



Passport Program

Creative Uses of Passport Funding

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May 2015

Agenda

- What is Passport
- Funding options
- Eligible expenses
- Creative uses of funds

What is Passport?

Passport is a program that helps adults with developmental disabilities to participate in their communities and helps caregivers take a break from their caregiving responsibilities.

Funded by MCSS the program works to:

- Foster social, emotional and community participation skills
- Promote continuing education and personal development
- Promote independence
- Provide respite to caregivers

Funding Options

Clients choose one of three funding options:

- **Direct Funding** – Clients manage their funds and submit invoices to FST for reimbursement
- **TPA** – Clients choose a Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) approved agency to manage their funds
- **Combination** – Clients choose a portion of funds to be transferred to a TPA and to manage a portion (direct funding)

What Does Passport Funding Cover?

- Day programs
- Courses / lessons
- Sports and recreation
- Transportation to and from activities
- Privately hired support workers / tutors
- Camps
- Caregiver respite
- Person-Directed Planning
- Brokerage of Passport funds

What Does Passport Funding Not Cover?

- Physiotherapy
- Counselling
- Psychiatric services
- Health assessments
- Transportation to and from medical appointments
- Assistive devices
- Technical equipment such as computers
- Courses covered by OSAP
- Telephone expenses

Creative Uses of Funds

- Direct funding allows the client/family to customize a package of support that best meets the needs, interests, and goals of the client
- Passport Coordinators can support the client/family to plan, budget, and research possible supports
- Passport invoices can be submitted at any time of the year, no more than once per month. Some expenses can be paid in advance, for example fees to reserve a place at camp.

Creative Uses of Funds

- Caregivers car pooling to hire a private driver for their adult children to attend the same program – giving them the autonomy on who they hire and saving some funds
- Painting nights, wine clubs, singles mingling events
- Annual memberships to the zoo, ROM, AGO, and science centre
- Hiring private coaches, personal support workers, tutors, and trainers to focus on specific and personal goals

Creative Uses of Funds

Donald's* Story

Donald had a very hard time attending family and community events due to his anxiety. He had anxiety before going and soon after arriving to a party, wedding, or any kind of group celebration he'd end up back in the car waiting for someone to take him home. He really wanted to attend such events, and one time found himself hiding behind the DJ booth all night. The DJ was chatting with him and got Donald interested in how the DJ booth ran. Donald asked if Passport funding could be used to develop his new interest in DJing.

**Donald's name has been changed; his story is shared with permission.*

Creative Uses of Funds

Donald's* Story continued...

Donald began working with a DJ tutor and purchased DJ equipment with his Passport funding. They regularly visit local music stores and watch DJ events. Donald's Mom noticed the biggest change in Donald when he called the DJ tutor and asked if they could go out somewhere together. Donald's Mom said "he is expanding his horizons [and] looks forward all week to the next big event that is happening".

**Donald's name has been changed; his story is shared with permission.*

Thank you!

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