

Special Services At Home (SSAH)

The Special Services at Home (SSAH) program helps children with developmental or physical disabilities and adults with a developmental disability to live at home with their families by providing funding on a time-limited basis to address individual needs. With this funding, families can purchase supports and services which they could not normally provide themselves and are not available elsewhere in the community. SSAH is not an entitlement program. SSAH funds services and supports for a maximum of one year at a time. Families are required to apply each year and are not guaranteed to receive the same level of funding from year to year.

What funding and/or service(s) are provided under SSAH?

Each family has a unique set of circumstances. You will need to describe your family's needs, establish your own goals and indicate the type of assistance you need. Funds may be provided for the following:

- Personal Development and Growth – This could include helping a person acquire new skills and abilities, such as improving communications skills or supporting a person as he or she undertakes more and more of the activities associated with daily living.
- Family Relief and Support – Families may have additional responsibilities in caring for a family member with a disability. SSAH provides funding for respite or parent relief and related supports. While the person with a disability will likely benefit directly, the overall goal is to help the family meet their identified needs.

Who is eligible for this program?

Children with a developmental or physical disability and adults with a developmental disability are eligible for SSAH if they:

- Are residents of Ontario;
- Have an ongoing functional limitation as a result of a disability;
- Require support beyond that which is a normal family responsibility; and
- Are living at home with their families.

How do I apply for this program?

You will need to complete an application form. You will also need a medical statement or psychological assessment clearly confirming the diagnosis of your family member's disability. It is important that this document:

- Indicates the nature of the disability; and
- Supports your request for service.

It is recommended that the medical statement or assessment be attached to your application.