

CONTACT US

Information & Referral Office

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United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
Interior, Lower Mainland, Central
& Northern Vancouver Island

A note for applying

If you think you may be entitled to one or more of these benefits, we encourage you to apply. It costs nothing to apply. If you apply and are not eligible, the worst that can happen is that you don't get the benefit.

You do not have to apply on your own. We can help you. We like to help seniors apply for their benefits and we know that sometimes the forms cause confusion, and we know many seniors don't like to or don't feel comfortable filling out forms.

Come see us. We can help.

MONTHLY RENT SUPPLEMENT - SAFER

Have you lived in BC for the full 12 months immediately preceding your application? Are you and your spouse (if applicable) a Canadian citizen, have permanent residence status or a Convention refugee? Do you pay more than 30% of your gross (before tax) monthly household income towards the rent for your home or for the cost of pad rental for a manufactured home (trailer) that you own and occupy? Does your gross monthly household income not exceed \$2,550 or \$2,750? Maximum allowable income varies based on household size and location in the province. You may be eligible for a monthly rent supplement through SAFER which provides additional money to help you pay your rent. SAFER does not apply to those who live in subsidized housing or housing co-ops.

We can help you apply for a SAFER rent supplement!



INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES FOR CANADIAN SENIORS

**PROVINCIAL
NAVIGATION AND PEER
SUPPORT PROJECT**



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ARE YOU RECEIVING THE BENEFITS YOU'RE ENTITLED TO?

WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU AND ADVISE YOU ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS

PLEASE READ THIS

OLD AGE SECURITY MONTHLY PAYMENTS

Are you over 65? Have you lived in Canada for at least ten years since turning 18? Are you a Canadian citizen or legal resident, or will you be by the time your Old Age Security (OAS) application is approved? You may be eligible for OAS monthly payments. Did you live in another country? If you lived in specific countries, you may be entitled to benefits. If you are eligible for OAS and you are not receiving it - **we can help you apply!**

GUARANTEED ANNUAL INCOME SUPPLEMENT (GIS)

Are you receiving Old Age Security (OAS) payments? Is your OAS payment \$635.26* or less per month? Is your total income less than \$19,248* (single) or \$25,440* (couple both receiving maximum OAS) per year? Please note this income amount does not include your

OAS payments. You may be eligible for the GIS to increase the amount of money you receive monthly. If you are eligible for GIS and you are not receiving it - **we can help you apply!** *These amounts are for October to December 2021 and they may change following December 2021. Please talk to someone to see what the new amounts after December.

ALLOWANCE

Are you 60-64? Is your spouse or common law partner over 65 and receiving the Guaranteed Annual Income (GIS) payments? Is yours and your spouse's combined income \$35,136 (July-September 2021) or less? Have you lived in Canada for at least ten years since turning 18? Are you a Canadian citizen or legal resident, or will you be when your application is processed? You may be entitled to the Allowance. This will increase your monthly income until you become 65. If you are eligible for Allowance and you are not receiving it - **we can help you apply!**

SURVIVOR'S ALLOWANCE

Are you 60-64? Is your spouse or common law partner deceased? Is your income less than \$25,560 (July-September 2021) per year? Have you lived in Canada for at least ten years since turning 18? Are you a Canadian citizen or legal resident or will you be

when your application is processed? You may be eligible for the Survivor's Allowance. This provides a monthly payment to help you out financially. If you are eligible for Survivor's Allowance and you are not receiving it - **we can help you apply!**

CANADIAN PENSION PLAN (CPP)

Did you or a former spouse work in Canada and pay into the Canada Pension Plan (CPP)? You may be entitled to CPP monthly payments. These payments can begin as early as the age of 60 and as late as the age of 70. If you are eligible for CPP payments and you are not receiving them - **we can help you apply!**

CPP SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS

Did your spouse or common law partner work and pay into the Canada Pension Plan (CPP)? Is your spouse or partner now deceased? You may be eligible for monthly CPP Survivor's benefits. It doesn't matter if you are working or retired or if you are already receiving CPP payments. If you are eligible for CPP Survivor's benefits and you are not receiving them - **we can help you apply!**

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Are you 60-64 in age and someone in your family unit is a person with

disabilities receiving assistance from the Province of BC? Are you 60-64 and receiving BC income assistance or living on a First Nations reserve and getting assistance? Do you receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Federal Spousal Allowance or Survivor Allowance? Or are you a low income senior who has not lived in Canada for at least ten years since turning 18? **We can help you apply** for the \$45.00 per year transit pass! This pass is good in areas served by BC Transit and Translink. It does not apply for services such as HandyDART.

FAIR PHARMACARE PLAN

Do you want or need assistance in paying for your prescription medication and other eligible medical supplies? You may be eligible for Fair Pharmacare. This plan provides individuals and families with assistance to pay for their eligible prescription drugs and medical supplies, based on their income. Depending on income, Fair Pharmacare may provide payment assistance from the beginning of the year, or you may have to spend a certain amount of money on prescriptions to be entitled to this coverage. Registration is free. There are no premiums to pay. If you are eligible for Fair Pharmacare - **we can help you apply!**