



Financial Assistance

Financial assistance for prescription drug costs.

Prescription drug coverage is usually provided as part of an employer or union group plan, or with private health insurance coverage. You may be covered under your own plan or under a spouse's policy. There are usually co-payment requirements and an annual or lifetime cap on payments. Keep the lifetime maximum in mind, if you are using one of the [MS disease-modifying therapies](#) that cost from \$12,000 to \$60,000, or more per year.

Provincial government financial assistance programs.

If you receive social assistance from your provincial government, you will likely also be eligible for a wide range of other supports and services, such as prescriptive medications, transportation, clothing allowance and medical supplies. When you enter or re-enter the workforce, you may lose these supports and services if they were tied to your eligibility for social assistance.

Provincial government coverage for MS disease-modifying therapies.

Provincial, territorial and federal governments provide some coverage for the MS disease-modifying therapies. In each province, the drug cost reimbursement program has specific clinical criteria and levels of compensation.

British Columbia	Yukon
Alberta	Northwest Territories
Saskatchewan	Nunavut
Manitoba	Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)
Ontario	Nova Scotia
Quebec	Newfoundland & Labrador
New Brunswick	Prince Edward Island

Community-based programs.

Some municipalities offer special transportation services. Financial assistance for disability supports and services may also be available from community organizations, such as service clubs, alumni associations or other group affiliations.

MS Society quality of life grants.

In many regions of Canada, the MS Society offers limited financial assistance to people with MS to cover services not funded by other government or community agencies or supplement their cost; for example, equipment purchases or loan. The level of MS Society funding varies from province to province, except for Quebec, which does not offer financial assistance programs. The MS Society of Canada does not fund medication or health care costs.

Financial Assistance Pharmaceutical companies.

The pharmaceutical companies that market the MS disease-modifying therapies provide limited financial assistance. Contact each company directly for information on eligibility and the application process.

MS Disease-Modifying Therapy	Patient Support Program
Betaseron (interferon beta-1b)	Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc. MS Pathways 1-800 977-2770
Avonex (interferon beta-1a) Plegridy (pegylated interferon beta-1a) Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate) Tysabri (natalizumab)	Biogen Canada Biogen ONE™ 1-855-MSONE-00 (1-855-676-6300)
Rebif (interferon beta-1a) Mavenclad (cladribine)	EMD Serono Canada Inc. adveva™ 1-888-677-3243
Aubagio (teriflunomide) Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)	Genzyme Canada MS One to One™ 1-855-MS1-2ONE (1-855-671-2663)
Extavia (interferon beta-1b) Gilenya (fingolimod)	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. Novartis Med Info line 1-800-363-8883
Glatect (glatiramer acetate)	Pendopharm, Division of Pharmascience Inc. ALLY 1-833-ALLY100
Ocrevus (ocrelizumab)	Roche Canada COMPASS 1-888-334-5956
Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)	Teva Neuroscience Canada Shared Solutions 1-800-283-0034

For additional information, please contact an MS Navigator at 1-844-859-6789 or msnavigators@mssociety.ca