**The Government of Canada improves accessibility and safety for people with disabilities in Canadian communities and workplaces through the Enabling Accessibility Fund**

**Why is accessibility in community spaces and workplaces (e.g., public facilities, parks, playgrounds) important?**

Accessibility barriers prevent people with disabilities from fully participating in, and contributing to, all aspects of community life. These barriers can be created through design elements of a building such as stairs, narrow doorways and hallways and split level room layouts, or equipment and technologies that were built without accessibility principles in mind.

Improving accessibility:

* increases safety and efficiency
* allows everyone to fully participate/contribute
* allows the inclusion of all individuals regardless of their abilities
* embraces diversity and promotes equal access for all.

**What funding source can assist your community or workplace in becoming more accessible?**

The Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) is a federal Grants and Contributions program that supports projects across Canada which improve accessibility, remove barriers, and enable Canadians with disabilities to participate in and contribute to the community and the labour market. Since 2008, over 3,500 projects totalling close to $150 million have been supported by the EAF.

The EAF provides funding to eligible recipients for projects that improve accessibility in community spaces or workplaces. These projects may include:

* constructing, renovating or retrofitting a community facility or venue which provides access to community programs and services to people with disabilities or a workplace in which job opportunities for people with disabilities could be created or maintained;
* the provision of assistive technologies for community use to render information and communication accessible to the public or for current or future employees with disabilities.

From installing automated door openers, elevators and ramps, constructing a universally designed building entrance, securing voice activated software, or retrofitting a washroom with an accessible toilet, grab bars and taps, the EAF works to enable Canadians with disabilities to participate more fully in communities and workplaces.

**Who can typically\* apply for funding under EAF?**

* Not-for-profit organizations;
* For profit organizations;
* Municipalities;
* Indigenous organizations (including band councils, tribal councils and self-government entities); and,
* Territorial governments.

\*the list of eligible recipients may vary from one funding process to another.

**How to apply for funding?**

Eligible recipients can apply for funding through periodic funding processes, where eligibility criteria are further defined. Information regarding current EAF funding opportunities can be found on the EAF website at: [canada.ca/accessibility-fund](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/enabling-accessibility-fund.html?utm_campaign=EnablingAccessibilityFund&utm_source=SocialMedia\Ddn\Banners&utm_medium=VanityUrl&utm_term=en&utm_content=canada-ca_accessibility-fund)