

InfoCapsules

Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)

Ce document est disponible en français





InfoCapsules are a one page quick reference, cheat sheet type documents that illustrate the basic concepts of RDSPs and disability savings incentives administered by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).

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Disclaimer

The following legislation takes precedence over information contained in the InfoCapsules in the event of discrepancies:

- *Income Tax Act*
- *Canada Disability Savings Regulations*
- *Canada Disability Savings Act*



1. Overview of a Registered Disability Savings Plan

Registered Disability Savings Plans (RDSP) were introduced in 2008 and are long term savings plans intended to help Canadians with severe and prolonged disabilities save for the future. To help savings grow, the Government of Canada will deposit the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and the Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) into the RDSP of eligible beneficiaries.



Note: There can only be one RDSP per beneficiary.

Note: All funds in the plan are intended to be used solely for the beneficiary.



| | Opening an RDSP | Contributions | CDSG | CDSB |
|--|-----------------|---------------|---|--|
| Residency criteria | Beneficiary | Beneficiary | Beneficiary | Beneficiary |
| Valid Social Insurance Number (SIN) required | | | | |
| The beneficiary must be approved for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) | | | | |
| Last day of eligibility | | | | |
| Based on the family income | | | | |
| Based on contributions | | | | |
| Amounts paid | | | <p>If the family income is less than or equal to the amount of the second threshold as defined in the <i>Canada Disability Savings Act (CDSA)</i>, or a Children's Special Allowance payment has been made in respect of the beneficiary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300% matching rate is paid on the first \$500 or less of annual contributions made to the RDSP, and 200% matching rate is paid on the next \$1,000 <p>If the family income is greater than the amount of the second threshold as defined in the <i>CDSA</i> :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% matching rate is paid on the first \$1,000 or less of annual contributions made to the RDSP | <p>If the family income is less than or equal to the phase out income as defined in the <i>CDSA</i>, or a Children's Special Allowance payment has been made in respect of the beneficiary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1,000 in CDSB will be paid to the RDSP <p>If the family income is greater than the phase out income as defined in the <i>CDSA</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the amount of CDSB paid to the RDSP will be the result of the formula found at 7(4) of the <i>CDSA</i> <p>If the family income is greater or equal to the amount of the first threshold as defined in the <i>CDSA</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the CDSB will not be paid |
| Maximum lifetime limit | | \$200,000 | \$70,000 | \$20,000 |

Family income thresholds are indexed annually by the CRA. Refer to the [Indexation adjustment for personal income tax and benefit amounts](#) Web page of the most recent tax year.



2. Administrative responsibilities - Who does what

A joint effort between each following organization is necessary to administer Registered Disability Savings Plans (RDSP). The lists below are in alphabetical order, and reflect each organization's responsibilities, based on governing legislation.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)</p> <p>Administers RDSP rules under section 146.4 and Part XI.01 of the <i>Income Tax Act</i> (ITA).</p> | <p>Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)</p> <p>Administers the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and the Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) rules under the <i>Canada Disability Savings Act</i> (CDSA) and the <i>Canada Disability Savings Regulations</i> (Regulations).</p> | <p>Financial organizations</p> <p>Offer and administer RDSPs. They are the first point of contact for Canadians regarding their plan.</p> |
| <p>Registered Plans Directorate (RPD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Compliance reviews ✓ Contribution, rollover and transfer rules ✓ Payment rules for the disability assistance payment (DAP) and the lifetime disability assistance payment (LDAP) ✓ Plan registration and closure rules ✓ Program policy development and amendment proposals ✓ Qualified investments for an RDSP ✓ RDSP eligibility criteria for holders and beneficiaries ✓ Specified Disability Savings Plan (SDSP) election ✓ Specimen plan conditions <p> 1-800-267-3100</p> | <p>Canada Education Savings Program (CESP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Annual statement of grant entitlement ✓ Assistance holdback amount (AHA) and repayment rules ✓ Beneficiary eligibility for the CDSG and the CDSB ✓ Carry forward rules and calculation for CDSG and CDSB entitlements ✓ Compliance reviews, system testing and monitoring ✓ Issuer and agent enrolment ✓ Payment of the CDSG and CDSB ✓ Processing of transactions ✓ Provide historical data to receiving issuer after a successful transfer ✓ Training and reference material <p> 1-866-204-0357</p> | <p>Issuer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Administer contributions, rollovers and transfers ✓ Certify accuracy of information ✓ Complete the application form for the CDSG and the CDSB ✓ Ensure system compliance with the Interface transaction standards (ITS) ✓ Make payments from RDSP to eligible beneficiaries ✓ Provide RDSP statement of accounts ✓ Receive and deposit the CDSG and the CDSB into the RDSP ✓ Sign the issuer agreement with ESDC ✓ Submit electronic transactions to ESDC ✓ Submit the specimen plan to the CRA for approval ✓ Ultimately responsible for the administration of the RDSP ✓ Verify the plan registration status |
| <p>Benefit Program Directorate (BPD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Disability Tax Credit (DTC) eligibility ✓ Family income ✓ Residency | <p>Office for Disability Issues (ODI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Interpretation of the CDSA and the Regulations (amendment proposals) ✓ Issuer agreement ✓ Outreach strategies (promotional and communication activities) ✓ Program policy and forms <p>Social Insurance Registration Office (SIR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Validation of the beneficiary and holder Social Insurance Number (SIN) information | <p>Agent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Administer the RDSP on behalf of the issuer ✓ Sign an agreement with the issuer <p>Service provider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sign an agreement with the issuer to provide support services |



3. Life cycle of a Registered Disability Savings Plan

The life cycle of an RDSP can be broken down into 3 phases.

Phase 1. Setting it up

- The holder selects an RDSP issuer and opens a plan in respect of a beneficiary
- The issuer gathers information on the beneficiary, the holder and the primary caregiver, and assesses eligibility criteria
- The holder signs a contract with the issuer and chooses how to invest their funds
- The holder, with the issuer, completes the application form to request the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and the Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB)
- The issuer submits the contract information to Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) who then forwards it to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- The CRA confirms plan registration once the RDSP eligibility criteria have been met

Phase 2. Making it grow

- The holder may contribute to the RDSP of an eligible beneficiary
- The holder may rollover an eligible amount into the RDSP
- The issuer submits RDSP transactions to the Canada Disability Savings Program (CDSB) system
- The RDSP may receive the CDSG and the CDSB
- The RDSP may receive a provincial payment from a designated provincial program or a similar program
- Contributions, rollovers, the CDSG, the CDSB and provincial payments may generate earnings
- ESDC sends an annual statement of grant entitlement to holders
- The holder may request a transfer to another RDSP issuer

Phase 3. Taking out the funds and Closing an RDSP

Taking out the funds

- The holder may request a disability assistance payment (DAP) or a lifetime disability assistance payment (LDAP)
- The issuer submits the repayment of any assistance holdback amount (AHA) or any proportional amount to ESDC
- The issuer reports the taxable portion of a DAP and LDAP on a T4A slip

