

Appendix N

DISABILITIES RESOURCES

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School to Life Transition Manual: 5 Steps to Successful Planning Saskatchewan Association for Community Living: Revised Edition ©2007 “This Handbook will help young people with intellectual disabilities in transition and their families plan for their future as they move through school and into the adult world. Steps, worksheets, and personal stories are featured throughout.” (<http://www.sacl.org/docs/School%20to%20Life%20Transition%20Manual.pdf>)

Transition Planning Guide: For Students With Disabilities and Their Families This comprehensive guide and workbook provides valuable information about how to adjust to secondary and post-secondary education and training. (http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/pdf/disabilities/transguidedisabilitystudent_English.pdf)

Youth2youth “This site has been developed by young people just like you with learning disabilities. This is our site - a place for us and our friends. High school to post-secondary and beyond is complicated. This website will provide you with information and answers on how to get there and what supports you'll need during your journey, so you can be successful.” (<http://www.youth2youth.ca>)

“Employment Assistance for People with Disabilities (EAPD) Program provides funding to assist adults with disabilities to prepare for, secure and maintain employment. Various supports are offered, including training-on-the-job, vocational and work assessments, psycho-educational assessments, job coaching, support for employers and disability-related costs in a wide variety of post-secondary education and training programs.” (www.aeel.gov.sk.ca/eapd)

“Workink is an online career development and employment portal for Canadians with disabilities. It provides job search tools, career guidance and resources pertaining to education and employment.” (www.workink.com)

“Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities is a program designed to help people with disabilities prepare for and obtain employment or self-employment. It also assists people to develop the skills they need to keep a new job. The Opportunities Fund supports a variety of activities, in partnership with organizations including with the private sector, to help people with disabilities overcome the barriers they may face as they enter the job market.”

(http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/funding_programs/opportunities_fund/index.shtml)

“Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program offers information on the services available to entrepreneurs with disabilities who live in western Canadian communities and who are seeking to start up or expand a small or medium-sized business.” (www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/goc/entrepreneurs_disabilities.shtml)

“Skills Link provides a client-centred approach based on an assessment of the specific needs of individual youth. The program supports youth in developing basic and advanced employment skills. Participants benefit from a coordinated approach, providing longer term supports and services that can help them find and keep a job.” (<http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/epb/yi/yep/newprog/skillslink.shtml>)

“The National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS) Online Work System (NOWS) is a bilingual, free, online tool where employers can post opportunities and search for job-ready candidates with disabilities. These candidates are either students or graduates who self-identify as having a disability/impairment. It also allows post-secondary students or recent graduates with disabilities to upload their resumes, as well as search and apply online for internships and employment.” (<http://www.nows.ca/st/index.php?lang=EN>)

“Ability Edge is an internship program specifically designed for university, college and high school graduates with disabilities. Through Ability Edge’s six, nine or 12-month internships, graduates with disabilities obtain meaningful work experience at a variety Canadian organizations. Ability Edge internships are in a wide range of fields, such as finance, marketing, human resources and computer science.” (<http://www.abilityedge.ca/becomeintern.asp?language=1>)

SIAST Kelsey Campus: Transition to Post-Secondary Education and Employment

The purpose of the program is “to provide adults with LD or ADHD with necessary skills and strategies in order to create independent learners in a post-secondary or employment setting.”

(http://www.siastr.sk.ca/programs/basic_education/documents/Basic_Ed-Transition_to_Post-Sec-Brochure2_3_.pdf) An application form is available at http://www.siastr.sk.ca/programs/basic_education/documents/Basic_Ed-Transition_to_Post-Sec-Application.pdf

SIAST Woodland Campus: Ways to Work “Ways to Work provides pre-employment and employment skills, on-site training experiences and opportunities that may lead to competitive community employment. It consists of life and living skills training, workplace literacy training, job readiness and work placements.” (http://www.siastr.sk.ca/programs/basic_education/readiness_bridging.shtml)

“The Canada Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities is awarded to high-need students with permanent disabilities who must cover the cost of

educational and living expenses that exceeds the amount covered by Canada Student Loan and provincial financial assistance.”

(http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/goc/access_grant_disabilities.shtml)

The Canada Study Grant for the Accommodation of Students with Permanent

Disabilities can provide up to \$8,000 per loan year to help pay for exceptional education-related costs associated with your disability. These costs may include tutors, oral or sign interpreters, attendant care for studies, specialized transportation (to and from school only), note takers, readers and brailers.”

