

This fact sheet summarizes financial benefits that may be provided to eligible clients through the Income Support Program. Eligibility and amounts paid are governed by the *Income and Employment Supports Act* and regulations and are subject to change. See the Income Support online policy manual for further clarification and updates.

Effective August 1, 2016

Four-digit computer codes are listed for the administration of benefits for clients assessed as Expected to Work (ETW) and Barriers to Full Employment (BFE).

**Core Benefits**

Core benefits consist of the following:

- **Core Essential (Code 1430):** For food, clothing (including diapers), household needs (including furniture, appliances and household supplies), personal needs, installation and use of a telephone, laundry, transportation (including school transportation, or costs associated with owning a vehicle), and moves within Alberta
- **Core Shelter (Code varies with type of shelter):** For rent, mortgage, utilities (except for electricity in social housing), heating fuel, municipal taxes, insurance, condominium fees, lot rental, homeowner's maintenance and damage deposit.
- **Actual electricity costs (Code 1201):** Clients residing in social housing. Not to exceed Private Housing rates.

Monthly Core Benefits for Expected to Work (ETW)								
Household Composition	Core Essential (1430)	Core Shelter			Total Core Benefits			2016-17 NCBS Rate (0 - 17 yrs)
		Living w. Relatives* (1134)	Social Housing (1115)	Private Housing (1130)	Living w. Relatives*	Social Housing	Private Housing	
Single Adult	\$304	\$100	\$120	\$323	\$404	\$424	\$627	\$0
Single adult, 1 child	\$387	\$100	\$212	\$546	\$487	\$599	\$933	\$192
2 children	\$431	\$100	\$260	\$566	\$531	\$691	\$997	\$362
3 children	\$494	\$100	\$317	\$586	\$594	\$811	\$1,080	\$524
4 children	\$550	\$100	\$377	\$606	\$650	\$927	\$1,156	\$686
5 children	\$607	\$100	\$437	\$626	\$707	\$1,044	\$1,233	\$848
6 children	\$667	\$100	\$496	\$646	\$767	\$1,163	\$1,313	\$1,010
Couple, no children	\$520	\$100	\$193	\$436	\$620	\$713	\$956	\$0
Couple, 1 child	\$565	\$100	\$262	\$575	\$665	\$827	\$1,140	\$192
2 children	\$622	\$100	\$317	\$595	\$722	\$939	\$1,217	\$362
3 children	\$679	\$100	\$377	\$605	\$779	\$1,056	\$1,284	\$524
4 children	\$735	\$100	\$437	\$625	\$835	\$1,172	\$1,360	\$686
5 children	\$792	\$100	\$496	\$645	\$892	\$1,288	\$1,437	\$848
6 children	\$852	\$100	\$555	\$665	\$952	\$1,407	\$1,517	\$1,010
Each add'l child add	\$56	\$0	\$0	\$20	\$56	\$56	\$76	\$162
Each child 12-19 add	\$33	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33	\$33	\$33	N/A
Each child 18-19 add**	\$164	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$164	\$164	\$164	N/A

Monthly Core Benefits for Barriers to Full Employment (BFE)								
Household Composition	Core Essential (1430)	Core Shelter			Total Core Benefits			2016-17 NCBS Rate (0 - 17 yrs)
		Living w. Relatives* (1134)	Social Housing (1115)	Private Housing (1130)	Living w. Relatives*	Social Housing	Private Housing	
Single Adult	\$408	\$100	\$120	\$323	\$508	\$528	\$731	\$0
Single adult, 1 child	\$504	\$100	\$212	\$546	\$604	\$716	\$1,050	\$192
2 children	\$564	\$100	\$260	\$566	\$664	\$824	\$1,130	\$362
3 children	\$637	\$100	\$317	\$586	\$737	\$954	\$1,223	\$524
4 children	\$706	\$100	\$377	\$606	\$806	\$1,083	\$1,312	\$686
5 children	\$775	\$100	\$437	\$626	\$875	\$1,212	\$1,401	\$848
6 children	\$846	\$100	\$496	\$646	\$946	\$1,342	\$1,492	\$1,010
Couple, no children	\$677	\$100	\$193	\$436	\$777	\$870	\$1,113	\$0
Couple, 1 child	\$722	\$100	\$262	\$575	\$822	\$984	\$1,297	\$192
2 children	\$790	\$100	\$317	\$595	\$890	\$1,107	\$1,385	\$362
3 children	\$858	\$100	\$377	\$605	\$958	\$1,235	\$1,463	\$524
4 children	\$926	\$100	\$437	\$625	\$1026	\$1,363	\$1,551	\$686
5 children	\$994	\$100	\$496	\$645	\$1,094	\$1,490	\$1,639	\$848
6 children	\$1,065	\$100	\$555	\$665	\$1,165	\$1,620	\$1,730	\$1,010
Each add'l child add	\$56	\$0	\$0	\$20	\$56	\$56	\$76	\$162
Each child 12-19 add	\$33	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33	\$33	\$33	N/A
Each child 18-19 add**	\$164	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$164	\$164	\$164	N/A

**Note:** \* Relative is an adult who is the parent, step-parent, adoptive grandparent, child or grandchild of one of the adults in the household.  
 \*\* 18 and 19 year old dependants must be attending high school.