Closing an RDSP

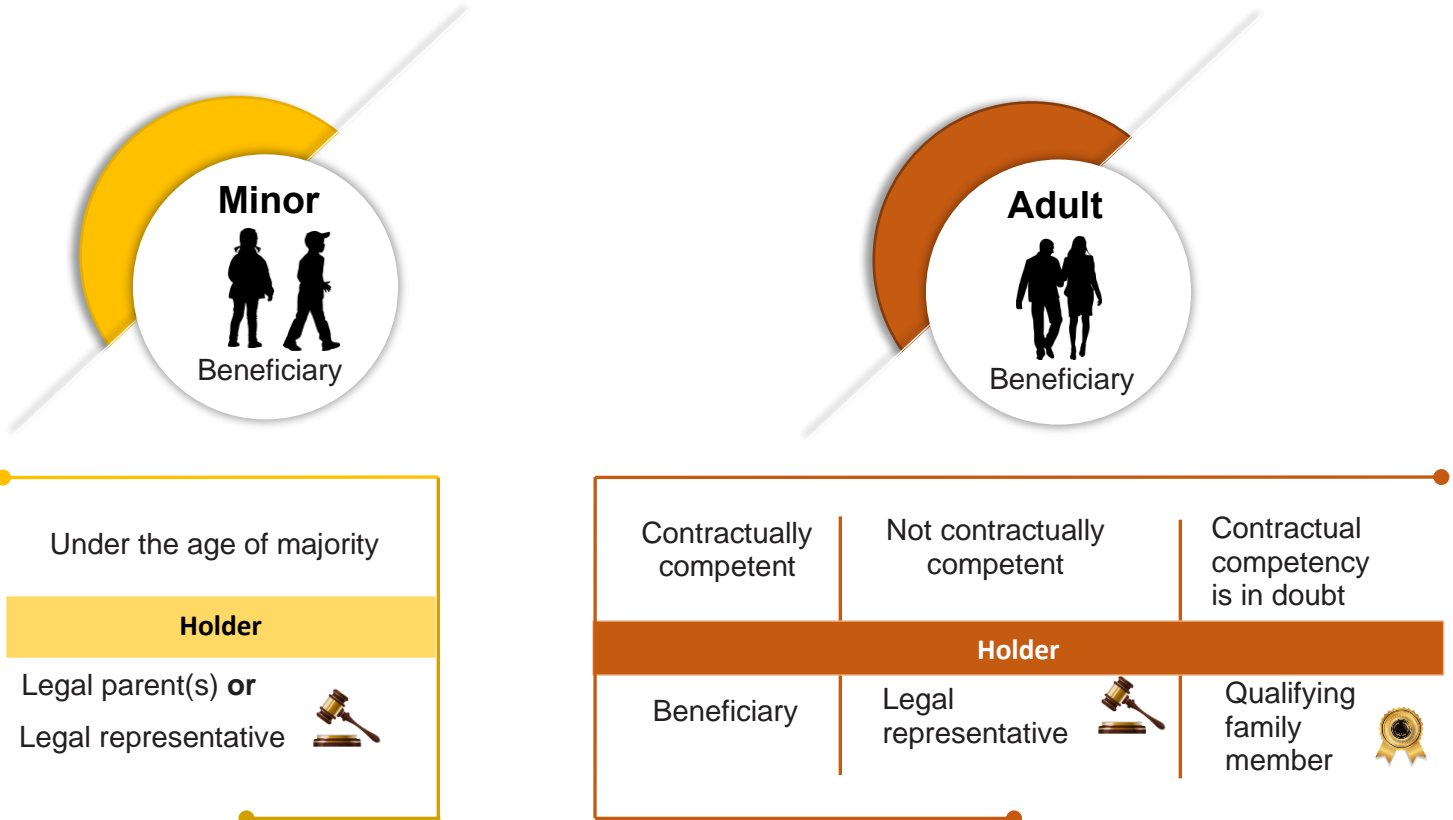
- Any AHA is repaid to the Government of Canada
- The remaining funds in the plan (contributions, earnings and any CDSG and CDSB that have been in the plan for more than 10 years) are paid out to the beneficiary or the beneficiary's estate
- The issuer submits a plan closure transaction to ESDC



4. Holder

The holder is the entity that opens the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP), names a beneficiary and makes decisions concerning the plan. There must be at least 1 holder at all times.

The holder of a plan for a beneficiary



Legal representative

(including a guardian, a curator, an agency, an institution or a public department) is an individual or institution legally authorized to act on behalf of the beneficiary through the provincial or territorial laws in which the beneficiary resides.

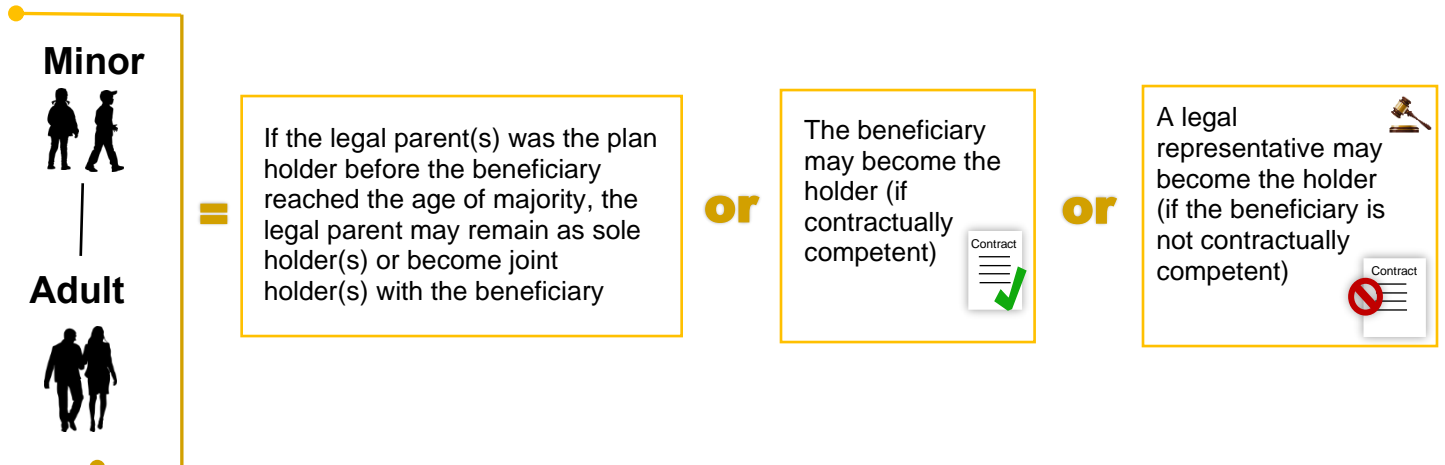
Qualifying family member (QFM)

Is a legal parent, spouse, common-law partner or siblings of an adult beneficiary may become the holder of an RDSP that is opened **for the first time** for an adult beneficiary whose capacity to enter into a contract is in doubt, **and for whom no legal representative was appointed.**

This temporary measure is effective until December 31, 2026.

! Once a QFM is named as a holder, they can remain as the holder even if this measure expires or if the plan is transferred to another issuer.

Who can be the holder, once the beneficiary reaches the age of majority, for a plan that was initially opened when the beneficiary was a minor?



5. Primary caregiver

The primary caregiver (PCG) is the person primarily responsible for the care and upbringing of a child. A PCG can be an individual or a public entity. Information on the PCG is required to request the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and the Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) for a beneficiary that is or was 18 years of age or under within the last 10 years.



Individual PCG

The individual PCG is the person eligible to receive the Canada child benefit (CCB) payment for the child as defined under the Income Tax Act (ITA).



Shared custody

When parents share custody of a child, the Canada Disability Savings Program (CDSP) system will use the available income level that is most advantageous for the beneficiary to determine the CDSG and CDSB entitlements.

To request the CDSG and CDSB, the individual PCG must provide the:

- first name and last name
- Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- consent to the sharing of their personal information

Public PCG



The public PCG is a department, agency or institution that has care of the child and receives a payment under the *Children's Special Allowances Act* (CSAA) for that child.

To request the CDSG and CDSB, the public PCG must provide:

- agency name
- name of agency representative
- business number

The public PCG must also attest that they received a payment under the CSAA in respect of the beneficiary in at least one month of the calendar year. The agency is required to identify the calendar year(s) for which they received a payment.

PCG validation

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) validates the PCG information with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to verify the beneficiary's:

- eligibility for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC)
- residency status
- family income level

The PCG information is required for each CDSG and CDSB request submitted until the end of the calendar year in which the beneficiary turns 18 years of age.



