

	Funding	Services	Wait times
Health and Social Services – Disability Supports (GNWT):	In the NWT, most supports are coordinated through Health and Social Services and community programs rather than one central funding program.	- Services are tailored to each child’s needs and vary by region and community. - May include: - Case management - Home and community care - Therapy supports - Assistive equipment - Referrals to specialized programs.	- No official waitlists provided. - Varies widely based on community/region and availability of staff.
Early Childhood Intervention Program (ECIP):	Publicly funded early intervention program for children from birth to school age with developmental delays or disabilities.	- Provides individualized support through trained workers who work one on one with children. - Services may be delivered in preschool, home, or community settings.	- No official waitlists provided. - Varies widely based on community/region and availability of staff.
Community Respite Programs (NWT Disabilities Council / Inclusion NWT):	Publicly funded respite services (availability may vary by location).	- Provides short-term care for children with disabilities to give families a break. - This can include: - In-home or community-based support - Trained respite workers matched to families - May be limited by staffing in smaller or remote communities.	- No official waitlists provided, each individual provider will have different wait times. - Varies widely based on community/region and availability of staff.
Community-Based Disability Supports (NWT Disabilities Council & Local Organizations):	Delivered through community agencies rather than direct family funding.	- May include: - Family support and advocacy - Learning and skill-development programs - Recreation opportunities and camps - Information and system navigation.	- No official waitlists provided. - Varies widely based on community/region and availability of staff.

	Funding	Services	Wait times
Voluntary Family Support Services:	• Provided through local health and social services authorities.	• Offers support to families without requiring child protection involvement, including: • Assistance with accessing services • Family support planning • Connecting to community resources	• No official waitlists provided. • Varies widely based on community/region and availability of staff.
Financial Supports (General Programs):	• Limited direct child-specific funding compared to provinces • Families may access ◦ NWT Child Benefit (monthly financial support for families) ◦ Income assistance or targeted supports depending on need	• N/A	• 1-2 weeks for application processing and approval.

To Do Before You Move

- Ensure you have a letter/official documentation of any diagnosis your child has from a qualified professional, and it must be in English or French.
- Request documentation like your medical records, any completed assessments, or diagnostic reports from professionals you have worked with, and physicians who oversee your child's care.
- Research the community you are moving to—services can be very limited in smaller or remote communities. Identify local contacts (health centre, school, or disability organizations) ahead of time if possible.

To Do After You Move

Week 1

- Apply for an NWT Health Care Card as soon as possible. Coverage typically begins on the first day of the third month after becoming a resident. Your previous province will usually cover you during the waiting period.

First Month

- Contact your local health centre or Health and Social Services office to open a file. Ask about referrals to the Early Childhood Intervention Program (ECIP), Therapy services, and community disability supports.
- Connect with the NWT Disabilities Council or Inclusion NWT for support and respite options.
- Get on waitlists early—services and staffing can be limited.
- Find a family doctor or confirm access to your local health centre.

First Three Months

- Follow up regularly with service providers and community organizations.
- Build a support plan with any assigned workers or coordinators.
- Explore additional supports (financial, community, school-based).
- Connect with local disability organizations for advocacy and peer support.