**Other Resources Available to Income Support Clients Include:**

**Canada Child Benefit (CCB)**

Effective July 1, 2016 the CCB replaces other federal child benefits. The CCB is paid monthly from July to June and is based on previous year's income. The 2016/2017 National Child Benefit Supplement portion of the CCB is shown above.

See: [www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/benefits)

**Alberta Child Benefit (ACB)**

The ACB is paid quarterly beginning August 2016. Eligibility is based on annual income and the number of dependants living in the household.

See: <http://www.alberta.ca/alberta-child-benefit.cfm>

**Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit (AFETC)**

AFETC is paid January and July based on the previous year's income.

**Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB)**

WITB is paid quarterly beginning in April and based on the previous year's income.

**Supplement to Core Benefits**

- **NCBS (Code 1427):** Rates assume families with children are receiving the maximum National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS). A NCBS Replacement Benefit is issued if the parent is not eligible for maximum NCBS.  
**Rate:** Supplement up to the maximum NCBS rate
- **Earnings Replacement Benefit (Code 1731):** ETW households where all adults are temporarily not able to work/train  
**Rate:** \$86 per household unit
- **Handicap Benefit (Code 1501):** Adults assessed as severely handicapped, as defined by the *AISH Act*.  
**Rate:** \$175
- **Personal Needs Supplement (Code 1422):** Adults assessed as BFE.  
**Rate:** \$78
- **High School Incentive (Code 1420):** For 16-19 year old parents attending school, where they and their child(ren) are dependants on an Income Support file and the high school student is the legal guardian.  
**Rate:** See 04 Special Groups

**Other Rates**

- **Core Essential - Food Only (Code 1430):** These rates apply for individuals requiring food only:
  - Household unit with one adult: \$143
  - Household unit with two adults: \$137 per adult
  - Children: \$83 per child
- **Comforts Allowance (Code 1405):** For individuals who live in Youngstown, Gunn Centre, Nursing Homes, Auxiliary Hospitals and Active Treatment Hospitals.  
**Rate:** \$56
- **Special Shelter Rates:** For people in nursing homes, hospitals, group homes, and homes approved by Alberta Health and Wellness Mental Health Branch.

**Health Benefits (Code 1900s)**

People eligible for Income Support also receive health benefits for themselves and their dependants, unless they receive coverage through the federal government or full coverage from their employer. Income Support health benefits cover basic dental care, eye exams and glasses, prescriptions, essential diabetic supplies and emergency ambulance services.

People leaving Income Support (ETW and BFE, with employment income) may receive benefits through the Alberta Adult Health Benefit (AAHB) for themselves and their dependants. The AAHB is also available to women during pregnancy if they have limited household income, and households with high ongoing prescription drug costs in relation to their income. Other families with limited income may apply for health benefit coverage for their children through the Alberta Child Health Benefit program.

If a person has sufficient ongoing income to meet their needs but is unable to meet an emergency health need, then a Voucher or Emergency Drug Authorization may be issued.

Alberta Works helps unemployed people find and keep jobs, helps people cover their basic costs of living and helps employers meet their need for skilled workers. For more information about Alberta Works Employment and Training Services, Income Support, Health Benefits and Child Support Services click:

<http://humanservices.alberta.ca/financial-support/3171.html>

To access the Alberta Works on-line policy manual click:

<http://humanservices.alberta.ca/awonline/>

**Call:**  
**Income Support Contact Centre:**  
 Toll free: 1-866-644-5135  
 Edmonton area: 780-644-5135

**Come in:** Visit your local Alberta Works Centre

## Supplementary Benefits (partial list)

Supplementary benefits provide additional money for particular needs. Eligibility criteria must be met to receive these benefits.

### a) Continuous

#### Additional Shelter (Code 1109)

**Actual cost in excess of core shelter for:**

- Household units of six or more
  - Accommodation adapted for a disability
  - Health would be endangered by a move
- Rate:** Up to \$300/month

#### Childcare

##### Private (Code 1703)

**Rate:** Up to \$4/hr per child plus \$1.50 for each additional child up to maximum amounts in 08 Continuous Needs Child Care.

##### By Grandparent (Code 1702)

Grandparent not residing in same house.

**Rate:** \$150 per child/month

##### Day Care (Code 1708)

The parent portion after subsidy.

#### Medical Extraordinary Transportation (Code 1705)

Access to medical services covered by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan for severe health problems.