6. Application form for the Canada Disability Savings Grant and the Canada Disability Savings Bond

To request the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and the Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB), the holder must complete and sign the application form and its annexes if applicable.

Application for CDSG and/or CDSB (ESDC EMP 5608E)

Section 1 - Information about the Beneficiary

Complete the following information about the beneficiary of the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP).

! The beneficiary name must be entered exactly as they appear on the Social Insurance Number (SIN) documentation.

Section 2 - Information about the Holder

Complete the information only if the holder is different from the beneficiary of the RDSP.

! The holder name must be entered exactly as they appear on the SIN documentation.

Section 3 - Declaration and Consent of the Holder

Complete this section only if the holder completed section 2 and is not the beneficiary.



Section 4 - Declaration and Consent of the Beneficiary

This section is signed by the beneficiary if they have completed section 1, have reached the age of majority, and if they have legal capacity to sign for themselves.

Annexes - If applicable, complete and sign the required annexes and attach them to the application form.

Annex A - Joint Holder (ESDC EMP 5609E)

- A separate Annex A must be completed for each additional holder of the RDSP not identified on the application form
- For an existing plan, when the beneficiary reaches the age of majority, Annex A may also be used to add the beneficiary as a plan holder

Annex B - Primary caregiver (ESDC EMP 5610E)

- A primary caregiver (PCG) is the person eligible to receive the Canada child benefit (CCB) payment for the child as defined under the *Income Tax Act*. A PCG can be an individual or a public entity
- Complete this annex if the beneficiary was under the age of 18 at any time in the previous 10 years and was eligible to receive the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) for any of those years; the beneficiary may be entitled to receive the CDSG and the CDSB from those previous years (carry forward)
- The personal information of the PCG is used to determine the family income level, as well as to validate the beneficiary's residency status and DTC eligibility
- If there is more than one PCG, each will need to complete a separate Annex B

7. Plan registration

When opening a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP), issuers should first ensure that the holder and the beneficiary of the plan meet the eligibility requirements before submitting the contract registration request.

To open an RDSP, a beneficiary must:

1 Eligibility

be a resident in Canada



be eligible for the disability tax credit



have a valid Social Insurance Number



be 59 years old or less on December 31 of the calendar year in which the RDSP is opened (unless the plan is opened as a result of a transfer).



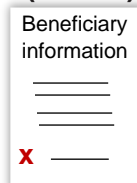
2 Submission

For a plan to be registered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) the following 3 transactions must be sent together as a registration package and each must be successfully processed by the Canada Disability Savings Program (CDSP) system:

(101-01)



(101-02)



(101-03)



3 Validation

Social Insurance Number

The CDSP system validates the SIN information of the beneficiary and the holder with the Social Insurance Registry (SIR).

If the SIN information fails validation, the contract status will be set to "pending".

Disability Tax Credit/Residency

Once the SIN information passed SIR validation, the CDSP system will validate the beneficiary's DTC eligibility and residency status with the CRA.

If the residency or DTC eligibility fails validation, the contract status will be set to "pending".



When the contract status is "pending", this means that the contract is not registered; therefore, no Canada Disability Saving Grant (CDSG) and Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) will be paid.

4 Corrections (if applicable)

Social insurance number

Issuers may need to take action in order to bring the contract status from "pending" to "registration confirmed" by consulting their Error file Record type (RT) (RT 801) to identify which transaction(s) is in error, apply corrective measures and resubmit all 3 transactions of the contract registration package, at the same time, including the ones that were successfully processed.

Disability Tax Credit /Residency

No action can be taken on the issuer's part other than relaying the information to the holder and referring them to the CRA.



The monthly Contract status file (RT 951) sent by the CDSP system should be consulted to confirm the status of each contract, as well as any updates to the contract status.

8. Canada Disability Savings Bond

The Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) is money paid by the Government of Canada into the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) of eligible beneficiaries with a low or modest income.



- No contributions are required



- Based on income

Eligibility criteria

For the CDSB to be paid, the beneficiary must:

be a resident of Canada



be approved for the Disability Tax Credit



have a valid Social Insurance Number



CDSB is paid until



Which income is used to determine CDSB entitlements

- Until the end of the calendar year the beneficiary turns 18 years of age:

18



- the individual primary caregiver's (PCG) family income

- Beginning the calendar year the beneficiary turns 19 years of age:

19



- the beneficiary's family income

Beneficiaries should file their income taxes as of age 17



For a beneficiary in care, the public PCG must receive a payment under the *Children's Special Allowances Act* (for at least 1 month of the calendar year)

CDSB payments

| Family income threshold | Annual limit | Annual limit with carry forward | Lifetime limit |
|---|---|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Less than or equal to the amount of the phase out income as published annually in the RDSP income rates - InfoBulletin | \$1,000 | | |
| Greater than the phase out income but less than or equal to the amount of the first threshold as published annually in the RDSP income rates - InfoBulletin | Less than \$1,000 based on a formula as identified in the Canada Disability Savings Act (CDSA): $\$1,000 - [\$1,000 \times (A-B)/(C-B)]$ Where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A = family income B = the amount of the adjusted family net income at which phase out begins of the Canada child benefit (CCB) C = the amount of the first Tax bracket | \$11,000 | \$20,000 |

If the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) does not have information on the income, the CDSB will **not** be paid

Family income thresholds are indexed annually by the CRA. Refer to the [Indexation adjustment for personal income tax and benefit amounts](#) web page of the most recent tax year.

9. Contributions and rollovers

Contributions



Amounts deposited into a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) by the plan holder(s), or by anyone with the written authorization of the holder(s):

- can attract the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG)
- lifetime limit of \$200,000
- the contribution portion of a withdrawal is **not taxable**
- belong to the beneficiary or the beneficiary's estate once deposited into the RDSP
- not tax deductible
- beneficiary must be a resident in Canada
- beneficiary must be eligible for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC)
- are allowed until December 31 of the calendar year in which the beneficiary turns 59 years of age
- **are not allowed** if the beneficiary is deceased

Rollovers

Moving funds from a qualified retirement or education savings product into an RDSP:

- **do not attract grant**
- count towards the \$200,000 lifetime contribution limit
- the rollover portion of a withdrawal is taxable
- count as a contribution when determining if an RDSP is a primarily government assisted plan (PGAP) or not
- issuers must use a rollover form that includes the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) prescribed information
- beneficiary must be a resident in Canada
- are allowed until December 31 of the calendar year in which the beneficiary turns 59 years of age
- **are not allowed** if the beneficiary is deceased

Conditions specific to an education savings rollover

The relinquishing Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) must allow accumulated income payments and one of the following 3 conditions must be met:

1. the beneficiary has a severe and prolonged mental impairment that can reasonably be expected to prevent them from pursuing post-secondary education
2. the RESP account has been in existence for at least 10 years and each RESP beneficiary is at least 21 years old and not eligible to receive an educational assistance payment
3. the RESP has been in existence for more than 35 years (or 40 years in the case of a specified plan)

An education savings rollover is **not** permitted during a period in which the beneficiary is **DTC-ineligible** or in a **Specified Disability Savings Plan (SDSP)**.

The following proceeds can be rolled over into an RDSP:

- the accumulated income (earnings) from a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP)

Must use the information prescribed on the CRA rollover form number RC435.

Conditions specific to a retirement savings rollover

The following condition must be met:

1. the beneficiary must be considered as financially dependent of their parent or grandparent immediately before that person's death

A retirement savings rollover is **permitted**:

- at any time during which the beneficiary is **DTC-eligible**
- up to the end of the fourth calendar year after the year in which the beneficiary becomes **DTC-ineligible**
- allowed in an **SDSP**

Eligible proceeds can be rolled over into an RDSP from:

Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP)
Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIF)
Registered Pension Plan (RPP)
Pooled Registered Pension Plan (PRPP)
Specified Pension Plan (SPP)

Must use the information prescribed on the CRA rollover form number RC4625.



