

ADAP

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is ADAP?

The Alberta Disability Assistance Program, a new disability program created under Bill 12 to replace AISH for some people.

2. When will ADAP start?

ADAP came into effect on July 1, 2026.

3. Who qualifies for each program?

A disability assistance adjudicator determines which program applies. Under the AISH General Regulation (Alta Reg 96/2026):

- AISH: a severe disability that permanently prevents employment
- ADAP: a severe disability that substantially impedes employment continuously or episodically

4. Was everyone on AISH moved to ADAP?

Most clients were moved on July 2, 2026. Some remain on AISH automatically. See question 5.

5. Am I in the automatic AISH retention group?

You are if you have a severe developmental disabilities or palliative conditions, clients in continuing care homes, and clients aged 60 or older. AISH contacted qualifying clients before July 2026. No action is required from them.

6. My birthday is shortly after the decision date, and I turn 60 next month. Can I return to AISH?

No. The retention group was set by a one-time decision and does not apply on an ongoing basis.

7. What if I am not in the retention group?

The transition decision is not appealable within the Disability Income Assistance (DIA) program. You may submit a new DIA application to be considered for AISH. Clients in the ADAP transition group are entitled to one government-covered medical assessment to submit with it.

8. What is the transition period?

July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2027. During these 18 months, ADAP clients from AISH receive a \$200 transition benefit that keeps their income at the AISH rate.

9. How much will I receive during the transition period?

Your current AISH amount, even though your file is administered under ADAP.

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10. What happens after December 31, 2027?

The transition benefit ends. From January 1, 2028, ADAP pays a maximum of \$1,740 per month. Clients who remained on AISH continue at the AISH rate, currently \$1,940 per month.

11. Two adults in our household receive disability benefits. Does this affect us?

Yes. From the August 2026 benefit period, each partner receives 88% of the maximum individual benefit if more than two adults in a household receive disability income assistance (AISH or ADAP).

12. How do I estimate my ADAP allowance with children's benefits and employment income?

Use the estimator at <https://www.alberta.ca/aish-and-adap-benefit-estimator>. It accounts for household composition and employment income and breaks down each benefit component.

13. Will my health benefits change?

No. AISH and ADAP clients both receive health benefits for themselves, their spouses, and their dependants, unless they are covered by the federal government or fully covered by an employer.

14. What if I cannot find work on ADAP?

ADAP clients must participate in employment services. If you participate and still do not find work, your financial and health benefits continue.

15. What if I do not want to participate in employment?

Under the AISH General Regulation, a director may refuse, suspend, vary or discontinue an ADAP benefit if, in the director's opinion, a client has refused reasonable employment or has neglected to participate in an employment program.

16. What if I disagree with my program placement?

It depends on the decision. The transition from AISH to ADAP and an AISH Medical Panel decision cannot be appealed within the DIA program. Medical eligibility decisions go to the Medical Appeal Panel (MAP), and general and financial eligibility decisions go to the Citizen's Appeal Panel (CAP).

17. Can I move from ADAP to AISH later?

Yes. If your condition progresses and you become unable to work, you may apply for a transfer at any time. If you previously transitioned from AISH to ADAP, one government-covered medical assessment is available with no time limit.