

This is a summary of financial benefits that Learners may receive from the Alberta Works Program. Eligibility and Learner Income Support rates are governed by the *Income and Employment Supports Act* and regulations. Rates and eligibility criteria may be subject to change.

**Learner Financial Benefits Summary**  
Effective for training starting on or after August 1, 2011

**Core Benefits**

**Core Essential:** Includes food, clothing (including diapers), household needs (including furniture, appliances & 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:** Includes rent, mortgage, utilities (except for electricity in social housing), heating fuel, municipal taxes, insurance, condominium fees, lot rental, and homeowner's maintenance and damage deposit. Social housing residents may receive actual electricity costs. Total cost of shelter and electricity for social housing residents cannot exceed maximum private shelter rates.

Monthly Core Benefits for Learners							
Household Composition	Core Essential	Core Shelter			Total Core Benefits		
		Living w. Relatives*	Social Housing	Private Housing	Living w. Relatives*	Social Housing	Private Housing
Single Adult	\$511	\$100	\$120	\$323	\$611	\$631	\$834
Adult - 1 Child	\$888	\$100	\$212	\$546	\$988	\$1,100	\$1,434
Adult - 2 Children	\$948	\$100	\$260	\$566	\$1,048	\$1,208	\$1,514
Adult - 3 Children	\$1,021	\$100	\$317	\$586	\$1,121	\$1,338	\$1,607
Adult - 4 Children	\$1,090	\$100	\$377	\$606	\$1,190	\$1,467	\$1,696
Adult - 5 Children	\$1,159	\$100	\$437	\$626	\$1,259	\$1,596	\$1,785
Adult - 6 Children	\$1,230	\$100	\$496	\$646	\$1,330	\$1,726	\$1,876
Childless Couple	\$633	\$100	\$193	\$436	\$733	\$826	\$1,069
Couple - 1 Child	\$1,184	\$100	\$262	\$575	\$1,284	\$1,446	\$1,759
Couple - 2 Children	\$1,252	\$100	\$317	\$595	\$1,352	\$1,569	\$1,847
Couple - 3 Children	\$1,320	\$100	\$377	\$605	\$1,420	\$1,697	\$1,925
Couple - 4 Children	\$1,388	\$100	\$437	\$625	\$1,488	\$1,825	\$2,013
Couple - 5 Children	\$1,456	\$100	\$496	\$645	\$1,556	\$1,952	\$2,101
Couple - 6 Children	\$1,527	\$100	\$555	\$665	\$1,627	\$2,082	\$2,192
Additional Children	\$56	\$0	\$0	\$20	\$56	\$56	\$76
Each child 18-19 add**	\$164	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$164	\$164	\$164

Note: \*Relative is an adult who is the parent, step-parent, adoptive grandparent, child or grandchild of one of the adults living in the household.

\*\*18 and 19 year old dependents must be attending high school. Benefit applies to **Non-EI learners only**.

**Continuous Supplementary Benefits**

These benefits provide funds to meet specific, ongoing needs, while in training. Only a sample of benefits is listed. For a complete listing of Supplementary Benefits and eligibility criteria, visit the Alberta Works On-line Policy Manual at <http://employment.alberta.ca/awonline/>.

**Childcare**

- **Daycare Rate:** Actual parent portion after subsidy is applied
- **Private Rate:** Up to \$4/hr for the 1st child plus \$1.50/hr for each additional child, (to a maximum of \$8.25/hr)
- **Grandparent Rate:** \$150/month per child  
Grandparent must not reside in same household as child

**Special Diet (Monthly Rate per Person)**

- 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
- Lactose Free:** .....Rate: \$20
- High Calcium:** .....Rate: \$20
- High Fibre:** .....Rate: \$20
- High Protein:** .....Rate: \$20
- Pregnancy:** .....Rate: \$25
- Breast Feeding** (up to 12 months): .....Rate: \$30
- High Calorie** (over 2500 Calories): .....Rate: \$36
- AIDS/HIV or Hepatitis C** (do not issue for both): .....Rate: \$36
- Diabetic or Heart Healthy** (do not issue for both): .....Rate: \$40
- Milk Free** (issue either milk-free or lactose free, not both): Rate: \$50
- Celiac or Gluten Free** (do not issue for both): .....Rate: \$80
- Renal Failure Insufficiency:** .....Rate: \$110
- Infant Formula:** Difference between child food rate of \$83/month and actual formula cost (up to maximum of \$200/month)

**Medical Extraordinary Transportation**

To access AHCIP Medical Services for severe health issues.  
Rate: Actual cost for bus pass, taxi or \$0.12/km

**Extraordinary Training Travel**

Learner lives in a different community from where the training program is located **and** no public transportation is available.  
Rate: \$0.12/km

**NCBS Replacement Benefit (Non-EI Only)**

Issued if the learner is not eligible for the maximum National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) amount.  
Rate: Up to maximum monthly NCBS rate

**Additional Shelter (Non-EI & EI Only)**

Actual cost in excess of core shelter for:  
 • Household units of six or more  
 • Accommodation adapted for a disability  
 • Situations where a move would endanger health  
 Rate: \$300/month (maximum)

**High Cost Community Modifier (Non-EI & EI Only)**

For private housing located in Fort McMurray.  
Rate: \$300/month (maximum)

**Housing Allowance - Residence Owned (Apprentices Only)**

Additional funds are issued for mortgage, utilities, insurance and property taxes.  
Rate: \$900/month (maximum)

