

**Basic Dental and Orthodontic Supplements** provide basic dental (up to \$1,000 over two years) and orthodontic services, as well as emergency dental services, to Persons With Disabilities. These services are retained by Persons With Disabilities who go off assistance for employment or federal income support.

**Employment Services** are provided to Persons With Disabilities, both on and off assistance, including a range of disability support services, assistive technologies, employment planning and support services and self-employment services.

**BC Earned Income Benefit** is provided to families with dependent children who have employment earnings greater than \$3,750 per year. The maximum monthly benefit a family may receive is dependent on the number of eligible children in the family and the family's net income. Benefits are combined with the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) into one monthly payment. A family with two children receiving the maximum benefit would be eligible for \$454 per year.

**BC Sales Tax Credit** is a one-time reimbursement of \$75 per adult per year for a single with total income less than \$15,000 per year or a couple with less than \$18,000 per year.

### Federal Programs

**Base Canada Child Tax Benefit** provides a base monthly payment to eligible low and middle-income families to help them with the cost of raising children under age 18. Families making less than \$36,400 per year are eligible for up to \$1,283 per child.

**National Child Benefit Supplement** provides extra support to low-income families with children by topping up the base monthly payments they receive under the Canada Child Tax Benefit system. For a single parent family with three children, this would add up to an additional \$5,419 per year.

**Universal Child Care Benefit** pays all families with dependent children under six years of age \$100 per month per child. Unlike all other benefits, it is taxable income.

**Working Income Tax Benefit** supplements employment earnings over \$4,750 annually to a yearly maximum of \$800 for low-income singles and \$1,422 for low-income couples and families. A supplement of an additional \$346 per year is paid to persons who are eligible for the disability tax credit on their income tax.

**GST Credit** provides a refundable tax credit payment quarterly to low and middle-income Canadians to help offset the costs of paying the GST on taxable purchases. A family with an income of less than \$30,000 per year and two children would be eligible for up to \$724 per year.

# WORKING: More Than a Paycheque

For more information call toll-free at:

**1 866 866-0800**

or visit the ministry website at:

**[www.eia.gov.bc.ca](http://www.eia.gov.bc.ca)**



# WORKING: More Than a Paycheque

Benefits and supports you are  
eligible for when you leave  
assistance for employment.



Ministry of  
Employment and  
Income Assistance

The government is committed to building the best system of support for British Columbians in need, and helping people who are able to work to find and keep jobs. To help income assistance clients with their employment goals, the government invests \$70 million a year on a number of programs designed to meet their needs. Clients often ask if they would be better off working than on income assistance and the answer is a resounding “YES.” Not only do clients working earn income, on average, almost two to three times what they receive on income assistance, they also retain most of their benefits and remain eligible for other provincial and federal programs.

## Provincial Programs

**Rental Assistance Program** provides direct payment to eligible low-income, working families with at least one child under the age of 19 and a gross household income less than \$35,000 per year. For example, a family of four living in Vancouver with an income of \$24,000 per year and paying the maximum allowable monthly rent of \$875 would receive \$129 per month in assistance.

**BC Child Care Subsidy** provides a monthly payment to parents who meet eligibility criteria, including income and family size, to help cover the fee for eligible child care: Licensed, License Not Required, Registered License Not Required, or In Child’s Home. A single parent with a child under six in licensed group care can save up to \$550 per month, or \$6,600 per year.

**Carbon Action Credit** pays eligible low income individuals and families up to \$100 per year for each adult and the first child of a single parent plus \$30 per additional child. This is paid quarterly together with the federal GST Credit. Additionally, a one-time Carbon Action Dividend of \$100 will be paid to every BC resident in June 2008.

**Free Medical Services Plan** coverage is available to individuals and families on income assistance and to those with a total income under the income thresholds for MSP Premium Assistance. Over the course of a year, a single person can save up to \$648 per year while a family of three or more can save more than \$1,296.

**Pharmacare** pays 100% of prescription costs for individuals and families on income assistance. Off assistance, Fair PharmaCare pays a percentage of eligible drug costs based on net income. Persons With Disabilities who leave assistance for employment or federal income support retain 100% of their Pharmacare coverage.

**Healthy Kids Dental and Optical Benefits** are available to families with dependent children who qualify for MSP Premium Assistance to help pay for basic dental care, up to \$700 per child per year, and prescription eyeglasses.

**Medical Equipment and Supplies Supplements (Schedule C)** provides up to 100% coverage of necessary medical equipment and supplies for Persons With Disabilities. These benefits are retained by Persons With Disabilities who leave assistance for employment or federal income support.

## Supports you take with you when you leave assistance for employment.<sup>1</sup>

Expected to Work	NO CHILDREN		WITH CHILDREN	
	On Income Assistance	Off Income Assistance	On Income Assistance	Off Income Assistance
<b>PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS</b>				
Rental Assistance Plan				✓
BC Child Care Subsidy			✓	✓
Free Medical Services Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pharmacare - prescription costs paid	100%	70%	100%	70%
Healthy Kids (Dental & Optical)			✓	✓
Carbon Action Credit	✓	✓	✓	✓
BC Earned Income Benefit			✓	✓
BC Sales Tax Credit	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</b>				
Base Canada Child Tax Benefit			✓	✓
National Child Benefit Supplement			✓	✓
Universal Child Care Benefit			✓	✓
Working Income Tax Benefit	✓	✓	✓	✓
GST Credit	✓	✓	✓	✓
Persons with Disabilities	Clients retain their Persons With Disabilities designation when they stop receiving assistance and are not required to go through the adjudication process if they re-apply for assistance at a later date.			
	NO CHILDREN	WITH CHILDREN	NO CHILDREN	WITH CHILDREN
	On Disability Assistance	Off Disability Assistance	On Disability Assistance	Off Disability Assistance
<b>PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS</b>				
Rental Assistance Plan				✓
BC Child Care Subsidy			✓	✓
Free Medical Services Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pharmacare - prescription costs paid	100%	100%	100%	100%
Healthy Kids (Dental & Optical)			✓	✓
Medical Equipment and Supplies Supplements	✓	✓	✓	✓
Basic Dental and Orthodontic Supplements	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employment Services (EPPD)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carbon Action Credit	✓	✓	✓	✓
BC Earned Income Benefit			✓	✓
BC Sales Tax Credit	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</b>				
Base Canada Child Tax Benefit			✓	✓
National Child Benefit Supplement			✓	✓
Universal Child Care Benefit			✓	✓
Working Income Tax Benefit			✓	✓
GST Credit	✓	✓	✓	✓

<sup>1</sup> All benefits are income-tested except the Universal Child Care Benefit, which is taxable.