**Rate:** Actual cost for bus pass, taxi, or \$0.12 per km

#### Special Diet (Code 1701)

*Monthly Rate Per Adult or Child*

Low Sodium .....	Rate: \$20
Low Cholesterol or Low Fat (do not issue for both) .....	Rate: \$20
Low or High Potassium (do not issue for both) .....	Rate: \$20
High Calcium .....	Rate: \$20
High Fibre .....	Rate: \$20
High Protein: .....	Rate: \$20
Pregnancy: .....	Rate: \$25
<b>Infant Formula:</b> Difference between food rate and actual cost of formula up to \$200.	
<b>Breast Feeding up to 12 months:</b> .....	Rate: \$30
<b>High Calorie</b> (over 2,500 calories): .....	Rate: \$36
<b>AIDS / HIV or Hepatitis C</b> (do not issue for both): .....	Rate: \$36
<b>Diabetic or Heart Healthy</b> (do not issue for both): .....	Rate: \$40
<b>Milk Free:</b> \$50, <b>Lactose Free:</b> \$20 (do not issue for both)	
<b>Celiac or Gluten Free:</b> (do not issue for both): .....	Rate: \$80
<b>Renal Failure/Insufficiency:</b> .....	Rate: \$110

#### Transportation to Day or Employment Programs (Code 1723)

For individuals assessed as Barriers to Full Employment who are attending a day or employment program.

**Rate:** Actual cost for bus pass, taxi, or \$0.12 per km

### Earnings Exemption

Income Support recipients can increase their total monthly income by working. They keep all of their wages, and only a portion of their earnings are taken into account when their financial benefits are calculated. This is called an Earnings Exemption.

#### ETW/BFE

Net employment income is partially exempt.

- **Single parents:** First \$230 of net employment income is exempt, plus 25% of any amount over \$230
- **Couples:** First \$115 of net employment income is exempt, plus 25% of any amount over \$115 (for each working adult)
- **Singles:** First \$230 of net employment income is exempt, plus 25% of any amount over \$230

#### Dependant Children

- **Attending school:** Net employment income is 100% exempt
- **Not attending school:** First \$350 is exempt, plus 25% of any amount over \$350

### b) Non-continuous

#### Children's School Expenses (Code 1802)

Age 4 or 5 and in kindergarten .....	\$ 50
Age 6 to 11 or in grades 1 to 6 .....	\$ 100
Age 12 or older or in grades 7 to 12 .....	\$ 175

#### Child Care Deposit (Code 1831) Registration (Code 1867)

Issued when required to secure child care.

**Rate:** Actual Cost

#### Employment Training and Transition Supports (Code 1827-HH/Code 1857-S/P)

To participate in employment preparation programs, training, or to seek or maintain employment.

**Rate:** \$500 per adult per calendar year.

#### Fleeing Abuse Benefits

For persons leaving abusive situations.

**Personal Benefit - Family Violence Shelter (Code 1407):** \$56

**Personal Benefit - Telephone and Transportation (Code 1732):** Up to six months. Maximum \$90

**Damage Deposit (Code 1801):** Up to private housing core shelter rate.

**Emergency Transportation (Code 1844):** Transportation cost or \$0.12 per km.

**Escaping Abuse Benefit - To establish a residence (Code 1849):** \$1,000.

**Emergency Shelter - Abuse Situation (Code 1848)**

**Relocation Allowance (Code 1865)**

#### Medical/Surgical Supplies (Code 1912)

**Rate:** Actual cost up to \$2,000

#### Natal and Adoptive Needs Payment (Code 1819)

**Rate:** \$250 per child

#### NCBS Temporary Replacement Benefit (Code 1836)

#### Special Transportation and Travel Payment

To reach safety, receive treatment, comply with Child Support Services or appear in criminal court.

**Travel (Code 1828) -** Bus pass, taxi or \$0.12 per km.

**Accommodation (Code 1863) -** Actual cost.

**Food (Code 1864) -** \$10 per adult/ \$5 per child per day.

**Childcare (Code 1866) -** Actual cost of reasonable childcare.

#### Residential Addictions Treatment (Code 1830)

Residential addictions treatment in an Alberta Health Services operated or funded facility or one approved by the Minister.

**Rate:** \$40 per day

#### Relocation Allowance

Confirmed employment (Code 1804)

Moving out of Alberta (Code 1833)

**Rate:** Most economical actual cost

#### Utility Connection (Code 1817):

For each eligible utility.

**Rate:** Actual cost

#### Utility Deposit (Code 1820):

For each eligible utility. After first issue, subject to repayment.

**Rate:** Actual cost

#### Utility Reconnection (Code 1829):

For each eligible utility. Subject to repayment.

**Rate:** Actual Cost

#### Emergency Allowance

Situation is beyond individual's control, presents a serious health risk, and cannot wait until the next benefit period.

**Replacement clothes (Code 1842):** \$214 per adult, \$160 per child.

**Food - travel (Code 1850):** \$10 per adult, \$5 per child per day or Food Rate.

**Food - non travel (Code 1841):** \$22 per adult, \$14 per child per month.

**Childcare (Code 1840)**

**Accommodation (Code 1843)**

**Transportation (Code 1844):** Public transportation cost or \$0.12 per km.

**Home repairs (Code 1846):** Repayment required.

**Appliance repairs (Code 1845):** Repayment required.

**Damage Deposit (Code 1851):** Available once every 3 years. Actual cost up to \$350 for singles and childless couples and up to \$1,000 for families with children.

**Eviction (Code 1852):** After first issue, repayment required. Actual cost up to \$350 for singles and childless couples and up to \$1,000 for families with children.

**Utility arrears (Code 1807):** After first issue, repayment required.

**Other emergency needs (Code 1847)**