

**Ministry of Children,
Community and Social
Services**

Developmental and Supportive
Services Branch

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**Ministère des Services à
l'enfance et des Services
sociaux et communautaires**

Direction des services aux
personnes ayant une déficience
intellectuelle et des services de
soutien

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July 19, 2024

Ms. Alison Ouellette
Ms. Susanne Palmier
Co-Chairs
People for Personalized Funding (PFPF)
pfpfontario@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Ouellette and Ms. Palmier:

Thank you for your letter advising of the important work that People for Personalized Funding (PFPF) does for individuals with disabilities and their families. As the Director of the Developmental and Supportive Services Branch, I am pleased to respond to your request regarding statistics about the Passport program.

As per your request, please find attached the data you requested for the 2020/21 to 2024/25 fiscal years. I hope this information is helpful.

Our government is supporting people with developmental disabilities to participate fully in their communities by providing direct funding through the Passport program. Passport is a reimbursement program that helps adults with a developmental disability be involved in their communities and live as independently as possible; this is done by providing funding that can be used to purchase services and supports for community participation, activities of daily living and person-directed planning. The program also provides funding for primary caregivers of an adult with a developmental disability to access respite services and supports.

Direct funding provided through the Passport program allows people to purchase key services and supports. The Passport program continues to prioritize individual choice and flexibility, so people can access the support they need to participate fully in their communities and live as independently as possible.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Hendry', with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Jody Hendry
Director

Attachment (1) Passport statistics

c. Jacqueline Cureton, Assistant Deputy Minister, Community Services Division

Response to Questions on Passport Program

1. The amount of funding allocated to the Passport Program from the Developmental Services Budget for each of the fiscal years 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

The Passport program funding for:

Fiscal Year	Passport Expenditures (\$M)	Passport Budget (\$M)
2020/21	362.2	
2021/22	448.5	
2022/23	520.0	
2023/24	537.1	
2024/25	N/A	643.9

2. The total number of individuals who received Passport funding, in 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.

The Passport program supported the following number of recipients:

Fiscal Year	# of Passport recipients
2020/21	55,097
2021/22	58,544
2022/23	62,729
2023/24	67,370

3. Of the individuals served in 2023/2024, the percentage of individuals who received Passport allocations of \$5,500.

The Passport program is a direct funding program designed to support adults with a developmental disability to participate in their communities and assist with activities of daily living. It also helps caregivers have the opportunity for respite from their caregiving responsibilities.

After being confirmed eligible for adult developmental services, individuals can access a minimum amount of \$5,500 in Passport funding. It is possible for an individual to receive more than \$5,500 per year in annual Passport funding by completing an application package at the local Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) office, including a needs assessment.

In order to receive more than the minimum amount of funding, Passport recipients must complete an application package at their local Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) office. The application package contains the Application for Developmental Services and Supports (ADSS) and the Supports Intensity Scale - Adult (SIS-A). The SIS-A is a provincially consistent, standardized assessment tool which measures the level of support an individual may require to fully participate and be successful in a variety of areas such as community living, social activities, etc. The information that is provided by the individual during the application process is then matched against a Passport funding table which will identify the amount of Passport funding a person is eligible to receive, based on their needs.

During the 2023/24 fiscal year, approximately 45% of the Passport caseload of 67,370 individuals were in receipt of the minimum amount, and 55% who were in receipt of more than the minimum.

4. The total Passport expenditures in 2023/2024.

Response provided in Question #1

5. The total number of youth transitioning from Children to Adult Services, who were deemed eligible for Passport funding at age 18 in 2023-2024.

The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services works with the Ministry of Education to establish processes that support integrated transition planning for young people with developmental disabilities who are preparing for adulthood.

To help ease transitions, youth with developmental disabilities and their families are encouraged to reach out to their local Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) office before turning 18 to apply for the types of services and supports that are available for eligible adults with a developmental disability.

Once confirmed eligible for adult developmental services, youth who have turned 18 and are transitioning to adult services can access direct funding through the Passport program.

6. The number of new applications for Passport funding in 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.

The number of Passport approvals completed:

Fiscal Year	# of Passport approvals
2020/21	5,179
2021/22	5,870

2022/23	6,616
2023/24	7,027

This includes those newly eligible for adult developmental services as well as Passport recipients who have completed an application package and approved for additional Passport funding. Note that this not an individual count as eligible Passport recipients may be eligible to receive more than one approval throughout a fiscal year.

7. *The total number of Passport recipients on the Service Registry who are deemed eligible for more than \$5,500, as of March 31, 2024.*

The Passport program is a direct funding program designed to support adults with a developmental disability to participate in their communities and assist with activities of daily living. It also helps caregivers have the opportunity for respite from their caregiving responsibilities.

Whether an individual receives more than \$5,500 will depend on their assessed need, priority level and available government resources. To promote a fair and equitable service system, all applications for Passport are prioritized according to each individual's unique situation and available resources, giving the highest priority to individuals whose circumstances place them most at risk.

As of March 31, 2024, there were 30,567 individuals in receipt of Passport funding and waiting for additional resources to become available.

The Passport service registry was:

Fiscal Year	Passport Service Registry
2020/21	24,177
2021/22	28,814
2022/23	29,915
2023/24	30,567