10. Canada Disability Savings Grant

The Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) is a matching grant paid into a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) by the Government of Canada. Depending on the beneficiary's family income, the CDSG is paid based on the amount contributed to the plan.

Eligibility criteria

For the CDSG to be paid, the beneficiary must:

be a resident of Canada



be approved for the Disability Tax Credit



have a valid Social Insurance Number



Contributions must be made by



Which income is used to determine CDSG entitlements

- Until the end of the calendar year the beneficiary turns 18 years of age:
 - the individual primary caregiver's (PCG) family income
- Beginning the calendar year the beneficiary turns 19 years of age:
 - the beneficiary's family income

Beneficiaries should file their income taxes as of age 17.

For a beneficiary in care, the public PCG must receive a payment under the *Children's Special Allowances Act* (for at least one month of the calendar year).

CDSG matching rates

| Family income threshold | Matching rates | Annual limit | Annual limit with carry forward | Lifetime limit |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Less than or equal to the amount in the second threshold as defined in the <i>Canada Disability Savings Act</i> and published annually in the RDSP income rates - InfoBulletin , or a Children's Special Allowance payment was made in respect of the beneficiary | 300% on the first \$500 or less and 200% on the next \$1,000 or less | \$1,500 and \$2,000 | \$10,500 | \$70,000 |
| Greater than the second threshold as defined in the <i>Canada Disability Savings Act</i> and published annually in the RDSP income rates - InfoBulletin or a Children's Special Allowance payment was made in respect of the beneficiary, or no information is available | 100% on the first \$1,000 or less | \$1,000 | | |

Family income thresholds are indexed annually by the CRA. Refer to the [Indexation adjustment for personal income tax and benefit amounts](#) web page of the most recent tax year.

11. Carry forward

Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) holders can access unused Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) entitlements from the previous 10 years.

To access unused entitlements, the beneficiary must:



be a resident in Canada at the time an eligible contribution is made and for each year of entitlement

be eligible for the disability tax credit



have a valid Social Insurance Number



The CDSB and CDSG is paid until



CDSG limits

Annual limit of \$10,500 with carry forward:

- the matching rate for unused CDSG entitlements is the same as the one that would have applied if the contribution had been made in the year in which the CDSG entitlement is being carried forward
- amounts are paid based on the entitlements available, using the highest matching rate first, from the oldest year to the newest, followed by those at the lower rates



Annual statement of grant entitlement

Sent annually by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) to all RDSP holders to inform them of the amount of CDSG entitlements available for the beneficiary, as well as the amount of contributions required to maximize the amount of CDSG that can be paid for that calendar year.

CDSB limits

Annual limit of \$11,000 with carry forward:

- the CDSB entitlements are the same as the one that would have applied if the request had been made in the year that is being carried forward
- amounts are paid based on the entitlements available, from the oldest year to the newest. The first payment is upon request and subsequent payments are automated in February of each eligible year

Example of a CDSG carry forward

In 2010, Peter opens an RDSP and is eligible for a CDSG matching rate of **300%** and **200%**; and continues to be eligible at the same rates onward. In 2008 and 2009, he was eligible for a matching rate of **100%**.

| Year | Contribution | 300% CDSG matching rate | 200% CDSG matching rate | 100% CDSG matching rate | Paid |
|------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 2008 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | ★ \$1,000 | \$0 |
| 2009 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 |
| 2010 | \$0 | ● \$1,500 | ● \$2,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 2011 | \$0 | ● \$1,500 | ● \$2,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 2012 | \$0 | ● \$1,500 | ★ \$2,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 2013 | ● \$4,000 | ● \$1,500 | ★ \$2,000 | \$0 | ● \$10,000 |
| 2014 | ★ \$4,500 | ★ \$1,500 | ★ \$2,000 | \$0 | ★ \$8,500 |

Footnotes

● In 2013, Peter made a contribution of \$4,000. The first \$2,000 of the contribution received the unused entitlements at **300%**, from 2010 to 2013; the next \$2,000 received the oldest unused entitlements at a rate of **200%** (2010 and 2011). Peter's \$4,000 contribution received a total of \$10,000 in CDSG.

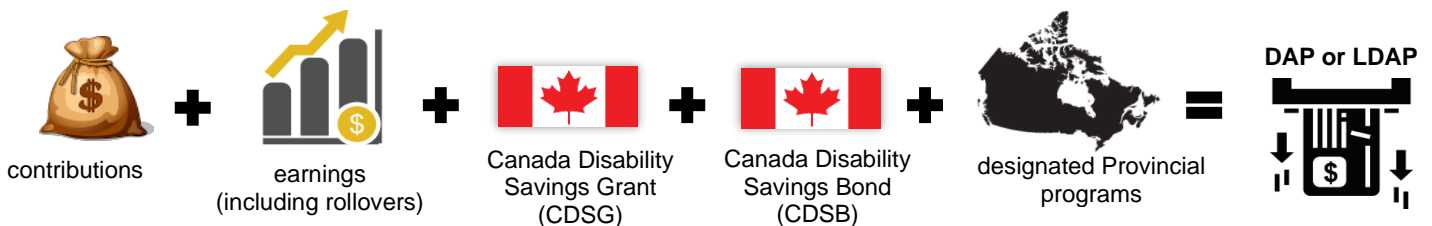
★ In 2014, Peter made a contribution of \$4,500. The first \$500 of the contribution received the unused entitlements at **300%** for 2014; the next \$3,000 received the oldest unused entitlements at a rate of **200%**, from 2012 to 2014; finally, the last \$1,000 received the oldest unused entitlement at **100%** (2008).

12. Withdrawals (Disability Assistance Payment and Lifetime Disability Assistance Payment)

A disability assistance payment (DAP) is a withdrawal made from a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) at the request of the holder(s). It is a payment made from an RDSP to the beneficiary or their estate.

A lifetime disability assistance payment (LDAP) is a recurring withdrawal made from an RDSP, payable to the beneficiary. It is a payment that once started, cannot stop, and must be paid at least once a year until either the beneficiary is deceased or the plan is terminated.

A withdrawal includes a **proportion of each of the following amounts available** for payment:



Proportions of the CDSG and CDSB can only be included as part of a withdrawal if these amounts have been in the plan for more than 10 years.

Rules

Rules related to withdrawals:

- can be requested at any time
- must respect payment rules and limits
- a DAP and an LDAP can be paid at the same time
- repayment rules may apply
- the beneficiary does not have to be a resident in Canada to receive a payment
- a withdrawal cannot be made if the fair market value (FMV) of the plan, after the withdrawal, is less than the assistance holdback amount (AHA)



Repayment rule

If it has not been 10 years since the last CDSG and CDSB was deposited into the RDSP, a withdrawal will result in the repayment. Issuers must calculate and repay the lesser of the two following amounts:

1. the proportional amount (3 to 1)



2. the AHA before the payment

Primarily Government Assisted Plan (PGAP)

In a year when the RDSP is a PGAP, which is a plan that contains more CDSG and CDSB than contributions, generally a beneficiary aged 27 to 58 can request a withdrawal without the consent of the holder(s).

LDAP specific rule

Payments may begin at any time, but no later than December 31 of the calendar year in which the beneficiary reaches 60 years of age.



Taxable and non-taxable portions

All portions of a withdrawal, **except** for contributions, are taxable.

13. Shortened life expectancy

A beneficiary is considered as having a shortened life expectancy when a medical doctor or a nurse practitioner can certify, in writing, that the beneficiary is not likely to survive more than 5 years.