(www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/learning/canada_student_loan/grant2.shtml)

“**An Accelerated Repayment Assistance Plan** will be available to borrowers with a permanent disability. For the first time, Canada Student Loans will offer repayment assistance designed for borrowers with a disability.” The government may also provide immediate forgiveness of student loans for borrowers who have a permanent disability that will prevent them from never being able to repay their loan. (www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/learning/canada_student_loan/grant2.shtml)

The Permanent Disability Benefit (PDB) allows for the reduction of loans if a student has a permanent disability and is experiencing exceptional financial hardship repaying the Canada Student Loan(s) due to your disability, you may qualify for the Permanent Disability Benefit (PDB) which allows for the reduction of your loans.

(www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/learning/canada_student_loan/permanent_disability.shtml)

“**A Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)** is a savings plan that is intended to help parents and others save for the long-term financial security of a person who is eligible for the Disability Tax Credit.” (www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/tpcs/rdsp-reei/menu-eng.html)

“**What Can Persons with a Disability Claim as Tax Deductions or Credits?** If you are a person with a disability or you support someone with a disability, you may be able to claim on your tax return the deductions and tax credits listed.”

(<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/sgmnts/dsblts/ddctns/menu-eng.html>)

“**Federal Excise Gasoline Tax Refund Program** If you are medically certified as having a permanent mobility impairment, and you cannot safely use public transportation you can apply for a refund of part of the federal excise tax on the gasoline you buy.” (www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/sgmnts/dsblts/xcs-tx/menu-eng.html)

“**Customs information** The *Customs Tariff* provides for duty-free entry of goods (and the articles and materials used in those goods) that are specifically designed for use by persons with disabilities.”

(www.craarc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/sgmnts/dsblts/cstms/menu-eng.html)

“Incremental cost of Gluten-Free (GF) products an eligible medical expense Persons who suffer from celiac disease (gluten intolerance) are entitled to claim the incremental costs of purchasing gluten-free (GF) products as a medical expense.” (<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/tpcs/clc-eng.html>)

GST/HST information describes some of the goods and services used by persons with disabilities that are supplied exempt from or zero-rated for the goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST). (www.craarc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/sgmnts/dsblts/gsthst-tpstvh/menu-eng.html)

“Community Volunteer Income Tax Program If you need help to complete your tax return, your income is low, and your tax situation is simple, our volunteers are specially trained to help you.” (www.craarc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/sgmnts/dsblts/srvcs/menu-eng.html)

“Child Disability Benefit is a tax-free benefit for families who care for a child under age 18 with a severe and prolonged impairment in mental or physical functions.” (<http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/goc/cdb.shtml>)

“Benefit Finder: Not sure what benefits there are for you? Answer questions and get a list of benefits for which you may be eligible.” (www.canadabenefits.gc.ca/bfservicecanada.jsp?lang=en)

“Link Up Employment Services for Persons with Disabilities”: Link Up provides a myriad of services to persons with disabilities seeking employment. As a first step, we conduct an extensive assessment of your employment needs. We look carefully at your skills, educational background and job experience and then advise and guide you in your choice of an employment goal. (www.linkup.ca/job_seekers.html)

“Permanent Disability Benefit Beginning on August 1, 2009, the Permanent Disability Benefit is available to borrowers with a severe permanent disability. If you have a severe permanent disability, you may be eligible to have your loans immediately forgiven.” (www.canlearn.ca/eng/after/cant/hpd.shtml)

Persons with Disabilities Online A site where people with disabilities, their family members, caregivers and service providers can access a full range of information on disability-related programs and services in Canada. (www.pwd-online.gc.ca/pwdh.4m.2@.jsp?lang=eng)

University of Regina Disability Resource Office “The University of Regina wishes to effectively assist all students including students with disabilities. The University aims to provide services that will enable students with disabilities to approach their studies with minimum difficulty. This can be done if faculty members are informed in advance about requests for accommodations by students who will be taking their classes. Assistance can be arranged in such things as lectures,

reading assignments, examinations and technologies to assist students.”
(www.uregina.ca/studserv/disability/services.shtml)

“University of Saskatchewan Disability Services for Students (DSS) is an office on campus that assists students by offering programs and advocacy services—fostering an accessible and welcoming campus.”
(www.students.usask.ca/disability/)

Your Education – Your Future: A Guide to College and University for Students with Psychiatric Disabilities provides information about the types of accommodations available at post secondary institutions.
(<http://www.cmha.ca/youreducation/introduction.html>)

“The National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS) is a consumer organization, with a mandate to encourage the self-empowerment of post-secondary students with disabilities.” It provides numerous resources including
(www.neads.ca/en/)

NEADS Financial Aid Directory provides information about the various financial options available for students with disabilities who will be attending post secondary institutions. (www.neads.ca/en/norc/funding/)

Learning Disabilities Association of Canada
(www.ldactaac.ca/Scholarships/scholarships-e.asp)

Disabilities Saving Grant and Bond
([www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability issues/disability savings/cdsbg.shtml#grant](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability%20issues/disability%20savings/cdsbg.shtml#grant))

