



How

to access Post-Secondary
Accessibility Services

Are you going to College or University this year? Do you have a permanent disability?

Post-Secondary Accessibility Services (PSAS) can help you access the grants, services, equipment and bursary that could be available to you. To qualify, you must:

- ✓ Be accepted into a recognized post-secondary school and program.
- ✓ Apply for Nova Scotia/Canada Student Loans & Grants through the Nova Scotia Student Assistance application (even if you do not require financial assistance).
- ✓ Have a permanent disability. A *Disability Verification Form* that has been completed by a qualified medical professional must be submitted for review.

We offer grants and bursaries.

The Canada Student Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities can give you \$2,000 for each qualifying academic year of your studies that leads to a diploma or degree. Once we have your complete application, we will assess your application automatically for this grant.

The Nova Scotia & Canada Student Grants for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities: These grants can provide equipment to help reduce or remove disability-related barriers at school, like assistive technology and software, FM systems, CCTVs, Smart Pens, etc. Services can also reduce or remove disability-related barriers. These could include note-takers, tutors, sign language interpreters and school attendant care. An on-campus accessibility support person can help you determine which supports are appropriate for you and your study plans.

Out-of-Country Deaf Student Bursary: This Bursary assists Deaf students with their educational costs while they attend Gallaudet University or the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in Rochester. Students must study at 40% or more of a full-course load in a program where the primary or only language of instruction is American Sign Language (ASL). Contact PSAS to apply for this bursary.

Frequently Asked Questions

What disabilities may qualify?

ADHD, Autism, Blind/Low Vision, Brain Injury, Cerebral Palsy, Congenital Illness, Cystic Fibrosis, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Epilepsy, Learning Disability, Mental Health, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Paraplegia, Quadriplegia, Spina Bifida, Stroke, and Tourette's Syndrome - to name a few.

Do learning disabilities qualify?

Yes. A learning disability diagnosed in a psycho-educational assessment report that was completed within the last 5 years, or after you turned 18, may qualify.

Can I get grants, equipment or services if I'm going to school outside Nova Scotia?

Yes. We have someone in our office to help you with the process if needed.

If I don't receive a student loan, can I still get grants for equipment and services?

Yes. Everyone must apply using the online student loan application process, which creates a digital file for you within PSAS. However, access to PSAS grants and bursaries for services and equipment does not require that you also need financial help to pay for school.

For help or more information

Each Nova Scotia university and Nova Scotia Community College campus has an on-site disability support person. If you are studying at a private career college in Nova Scotia, or at any school outside Nova Scotia, we have someone in the PSAS office who can act as your disability support person.

Make an appointment with your disability support person as soon as you can - even before you have been accepted into your post-secondary program. The disability support person will be able to give you more information and will help you with the application process.

Please call or email Post-Secondary Accessibility Services at any time to learn more or visit our website to find the contact information for your disability support person or accessibility office.

Contact Us

Department of Labour and Advanced Education
Post-Secondary Accessibility Services (PSAS)
1256 Barrington St., Halifax, NS B3J 1Y6
Phone: 902-424-6737 (local calls) or 1-800-565-8420 (toll free in Canada)
Web: novascotia.ca/post-secondary-accessibility-services
Email: psas@novascotia.ca