Specified year

A specified year begins when the issuer receives the medical certificate and continues for:

- each of the **5** years after the year of certification

Note: These 5 years are reduced if the medical certificate is not given to the issuer in the first year.

- each year after the plan is designated as a Specified Disability Savings Plan (SDSP), or until the designation is removed



When a beneficiary has a shortened life expectancy, the holder has 2 options

Keep the plan as a RDSP



10
Years

- The repayment rule **applies**; the assistance holdback amount (AHA) or the proportional amount is repaid



- Payments may be made at any time



- There is no annual maximum payment limit



- The legislated formula used for the calculation of the minimum annual payment **does not apply** when the beneficiary is 59 years of age or less

5+

- If the beneficiary survives more than 5 years, the plan automatically reverts back to a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) in a regular year and will be subject to the regular payment rules and limits

Designate the RDSP as an SDSP



- The repayment rule **does not apply**; the AHA or the proportional amount is not repaid



- Payments **must start** before December 31 of the calendar year following the year the plan was designated as an SDSP



- The minimum annual withdrawal must be at least equal to the legislated formula result (this measure does not apply to the first year the plan is designated as an SDSP)

\$10,000

- The sum of the taxable portions of all withdrawals made in the year **cannot** exceed \$10,000 (unless the legislative formula requires a greater amount to be paid)

5+

- If the beneficiary survives more than 5 years, the plan remains as an SDSP until the holder requests that the designation be removed or one of the SDSP conditions is broken

SDSP rules



- Retirement savings rollover is allowed



- No contribution is allowed
- No Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) is paid
- No payment from designated provincial program
- No carry forward (except for the year in which the plan is designated as an SDSP)
- No education savings rollover is allowed

If any of the SDSP rules are not respected, or the holder requests to remove the SDSP designation, the plan becomes subject to the rules that apply to either an RDSP in a specified year or an RDSP in a regular year.

Reversal of an SDSP election



- The holder can request to reverse the designation at any time by providing a written notice to the issuer, who must then inform the Canada Education Savings Program (CESP)



1 year

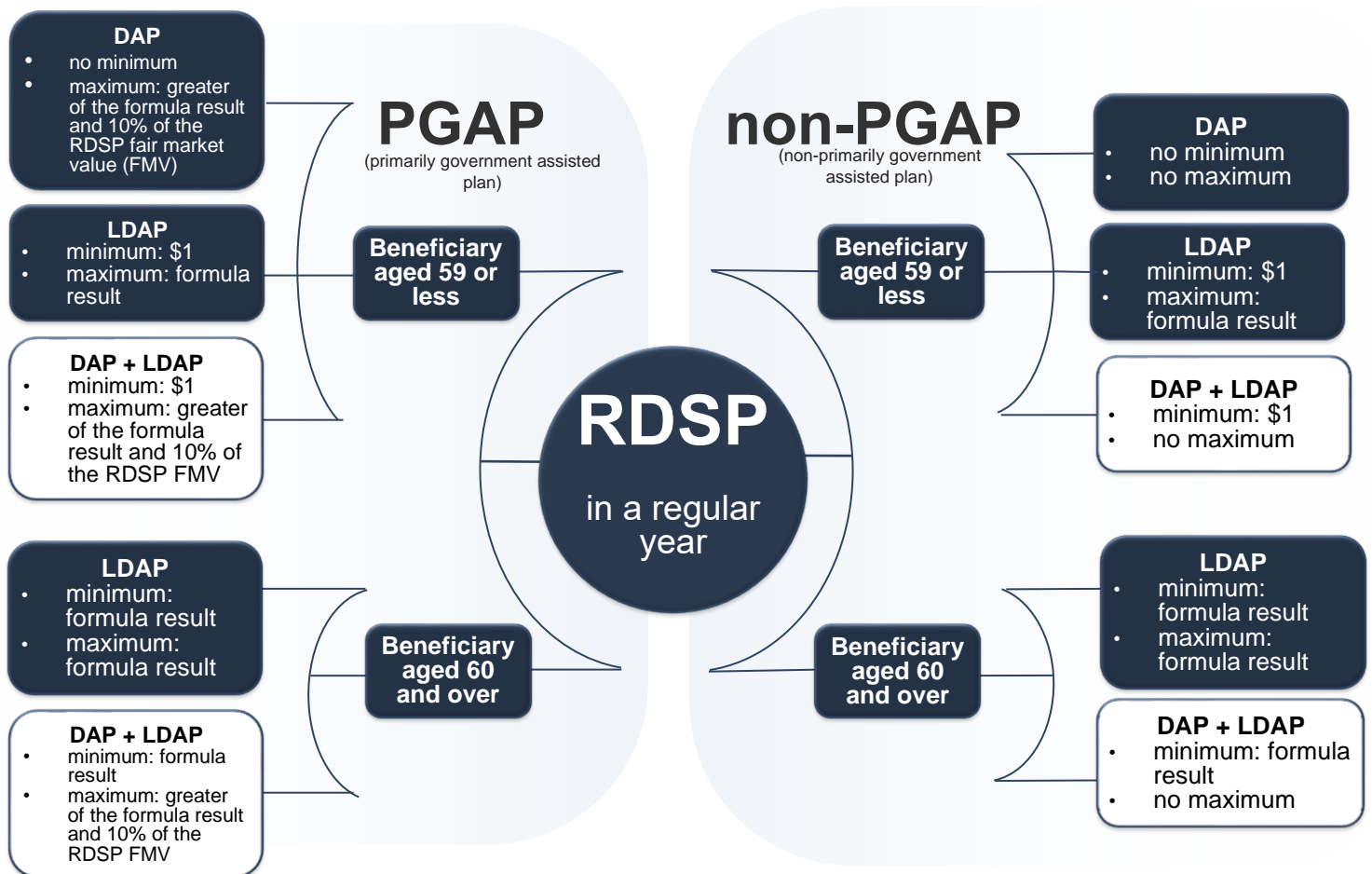
- When an election is reversed, the RDSP rules apply and CDSG and CDSB **cannot** be paid until the year following the election reversal



