs → Window Eyes		loan years.	
<u>Screen magnification software</u> Examples Include: → ZoomText → SuperNova → MAGic	\$700	One time plus upgrades every 2 loan years.	→ Software should include a maintenance (update) agreement.
<u>Text to speech software (visually impaired reading)</u> Examples Include: → Kurzweil 1000 → OpenBook	\$1,100	One time plus upgrades every 2 loan years.	→ Software should include a maintenance (update) agreement.
<u>Text to speech software (LD reading)</u> Examples Include: → Kurzweil 3000/firefly → WYNN	\$1,100 (B&W) \$1,800 (Colour)	One time plus upgrades every 2 loan years.	→ For students with confirmed Learning Disability or ADHD → Software should include a maintenance (update) agreement.
<u>Assistive writing software</u>	\$250 to \$700	One time plus upgrades every 2	→ Most include word prediction, dictionary spell check, and text-to

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Examples Include: → TextHelp → WordQ / SpeakQ → Write: OutLoud → Co:Writer		loan years.	speech.
<u>Organizational / mapping software</u> Examples Include: → Inspiration → Draft Builder → Spark-Space	\$100 to \$250	One time plus upgrades every 2 loan years.	→ Brainstorm mapping, outline building, writing process.

Services

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Specialized tutor	Up to \$40 per hour.	<p>A base of 2 hours per week per course is available to students, or as recommended by the assessor and the disability coordinator at the school.</p> <p>The cost depends on the course subject, the level of specialized knowledge required to address cognitive barriers ,type of disability, and qualification of the specialized tutor.</p>	<p>→ Specialized tutors should only be approved for courses in which a student has a demonstrated disability. For example, a student with a learning disability in math should not be approved funding for a specialized tutor for courses other than math. Includes desktops, laptops, and tablets.</p> <p>→ Students who require (1) an increase in specialized tutoring hours, or (2) a specialized tutor for courses that they do not have a demonstrated disability in, are required to provided additional medical documents noting the reasons for the changes and how the specialized tutor is helping with their disability.</p>
Note taker	Up to \$250 per course.		<p>→ If an individual provides support as a tutor and a note taker, they may charge two different rates – one for tutoring and one for note taking.</p>
Reader	Up to \$20 per hour.		<p>→ If reading technology is not available,</p>

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			students with low vision or learning disabilities may be approved funding for reading services for educational material.
Interpreter Captioning Oral sign language	\$30 to \$140 per hour.		→ For American Sign Language
Educational attendant care (while at school)	\$20 to \$60 per hour.	Number of hours will vary according to the recommendation of the assessor or specialist.	→ Funding is intended to pay for attendant care while at school (for course activities), and <u>not</u> attendant care while at home. → Attendant care providers must be fully certified. → Additional rates may be considered if tutoring services are also provided by the attendant care provider.
Alternative formats: → E-text → Large or Braille print → Taped lectures (if available through the school)	Costs vary depending upon service provider and format used.	Once from initial print format.	→ Some schools cover the costs of alternative formats as part of their duty to accommodate. If, however, a student's school does not cover these costs, funding should be approved. → Textbooks are scanned into

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			<p>electronic format (e-text) for reading. The e-text can also be converted into digital audio files for listening. For reading difficulties, the most popular programs used are Kurzweil, Wynn, TextHelp and Read: Out Loud. For visual impairments, the most popular programs are JAWS, Window Eyes, Zoomtext and Kurzweil.</p> <p>→ Institutions may charge to have students' textbooks scanned into the required file format for students to use on their computers and/or digital media players.</p>
Specialized transportation	Prices vary depending on location, service provider's schedule, and availability.	To the school address from the student's place of residence only.	→ Additional stops, co-op work terms, internships, etc., should not be considered as part of a student's curriculum-based travel.
Academic strategist	\$25 to \$85 per hour, up to a maximum of \$1,350 per term, or \$2,700 per loan year.	Students usually require 10 hours in the first term and progressively less as they progress through their academic program.	<p>→ These services would be for students with LD, ADHD, and/or mental health disabilities.</p> <p>→ Funding should only be provided if the student's school does not provide academic strategists to students.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → It is recommended that the service provider's credentials include a teaching degree in special education. → Group strategy sessions may be approved if specific rationale is provided as to how the session will address the student's identified functional limitation (e.g., time management, exam preparation for students with ADHD). → Academic strategists help students determine and → Academic strategists determine and implement appropriate academic accommodations, and help students develop key study skills (organization and note-taking, memory, vocational direction, interpersonal dynamics, and time management) to promote academic success.