**Housing Allowance - Residence Rented (Apprentices Only)**

Additional funds are issued for rent and utility costs for the communities listed below:

- **Fort McMurray:**  
Rate: Actual cost up to \$ 900 for families without children  
Rate: Actual cost up to \$1200 for families with children
- **Calgary or Grande Prairie:**  
Rate: Actual cost up to \$500 for families without children  
Rate: Actual cost up to \$700 for families with children
- **All other parts of Alberta:**  
Rate: Actual cost up to \$400 for families without children  
Rate: Actual cost up to \$600 for families with children

**Temporary Accommodation (Apprentices Only)**

When an Apprentice's primary residence is another community from where the training program is located.  
Rate: up to \$610/month (maximum)

**Travel Allowance (Apprentices Only)**

Return travel costs to primary residence, once per month.  
Rate: \$0.12/km

## **Non Continuous Supplementary Benefits**

These benefits provide funds for specific, temporary needs, while in training. Only a sample of benefits is listed. For a complete listing of Supplementary Benefits and eligibility criteria, visit the Alberta Works On-line Policy Manual at <http://employment.alberta.ca/awonline/>.

### **Employment Training & Transition Support**

For expenses associated with training and employment preparation programs.

**Rate:** Actual Cost up to \$500 per calendar year

### **Children's School Expenses**

- Ages 4 or 5 attending Kindergarten ..... **Rate:** \$50
- Ages 6 to 11 or in grades 1 to 6..... **Rate:** \$100
- Ages 12 or older in grades 7 to 12 ..... **Rate:** \$175

### **Day Care Deposit**

Issued when required to secure day care.

**Rate:** Actual Cost

### **Natal Allowance**

Supplies for Newborn.

**Rate:** \$250/child

### **Medical Surgical Supplies**

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

### **Utilities**

Issued once for each utility. After first issue, repayment required.

- **Utility Connection:** .....Actual Cost
- **Utility Deposit:**.....Actual Cost

### **Non-Emergency Travel Related Benefits**

For treatment as approved by the Director and to comply with Child Support Services.

- **Travel:** ..... Public transportation cost or \$0.12/km
- **Accommodation:** .....Actual cost
- **Food Rate per Day:** .....\$10/adult and \$5/child daily
- **Childcare:** .....Most reasonable cost option

### **Residential Addictions Treatment**

For residential treatment in an Alberta Health Services operated/funded facility OR a facility approved by the Minister.

**Rate:** \$40/day

### **NCBS Temporary Replacement Benefit (Non-EI Only)**

Issued if the learner is not receiving the total NCBS amount.

Subject to repayment.

**Rate:** Up to the maximum NCBS rate

### **Escaping Abuse**

- **Escaping Abuse Benefit:** .....**Rate:** \$1000 (max)
- **Damage Deposit:** .....**Rate:** Up to Private Core Shelter
- **Emergency Transportation:** ....**Rate:** Actual Cost or \$0.12/km
- **Telephone & Transportation:** ..**Rate:** \$90/month (up to 6 months)

### **Emergency Allowances**

#### **Childcare**

**Rate:** Most reasonable cost option

#### **Damage Deposit**

Available once every 3 years

**Rate:** Actual cost up to \$350 for families without children

**Rate:** Actual cost up to \$1000 for families with children

#### **Eviction Prevention Benefit**

After first issue, repayment required.

**Rate:** Actual cost up to \$350 for families without children

**Rate:** Actual cost up to \$1000 for families with children

#### **Food (Non-Travel)**

**Rate:** \$22/adult and \$14/child monthly

#### **Food (Travel)**

**Rate:** \$10/adult and \$5/child daily

#### **Replacement Clothes**

**Rate:** \$214/ adult and \$160/child

#### **Transportation**

**Rate:** Actual public transportation cost or \$0.12/km

#### **Utility Arrears**

After first issue, repayment required.

**Rate:** Actual cost

#### **Other Emergency Needs:**

Director's Approval Required

**Rate:** \$1000 (max)

## **Health Benefits**

All Learners receive health benefits for themselves and their dependants, unless they receive coverage through the federal government or from their employer. Health benefits cover basic dental care, eye exams, glasses, prescriptions, essential diabetic supplies and emergency ambulance services.

## **Earnings Exemption**

Learner households can increase monthly income by working. The household keeps all wages and only a portion of income may be used to calculate monthly Income Support.

### **Adults**

- **Learner:** 100% of net employment income is exempt
- **Spouse/Partner of Learner:** First \$230 of income, plus 25% of any amount over \$230 is exempt, each month.

### **Dependant Children**

- **Attending School:** 100% of net employment income is exempt
- **Not Attending School:** First \$350 of income, plus 25% of any amount over \$350 is exempt, each month.

## **Other Resources Available to Learners**

Eligibility, for the resources listed below, is based on the previous year's household income. To qualify, Learners **must** file an Income Tax Return.

- **Goods and Services Tax Credit (GST)**  
GST credit is paid quarterly.
- **Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB)**  
WITB is paid quarterly beginning in April.
- **Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit (AFETC)**  
AFETC is paid January and July to families with children.
- **Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB)**  
CCTB is paid monthly July to June to families with children.  
CCTB = Child Tax Benefit + NCBS + Child Disability Benefit.
- **Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB)**  
UCCB pays \$100/month for each child under 6 years old.

**For questions about your Funding Assessment Decision (FAD) letter call your Service Manager at your School OR**

**Call the Student Funding Contact Centre Toll free: 1-800-222-6485 or in Edmonton: 780-427-3722**