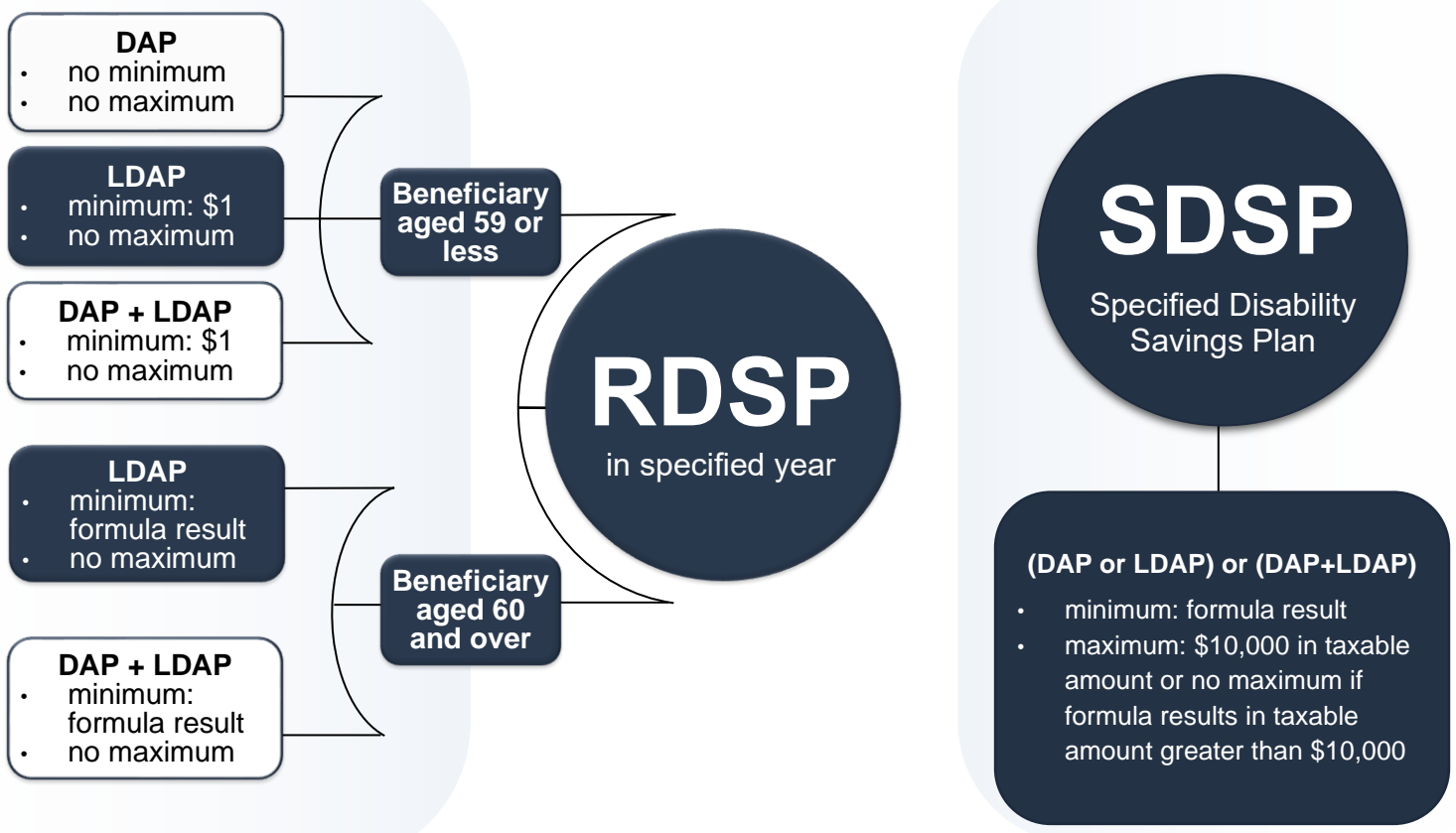
- The holder must wait **24 months** after the previous election ceases before making a new election

14. Payment rules and limits

Payment rules and limits are established to determine the amount of disability assistance payment (DAP) or lifetime disability assistance payment (LDAP) that can or must be withdrawn from a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) in a calendar year.



For a beneficiary with a shortened life expectancy



Formula = from section 146.4 of the *Income Tax Act* (ITA)

10% of the RDSP FMV = Specified maximum amount, as defined in subsection 146.4 (1) of the ITA

15. Understanding error codes and refusal reasons

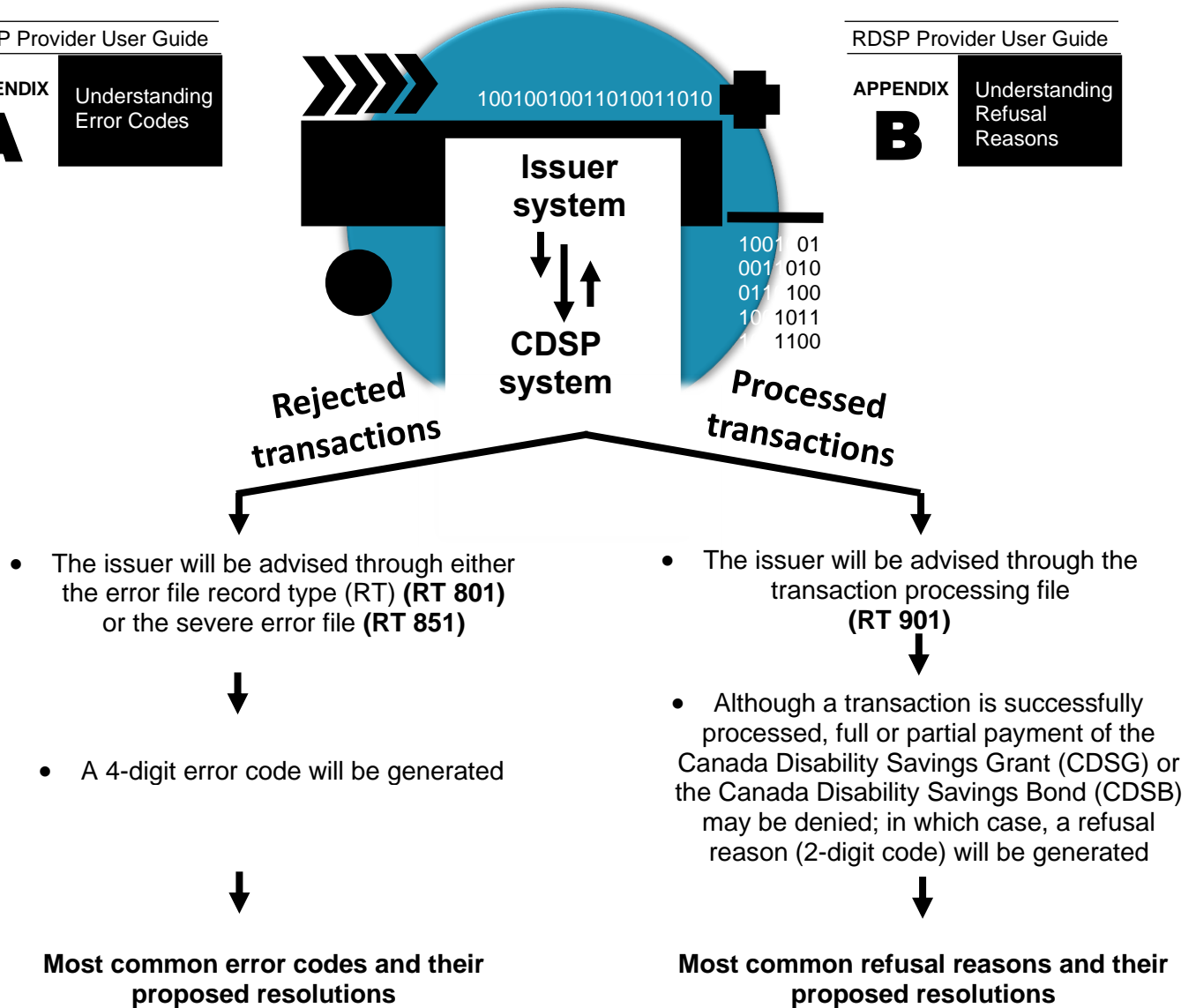
Issuers send monthly transactions to Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). The Canada Disability Savings Program (CDSP) system will either process or reject these transactions based on format and validation rules.

RDSP Provider User Guide

APPENDIX **A** Understanding Error Codes

RDSP Provider User Guide

APPENDIX **B** Understanding Refusal Reasons



8102 8105 8201 8235 8236

8102 - Is not identified in the CDSP system - Review the transaction and ensure that the data corresponds to data previously validated by the CDSP system for the concerned RDSP.

The following data fields should be verified for accuracy: issuer business number (BN), specimen plan, holder and beneficiary Social Insurance Number (SIN) information and contract number.

8105 - Invalid SIN - Ensure SIN data is correct and matches information provided by the client. If so, refer the client to the [Social Insurance Register \(SIR\)](#) to verify what information they have on file.

8201 - Date is of a future reporting period - Ensure the date provided is on or before the current reporting period end date set by the CDSP system.

8235 - Contract is not currently associated to the specimen plan - Ensure there are no errors in the specimen plan submitted to the CDSP system, and that the contract was not already submitted.

8236 - Contract is not currently associated to the beneficiary - Verify contract number and beneficiary SIN data submitted to the CDSP system.

