

	Funding	Services	Wait times
AccessAbility Supports:	PEI's primary disability program for children and youth under 65, providing needs based funding and service coordination.	- Families work with a Disability Support Worker to develop a personalized support plan. Funding may cover: - Respite and caregiver relief - Therapy services not otherwise funded - Assistive equipment and supplies - Community participation and skill development supports	- Vary depending on region and service. No standardized waitlist is not available from the province. - Generally, the initial application process and needs assessment can take several months from start to finish.
Autism Funding (Preschool and School Age Streams):	- Targeted autism funding available for children with a diagnosis. - Funding is typically coordinated with provincial autism services.	Preschool Autism Funding: Supports hiring an Autism Assistant in early childhood settings (linked to Early Years Autism Services and IBI) School Age Autism Funding: Helps families pay for tutors, aides, and community-based supports outside school	Vary based on region, typically takes a few months to come through.
Early Years Autism Services:	Publicly delivered autism program for preschool-aged children.	- Early intensive behavioural intervention (IBI) - Individualized developmental and behavioural supports - Parent coaching and program coordination	Several months to over a year for full assessments and intensive services to begin.
Early Childhood Development Programs:	Public early childhood system offering developmental supports for children birth to school entry.	- Developmental monitoring and early intervention Best Start Home Visiting Program (for eligible families) - Parent coaching and family support - Connections to health and child development services Strongest Families PEI	- Varies by program/service and region. - Some services such as Strongest Families and Best Start have no wait times.

	Funding	Services	Wait times
Special Needs Grant (Early Learning and Child Care):	- Provincial grant provided to childcare centres, applied for by centres, not parents. - Provided based on individual children.	Funds additional staff or supports so children with disabilities can fully participate in licensed childcare programs.	Vary based on center capacity, processing times, and availability of staff.

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 services in PEI — while programs are centralized, **provider availability can still be limited and waitlists are common.**

To Do After You Move

Week 1

- Apply for a **PEI Health Card (Medicare)** as soon as possible.
- If moving from another province, coverage typically begins on the **first day of the third month after arrival**, with your previous province covering you during this period.

First Month

- Apply for **Access Ability Supports** to begin assessment and service planning.
- Ask about referrals to:
 - Early Years Autism Services
 - Early childhood development programs
 - Therapy services
- Connect with community programs such as **CHANCES** and Family Resource Centres.
- Get on waitlists for therapy, autism services, and respite supports.
- Find a family doctor or register for one if needed.

First Three Months

- Work with your **Disability Support Worker** to develop your child's support plan.
- Set up funded services (respite, therapy, community supports).
- Apply for autism funding streams if eligible.
- Follow up on early intervention and childcare supports.
- Connect with local family and disability organizations for support and advocacy.