



Children & Youth with Special Needs Fund  
Family Independence Fund

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## How to Apply

Grants through the Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund and the Family Independence Fund are dependent on available funds. Please check our website ([www.givinginaction.ca](http://www.givinginaction.ca)) for the latest information.

### 1. Submit a Letter of Inquiry

– an informal, two-page proposal that will be reviewed to determine whether the request meets Fund guidelines. A letter of support from an appropriate professional is also required.

### 2. Submit a Full Application

– a complete application with supporting documentation. Applications are reviewed monthly by the Advisory Committee.

The Letter of Inquiry form and complete application details can be found online at: [www.givinginaction.ca](http://www.givinginaction.ca)



Giving in Action Society is a charitable organization established by Vancouver Foundation in 2006.

The Society provides grants directly to BC individuals and families through its Family Independence Fund and the Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund.

Full details can be found at  
[www.givinginaction.ca](http://www.givinginaction.ca)



Giving in Action  
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Established in 2006 by Vancouver Foundation, Giving in Action is a registered charitable organization that provides grants to families through two funds — the Family Independence Fund (FIF) and the Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) Fund.

With support from BC's Ministry of Children and Family Development, and Community Living BC, Giving in Action provides grants to eligible families for projects such as home renovations — including lifts, elevators, ramps, flooring, door widening — and to purchase wheelchair-accessible vehicles.

## Family Independence Fund

The Family Independence Fund helps families throughout B.C. who have children or adults with developmental disabilities living at home.

Grants from the Family Independence Fund help with the ongoing care of the relative by providing support for projects such as home renovations — including lifts, elevators, ramps, flooring and door widening — or vehicle modifications. These enable the individual with the developmental disability to live in the family home and access their community.

The Family Independence Fund defines a developmental disability as:

- low IQ
- manifests before the age of 18
- concurrent with impaired adaptive functioning.

Preference is given to families who indicate their request for support is part of a long-term plan for their relative.

Note that families who receive support from other government-funded programs are still eligible for Family Independence Fund grants. However, these additional funds must complement — rather than duplicate — the government support.

The Family Independence Fund was established with financial assistance from Community Living British Columbia (CLBC).



## Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund

The Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund provides grants to families who have children or youth (under 19) with special needs living at home.

The Fund offers one-time grants to help enhance or improve the individual's health, development or ability to participate in daily activities at home, in school and in the community. Eligible expenses include such things as home renovations and vehicle modifications.

This Fund defines children and youth with special needs as those who have significant impairments in one or more of the following areas: health, cognition, communication, sensory motor, social/emotional/behavioural or self help.

The Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund helps address family needs that are not currently met through government-funded programs. Families receiving support from other government-funded programs are still eligible for CYSN grants. However, these funds must complement — not duplicate — that support.

The Fund was established with financial assistance from the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development.

For complete details on both the Family Independence Fund and the Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund, please visit our website at

[www.givinginaction.ca](http://www.givinginaction.ca)  
or call toll free 1-866-523-3157