A Registered Disability Savings Plan A Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) helps parents and others save for the long-term financial security of a person with a severe disability. In general, any person under the age of 60 who is eligible for the Disability Tax Credit (Disability Amount) and resident in Canada can establish an RDSP. If the person is a minor, their parent or legal representative may establish the RDSP for their benefit.
([http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability issues/disability savings/rdsp.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability%20issues/disability%20savings/rdsp.shtml))

Can Learn: Financial Assistance for Students with Permanent Disabilities This site is a portal to the numerous grants, loans and information pertaining to funding for special equipment etc. (www.canlearn.ca/eng/postsec/audience/perdis.shtml)

North Saskatchewan Independent Living Centre “NSILC offers programs that support individuals with disabilities in learning and developing skills. NSILC provides an array of programs such as employment, literacy and support services. All are geared towards providing individuals with disabilities with the independence they need to fully integrate and participate in their communities.” (www.nsilc.com/)

Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program “This program offers business and accessibility counseling , access to business loans with terms tailored to meet your needs, one-on-one consulting to help you develop a business plan, peer support and networking opportunities.” (www.nsilc.com/index.php?id=edp)

South Saskatchewan Independent Living Centre “SSILC offers a variety of pre-employment and employment services. Individuals who are not yet ready to enter the labour market can access a comprehensive array of employability supports, including Life Skills classes, assistance in developing job search skills and building a resume, and mock interview sessions designed to increase their comfort with the application process. Consumers who require on-the-job accommodations can work with one of our Employment Facilitators to secure the necessary supports. Students looking for part-time or summer work to fund their post-secondary studies can apply for work placements under the Student Employment Experience (SEE) program.” (www.ssilc.sk.ca/EmploymentServices.aspx)

Multiple Sclerosis Bursary “The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada’s Saskatchewan branch awards two \$1,000 bursaries annually, to students enrolled in Saskatchewan postsecondary institutions. The award is open to all students, but primary consideration is given to students with Multiple Sclerosis. Applications are accepted from April to July each year, and should include transcripts, letters of recommendation and a completed application form.” (http://www.neads.ca/movingon/en/funding/funding_cent_05.php)

“The National Educational Association of Disabled Students NEADS offers numerous resources such as EdLink (Canadian directory of college and university disability service providers), Moving On (Transition Programs, Funding and Scholarship Programs, Federal Programs for Students, Financial Aid (Funding Programs, Scholarships and Awards), and NEADS Online Work System (NOW: where students and grads can search for opportunities with progressive employers seeking students and graduates with disabilities, post your resumés and cover letters, apply for opportunities directly online).” (www.neads.ca/)

Saskatchewan Abilities Council “Some of the services offered by the Council include adaptive technology needs assessment and training, fee-based accessible transportation, recreation opportunities, and a program designed to help farmers with disabilities continue to work.” (www.abilitiescouncil.sk.ca) 306-374-4448

“Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic®: Building Bridges Between Print Disabilities and Educational Success RFB&D®, a national nonprofit, volunteer organization, is the leading accessible audiobook library for students with disabilities such as visual impairment or dyslexia. With titles available in every subject area and grade level, RFB&D’s digitally recorded audio textbooks help students challenged by the printed page.” (<http://www.rfbd.org/>)

“ServiceLeader.org, a project of the RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs of the University of Texas at Austin, provides information on all aspects of volunteerism. Of particular note is the information about “Benefits of Volunteering for People with Disabilities.” (www.serviceleader.org/new/virtual/2003/04/000147.php)

The National Union’s Scholarship Program – Scholarship for Visible Minorities and The Terry Fox Memorial Scholarship
(http://www.nupge.ca/news_2008/n05no08a.htm)

SGI Corporate Scholarship Program “Eight (8) \$2,500 scholarships are awarded each year – four (4) to university students and four (4) to students attending a technical institute. Recipients may receive only one SGI scholarship during their studies. Two (2) scholarships will be awarded exclusively to diversity candidates. The other six (6) scholarships are open to non-diversity and diversity candidates.”
(http://www.sgi.sk.ca/sgi_pub/in_your_community/sgi_scholarships/sgi_corporate.html)

Saskatchewan Chapter 59 SaskTel Telecom Pioneers Bursary “Each year the SaskTel Pioneers award approximately six \$500 bursaries to post-secondary students with visible or non-visible special needs (examples are diabetes or Fetal Alcohol Syndrome). Preference is given to Saskatchewan residents attending Saskatchewan schools.”
(<http://www.sasktelpioneers.com/programs/bursaries.shtml>)

Saskatchewan Association for Community Living This association offers Employment Opportunities Consultants and Advocates. (www.sacl.org)