

How do I apply for Social Assistance?

Ontario Works (Welfare or OW)

1. Call 905-546-4800 ext. 1 You will be asked to provide the following for yourself and every member of your family that is living with you:
 - A. Social Insurance number
 - B. Health Card information
 - C. All bank account information
 - D. All other sources of income including RRSP, pension, GICs, family help
 - E. How have you been supporting yourself prior to this application?
 - F. Recent work history
 - G. Current housing costs: rent or mortgage payments and utility costs
2. If you appear to meet the financial criteria, you will be booked a meeting time at one of the 3 OW offices in the city. If approved at this meeting the waiting time for a check can be as little as 2 or 3 days.

Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

If you are receiving OW, you will be asked to apply for ODSP through that program and your worker can assist you. If not there is a 3 step process.

- 1 Call 905-521-7280 ext. 1 or visit 119 Kings St. West, 3rd floor. You will be asked to provide the following:
 - A. Social Insurance number
 - B. Health Card number
- 2 If it appears that you meet the financial criteria, you will be invited to a meeting with an intake worker where you will be asked to verify your income.
- 3 If you qualify to apply, you will be given a Disability Package including forms for you and your doctor to fill out. Once completed, it takes approximately 6 -8 months for ODSP to process an application.