

March of Dimes Canada Retrofit Vehicle Initiative
Selection Criteria
January 9, 2014

The funding provided by the March of Dimes Canada Retrofit Vehicle Initiative will provide a vehicle modification of up to \$15,000 to an eligible individual or family. The intended use of the funding is to serve the individual most in need of assistance. This funding will enable a person with mobility-restricting disabilities to participate in his / her community. March of Dimes Canada (MODC) will administer the funding using the criteria identified in this document.

MODC is not responsible for issues resulting from ineligibility or in the event that there is insufficient funding to cover all aspects of the selected Applicant's request.

General Eligibility

- MODC will require proof of eligibility, as described below.

To be eligible for funding assistance, the Applicant must:

1. be a permanent Canadian resident -- the person must make his / her permanent and principal home in British Columbia. Temporary residents and visitors (e.g. tourists, students, foreign workers on a work permit, etc.) are not eligible.

AND

2. be a person with a permanent physical impairment caused by bodily injury, birth defect or illness.

AND

3. demonstrate an impairment that impedes mobility and results in substantial restriction in activities of daily living e.g. personal care and functioning in the community.

AND

4. demonstrate financial need. In order to be eligible for funding, the combined gross income of applicant and spouse (where applicable) cannot exceed \$75,000. In circumstances where the application is made on behalf of a child, the parents' / guardians' combined income is considered. In cases of a single parent / guardian, only the income of the single parent / guardian will be considered.

- Approval for funding will be based on the priority criteria identified below.

The individual requires vehicle modifications in order to:

- remove or minimize a life safety risk (Example: provide transportation to receive necessary medical treatment)
- maintain gainful employment or pursue education
- improve access to / participate in the community

Contest Guidelines

- Modifications in excess of \$15,000 may be funded, provided the winning Applicant can fund the remainder of the cost independently.
- MODC will consider the anticipated duration of the person's living arrangement and intended use of the modification in determining eligibility and funding decisions.
- MODC will not approve the funding / reimbursement of expenditures made prior to authorization of the modification.

Applicant Verification

- The Applicant must provide verification of disability, income, vehicle ownership, and a valid driver's licence. If the Applicant does not drive, he/she will supply the licence of the vehicle's primary driver. The Applicant will also state their relationship to the primary driver. The Applicant will provide MODC with one estimate relating to the modification(s) from a reputable vendor or supplier. Verification information must be provided and eligibility verified prior to selecting and finalizing the winning Applicant.
- MODC will verify that all requested vehicle modifications are required due to the person's disability / impairment. Modifications must ensure basic accessibility, facilitate independence, and / or reduce risk of harm to the person with a disability.
- A Funding Letter will provide the details of the funding being administered by MODC. In accepting the retrofit, the winning Applicant agrees that their photos or story may be used by March of Dimes Canada's publications, including newsletters, brochures, online and on its website and social media properties.
- In order to be considered eligible for a modification, the proposed vehicle must be in good condition and meet provincial safety standards. If there is any doubt about the state of repair of the vehicle, the Applicant must have the vehicle inspected by a licensed mechanic.

List of Eligible Vehicle Modifications

- MODC will only fund vehicle modifications that are related to special features specifically required by people with disabilities.
- Eligible vehicle modifications include:
 - transferable equipment such as lifts, safety devices, etc. These should be fully convertible, if possible, to any type of vehicle so that they can be transferred when the Applicant changes vehicles.
 - specialized seating and related accessories required for transportation purposes
 - raising the roof of a vehicle and
 - lowering of the floor of a vehicle.
- Ineligible Modifications include:
 - the purchase of a vehicle
 - vehicle upgrades
 - vehicle repairs
 - vehicle insurance
 - pre-modified vehicles
 - driving controls; hand / foot controls