

B.4: Discretionary allowance for clothing

Unit: Disability Services	Effective date: February 18, 2022
Branch: Social Supports	Last updated: February 18, 2022
Policy number: B.4	Review date: February 18, 2024

Purpose

This policy describes the discretionary allowance for disability-related clothing needs. Clients may require additional clothing due to excessive wear and tear directly related to the disability; to accommodate physical needs; or to facilitate increased independence in dressing.

Policy

1. Disability Services (DS) may provide funding to offset the costs associated with additional, specialized or adaptive clothing required by a client as a direct result of their disability, when the items are not otherwise covered by another program.
2. Parents of a minor-aged client are responsible for their child's typical clothing expenses.
3. Adult clients are responsible for purchasing their own typical clothing through their employment income or social assistance clothing allowance.
4. DS may provide funding for clothing when, as a direct result of the client's disability and outside of typical developmental norms, there is:
 - excessive wear and tear on clothing which is beyond what is age-typical and directly related to the disability, inclusive of:
 - excessive or consistent soiling of undergarments or pants for clients over three years of age;
 - tearing of clothing as the result of sensory or behavioural issues;
 - excessive or consistent drooling, beyond developmental norms;
 - wear and tear resulting from braces due to the disability;
 - or other cause directly attributed to the disability and beyond what is age-typical.
 - a need for adaptive clothing to facilitate independent dressing which is directly related to the disability and not age-typical;
 - a need for clothing alterations which is directly related to the disability; or
 - additional clothing requirements when the client's weight substantially fluctuates due to the introduction or discontinuation of a new medication (for a disability-related condition) that is known to result in substantial weight fluctuation.

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5. DS does not provide funding to purchase clothing that are required due to typical growth patterns (such as growth spurts), typical wear and tear and replacement needs, or other typical clothing needs.


Definitions

Caregiver(s): A person or persons who are the primary unpaid caretakers of the client and who reside in the same home as the client; they may or may not have legal guardianship over the client.

Client: The individual with a disability who receives services from Disability Services.

Authorities

- [Health Act](#) (Yukon)
- [Financial Administration Act](#) (Yukon)

APPROVED BY:		Director, Social Supports
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