

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), provides basic audiology equipment and supplies needed to address an eligible child or youth's hearing loss. Audiology benefits may be available to:

- children and youth who are eligible for At Home Program Medical Benefits;
- children and youth in the care of MCFD, Community Living BC (CLBC), or a Delegated Aboriginal Agency, and;
- youth receiving support through a Youth Agreement.

Requests for audiology equipment or supplies must be submitted by an audiologist, on a [Request for Audiology Benefits](#) form. If the request is for a child or youth in care or youth in a Youth Agreement, please provide a copy of the request to the child or youth's guardianship worker.

For information on audiology benefits available through the At Home Program, see the [At Home Program Guide](#).

For information on audiology benefits available to children and youth in care and youth agreements, see the [Health Supports for Children in Care and Youth Agreements Guide](#) (www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/foster/pdf/health_supports_cic.pdf)

If you are unsure whether a child or youth is eligible to apply for audiology benefits, contact the Medical Benefits Program at the telephone numbers below. Please provide the child or youth's name and birth date, and identify yourself as an audiology clinic.

Audiology Benefits

Audiology Equipment:

- Analog hearing aids (up to \$1,500 per hearing aid, per 4 year period)
- Digital hearing aids (up to \$1,500 per hearing aid, per 4 year period)
- Personal FM systems for use outside of the school setting (up to \$3,000 per 4 year period)

Audiology equipment is provided to a maximum of \$1,500 per ear, per 4 year period.

Exceptions to these limits may be considered for children and youth in care and youth in Youth Agreements, with written justification from an audiologist submitted to the address below.

Requests for funding of other audiology equipment may be considered on an individual basis. Please submit a letter clearly outlining how the regular benefit items will not meet the child or youth's basic hearing needs, to the address below.



Audiology Supplies:

- Swim molds (up to 4 per year for one ear; up to 4 pairs per year for two ears)
- Ear molds/acoustic couplers (up to 4 per year for one ear; up to 4 pairs per year for two ears)
- Dri-aid maintenance kits (one every 2 years)
- Air blowers (one every 2 years)
- Ear clips (one every 2 years)
- Diagnostic stethoscopes (one every 4 years)
- Battery testers (one every 4 years)
- Batteries (up to 52 per year for one hearing aid; up to 104 per year for two hearing aids)

Exceptions to these limits may be considered for children and youth in care and youth in Youth Agreements. Please submit a letter clearly outlining why additional audiology supplies are needed, to the address below.

On the Request for Audiology Benefits form, please indicate the amount of consumable supplies needed for an entire year (swim molds, ear molds/acoustic couplers and/or batteries), within the limits noted above. If approved, the child may access these supplies within the year, and the audiologist may invoice the Medical Benefits Program without submitting an additional funding request.

An approved funding request for consumable audiology supplies cannot be carried over to subsequent years. For example, a request approved on June 4, 2009 cannot be carried past June 3, 2010.

Contact Information

Ministry of Children and Family Development
Medical Benefits Program
PO Box 9776 – STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9S5

Telephone: 1 888 613-3232 (Toll-Free)
Fax: 250 356-2159