

Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID)

Information Sheet

Starting April 1, 2026, changes to the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) program will make the complex program easier for clients to navigate and support clients to receive their benefits in the quickest and simplest way possible.

Note: SAID will continue to pay actual utility costs. There is no change to how utility expenses are assessed or paid.

Changes to the SAID benefit framework combine 30 highly specific benefits into five broader categories to provide more flexibility and timely responses to client needs:



The Household Health and Safety Benefit for urgent household needs.

- May be provided to address loss of furniture due to natural disaster or fleeing domestic violence, garbage removal, methadone lock boxes, and other client needs that keep them safe.
- Managers have more discretion to use this benefit to address the health and safety needs of clients and the amount of the benefit required.



The Children's Benefit to replace multiple child-related benefits.

- Covers maternity clothes, cribs, newborn clothing, etc. Instead of asking for each of these one-time requests individually, clients will receive the entire \$400. Additional funds may be provided until they are eligible for the Canada Child Benefit (CCB).



The Service Animal Benefit that introduces a flat rate.

- There is no change to how the ministry defines service animals; the language is just being added to regulations. Clients that are receiving actual costs under the current Service Animal Benefit will continue to receive the same amount as they do today if the change would see them receive less under a new flat-rated amount.



The Employment and Training Benefit to replace several existing employment-related benefits.

- Covers supplies that clients need to attend employment, training, or school, replacing the individual Participation Benefit and underused Expenses to Commence Employment or Education Benefit.
- Provided in addition to the Education and Training Incentive that clients receive if they are attending approved education or training programs.
- Clients that are currently receiving the Participation Benefit will continue to do so until the end of their program.



The Emergency Benefit for unforeseen health and safety needs.

- Provides funds to address emergency clothing needs, house locks, storage of belongings, obtaining ID, medical escorts, etc.
- Managers have more discretion to use this benefit to address emergency client needs and the amount of the benefit required.
- Referrals are also made to the Saskatchewan Emergency Repair Program, which offers up to \$12,000 to help homeowners with low incomes complete emergency repairs to make their homes safe.

In addition to the five broader categories, the following changes are also of note:

- **Moving costs increase from \$50 to \$300** for singles and couples without children and from **\$150 to \$400** for families.
- **Actual costs for licensed child care will continue to be covered.** Child Care Benefits for unlicensed child care is a flat rate of \$30 per day per household.
- **The Respite Benefit is being discontinued as no clients use the benefit** (Respite is covered through the Ministry of Social Services Disability Programs and the Saskatchewan Health Authority).
- The following rarely used benefits (less than 10 times a year) are being discontinued:
 - » **Child Access (Visiting Children's) Benefit**
 - » **School Transportation Benefit.** Clients currently receiving this benefit will continue to receive it until the end of the 2025-26 school year.
 - » **Advocate Fees** (does not change a client's right to representation)
- **The Canada Disability Benefit remains exempt** and is listed as exempt in the regulations.
- **The Clothing Benefit is being renamed as the Incontinence Supplies Benefit**, to reflect its use to cover incontinence supplies.

As with all Saskatchewan income assistance programs, SAID remains a needs based, income-tested financial assistance program for individuals with significant and enduring disabilities who have exhausted other financial resources.

The program will continue to offer individuals access to long-term income support, greater choice of services, and support participation in their community.