01 04 06 19 30

01 - Maximum current entitlement of CDSG/CDSB paid - Generally, no action is required.

04 - Age of beneficiary - No action is required as the CDSG and the CDSB will not be paid after the end of the year in which the beneficiary turned 49 years of age.

06 - No grant requested - If the CDSG was to be requested for the contribution, submit a contribution correction transaction for the same amount as the original contribution, and ensure the flag is set to "Yes".

19 - Contract **not** registered - Consult the contract status file to determine why the contract is not registered and resubmit all 3 101 transactions. Once all 3 transactions of the contract registration package are processed successfully, resubmit any rejected CDSG and CDSB request transaction(s).

30 - Beneficiary Disability Tax Credit (DTC) eligibility **not** confirmed - Refer the holder to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to confirm DTC.



16. Repayment obligation

Certain events will require the issuer to repay, to the Government of Canada, all or a portion of the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and the Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) previously paid into a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP).

An event can be:

1

a withdrawal which includes a disability assistance payment (DAP) and a lifetime disability assistance payment (LDAP)

2

the death of the beneficiary

3

the closure of the RDSP

4

the non-compliance of the RDSP

5

the beneficiary is not eligible for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) and the RDSP holder requests closure of the plan

Repayment amount

Depending on the trigger event, the repayment amount will either be:



the assistance holdback amount (AHA) which is the total amount of CDSG and CDSB paid into an RDSP within a 10-year period before an event, less any amount of CDSG and CDSB paid into the RDSP during the same 10-year period that has previously been repaid to the Government of Canada

or

the proportional amount (3-to-1) which requires that \$3 in CDSG and CDSB be repaid, for every \$1-withdrawn from an RDSP up to a maximum of the total AHA



! A withdrawal is the only event that can result in the repayment of the proportional (3 to 1) amount.

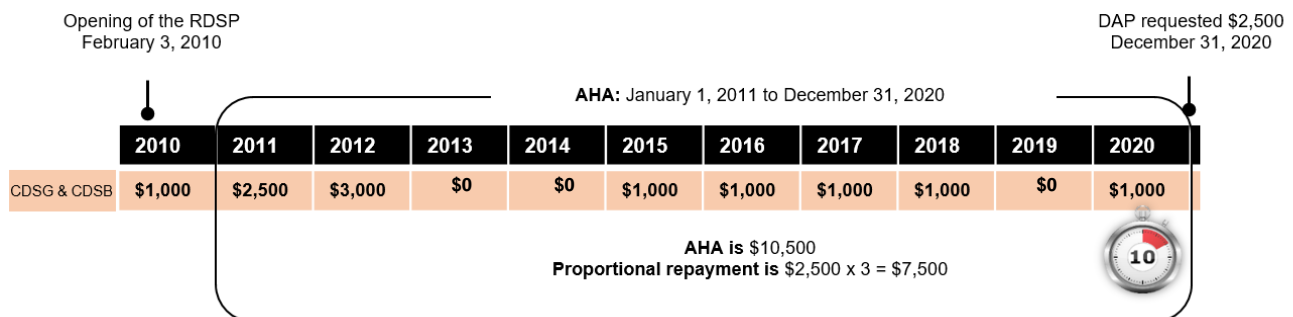
What to do when an event occurs

1 Identify the repayment period, which includes the AHA period up until the current date

2 Identify the amount of the AHA. In the case of a withdrawal, the issuer must also calculate the proportional amount and repay the lesser of the 2. In order to determine the CDSG and the CDSB included in the repayment period, the issuer must use the **date it was paid into the RDSP**. This date is provided by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) in the monthly Transaction Processing File

3 Repay the CDSG and the CDSB in the same order in which they were initially paid into the plan, from the oldest to the newest

! Any amount of CDSG and CDSB repaid to the Government of Canada cannot be reinstated.



! **Exception:** In the event of a withdrawal, there is no repayment of the AHA if an RDSP is designated as a Specified Disability Savings Plan (SDSP).



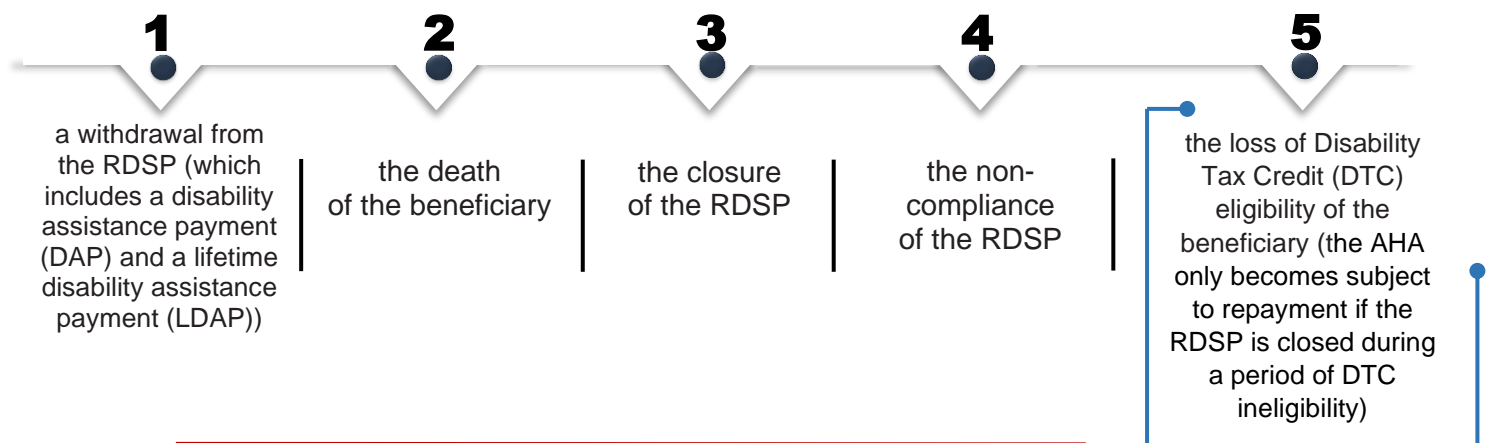
17. Assistance holdback amount

The assistance holdback amount (AHA) is the total amount of Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) paid into a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) within a 10-year period before an event; less any amount of CDSG and CDSB paid into the RDSP during the same 10-year period that has been previously repaid to the Government of Canada.



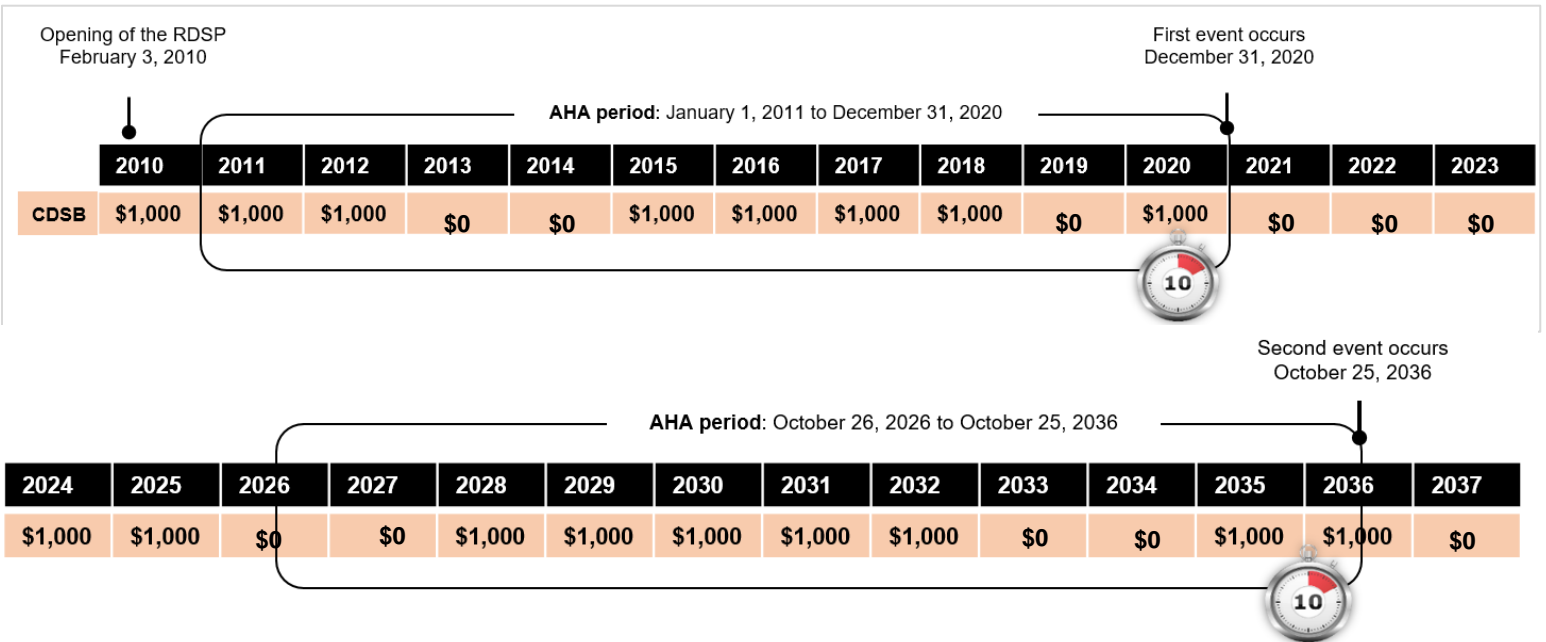
The CDSG and CDSB paid in a 10-year period, minus any CDSG and CDSB already repaid within the same 10-year period, equals the AHA.

When an event occurs, the AHA is subject to repayment. An event can be:



Exception : In the event of a withdrawal, there is no repayment of the AHA if an RDSP is designated as a Specified Disability Savings Plan (SDSP).

The AHA period moves forward in time with the RDSP



AHA reminder: It is not possible to access the CDSG or the CDSB available outside the AHA period, without triggering a repayment; the AHA period will always apply.

18. Transfers

A transfer occurs when all the funds are moved from one Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) to another. It is initiated and authorized by the RDSP plan holder(s) but requires the collaboration of the receiving and relinquishing issuers.

To facilitate the transfer process, issuers must use the following two forms: the RDSP transfer form (**EMP5611**) and the holder consent to an RDSP transfer form (**EMP5612**).

They should:

- provide the information required into all designated fields
- ensure that the contract and specimen plan numbers are accurate

Conditions



- All funds must be transferred (no partial transfers allowed)



- The relinquishing plan should be registered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)



- All funds must be transferred to the same beneficiary



A transfer can occur regardless of the age of the beneficiary, even if the beneficiary is not a resident of Canada.

Responsibilities

Relinquishing issuer

1. Have the holder(s) complete and sign the Holder consent of the RDSP transfer form
2. Complete sections 4 and 5 of the RDSP transfer form
3. Ensure all pending Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB) requests have been received
4. Stop all pre-authorized contributions
5. Submit a 401-06 transaction (Stop bond payment request) to the Canada Disability Savings Program (CDSP) system
6. Send all the funds to the receiving issuer
7. Send all supporting documents to the receiving issuer (such as; medical attestation, rollover form, etc.)
8. Submit a 102-10 transaction (Close a contract) with closure reason "03" (Transfer) to the CDSP system
9. Submit a 701-02 transaction (Transfer reporting of fair market value (FMV) and earnings) to the CDSP system

Receiving issuer

1. Complete sections 1, 2 and 3 of the RDSP transfer form
2. Open a new RDSP
3. Complete a new application form for the CDSG and CDSB with the holder(s)
4. Submit a 101-01 transaction (Contract information) with the transfer indicator set to "Yes", a 101-02 transaction (Beneficiary information) and a 101-03 transaction (Holder information) to the CDSP system
5. Submit a 401-05 transaction (Bond payment request) to the CDSP system
6. Ensure to continue to process any lifetime disability assistance payments (LDAP) if they started in the relinquishing plan



If the relinquishing plan contains a **rollover** amount, the receiving plan must be able to support and administer the rollover amount being transferred.

Transfer confirmation

- ✓ A transfer is complete once the relinquishing issuer has sent all the funds to the receiving issuer. Then, the relinquishing RDSP is closed and the receiving RDSP is registered.
- ✓ The CDSP system will then generate and send a Transfer information extract file to the receiving issuer. Upon receipt of this file, the issuer must ensure the amount received from the relinquishing issuer coincides with the data provided in the file.
- ✓ In the case of a discrepancy, the receiving issuer must contact the relinquishing issuer to consolidate the information.

19. Plan closure

There is no set timeline for how long a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) can remain open; however, different events or reasons may lead to the closure of an RDSP. Issuers should follow the steps identified below for each closure reason.



Before closing a plan, it should first be confirmed as “registered” by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

Reason “01” Death of the beneficiary

- Issue a disability assistance payment (DAP) to the beneficiary’s estate
- Repay any assistance holdback amount (AHA) to the Government of Canada
- Submit a Close contract transaction (102-10) with closure reason “01” to the Canada Disability Saving Program (CDSP) system



The RDSP must be closed no later than the end of the calendar year following the year of the beneficiary’s death.

Reason “02” Loss of the Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

DTC ineligibility, no longer requires closing an RDSP. However, the loss of DTC eligibility remains an acceptable reason to close a plan, should the holder request the closure. For a plan closure, the date of being no longer DTC eligible will serve as an indicator for the repayment period. Closing an RDSP during the year the beneficiary turns 51, the AHA period decreases by a year (the 9-year period prior to loss of DTC) and decreases by a year each subsequent year until the year the beneficiary turns 60 when the AHA becomes nil.

If the holder requests to close the RDSP:

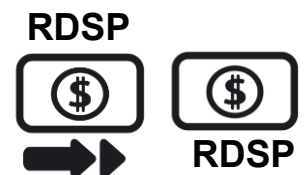
- issue a DAP to the beneficiary
- repay any AHA to the Government of Canada
- submit a 102-10 transaction with closure reason “02” to the CDSP system



Reason “03” Transfer

Relinquishing issuer:

- Ensures that all pending transactions and errors have been resolved
- Stops all automated payments
- Sends all funds to the receiving issuer
- Submits a 102-10 transaction with closure reason “03” to the CDSP system



Receiving issuer:

- Submits the contract registration package with the transfer indicator set to “Yes”
- Consults the Transfer information extract file Record type (RT) (RT 971) to confirm amount received and contacts the relinquishing issuer if any discrepancies

Receiving and relinquishing issuer:

- Consult the monthly Contract status file (RT 951) to confirm the registration status of the plan and the transfer status

Reason “04” Plan deregistered (non-compliant)

- Issue a DAP to the beneficiary
- Repay any AHA to the Government of Canada
- Submit a 102-10 transaction with closure reason “04” to the CDSP system



Reason “05” Other

A holder can only request a voluntary closure when the RDSP meets 1 of the following conditions:

1. there is no property left in the RDSP
2. there is only the AHA left
3. the holder requests a withdrawal of all remaining funds that is within the applicable payment rules and limits

- Ensure that 1 of the 3 conditions has been met
- Issue a DAP to the beneficiary
- Repay any AHA to the Government of Canada
- Submit a 102-10 transaction with closure reason “05” to the CDSP system



Opening a new plan at a later date will not reinstate any repaid entitlements as they are linked to the beneficiary’s Social Insurance Number (SIN).