

Travel Resources for children and youth with disabilities

Last updated: 12-18-2024





Preparing for travel away from home can be stressful for children or youth with disabilities and their caregivers. Consider using these resources to help make the journey smoother and more enjoyable.

Preparing to travel

- Communication and Sequencing Keycards can be used to help prepare for travel and list all the steps to successful flight travel. They can be shuffled and customized to adjust for each individual's trip.
 - Link: [Keyring Cards for Air Travel \(aidecanada.ca\)](https://aidecanada.ca)
- Task Booklet has a picture description of arriving, checking in, boarding, and flying from Halifax Airport to help prepare people with information about each stage of the flight travel experience.
 - Link: [Autism Aviators Booklet - Handout - Autism Nova Scotia](#)
- Keycard Printouts from [Autism Nova Scotia](#) can be used when packing and communicating.
 - Calming Strategy Cards: [When I am anxious](#)
 - Core Communication Cards: [My lanyard cards](#)
 - Items to Pack in the Hand Luggage: [Packing my hand luggage](#)
 - Items to Pack in the Toiletry Bag: [Packing my toiletry bag](#)
 - Items to Pack in the Suitcase: [What should I pack in my suitcase](#)
 - Snacks to Pack for the Plane: [Snacks for the plane](#)



- MagnusCards is a free mobile app presenting digital step-by-step guides (in the form of Card Decks) to support autistic and neurodiverse people to navigate home and community living.
 - Link (Apple): [MagnusCards on the Apple Store](#)
 - Link (Google Play): [MagnusCards - Autism App on Google Play](#)
 - Toronto Pearson Airport partnered with MagnusCards to create [Card Decks for all airport activities](#), from checking in for a flight to boarding a plane. It contains screenshots of the Card Deck in the mobile app.

Air Travel

- [One Person, One Fare](#) policy states that Canada-based airlines must be able to offer travellers with disabilities accompanied by an attendant the ability to fly using one ticket (meaning the attendant may fly without additional cost).
 - Used when travelling domestically with Canada-based airlines
 - Application procedure (Air Transat): [Accessibility, Special needs and Medical Equipment | Air Transat](#), under the “Travelling With A Support Person” section.
 - Application procedure (Porter): [Travelling with a personal attendant on Porter | Porter Airlines](#)
 - Application procedure (WestJet): [Travelling with a personal attendant - Travel info | WestJet](#)
 - Application procedure (Air Canada): [Our accessibility services \(aircanada.com\)](#) section is under the “Support Person” section.



Support at the Airport

- Sunflower Lanyards are available for passengers with invisible disabilities to help identify that they may need extra help or additional time while travelling. Lanyards are free and can be worn throughout the airport.
 - Recognized at Toronto Pearson.
 - Application form: [Sunflower Lanyard \(wufoo.com\)](http://wufoo.com)

Land Travel

- Disability Travel Card is for people of all types of permanent disabilities who require the assistance of a support person. With the card, an attendant can travel with them at a significantly reduced fare.
 - Used when: travelling with VIA Rail Canada, Greyhound Canada, Coach Canada, and Ontario Northland.
 - Application form: [Disability-Travel-Card-Application-Form-English.pdf \(cltoronto.ca\)](http://cltoronto.ca).

Resources for Cross-Country Travelling

- US Customs and Border Protection's (USCBP) Mobile Passport Control is an app that lets you digitally submit your information for a smoother departure experience if you're travelling to the US.
 - Used when: travelling from Canada to the US.
 - Link: [Mobile Passport Control \(MPC\) | U.S. Customs and Border Protection \(cbp.gov\)](http://cbp.gov)



- Canada Border Services Agency's (CBSA) Advance Declaration feature lets you submit your customs and immigration declaration up to 72 hours in advance of flying into Canada, saving you time with a faster border experience.
 - Used when: travelling to Canada.
 - Link: [Use Advance Declaration to save time at the border - Canada.ca](https://www.cbsa.gc.ca/advance-declaration)

Access to Entertainment and Cultural Venues

Upon arrival, you can use Access 2 Cards for entry to various entertainment, cultural, and recreational venues across Canada.

- Access 2 Card is for people of all ages and types of permanent disabilities who require the assistance of a support person at participating entertainment, cultural and recreational venues across Canada. The Access 2 cardholder (the individual with a permanent disability) presents the Access 2 card to a venue and pays the regular admission price. The cardholder will then receive free or discounted admission for their support person. The card costs \$20 for 3 years or \$30 for 5 years.
 - Application procedure: [Apply First Time - Access2 \(access2card.ca\)](https://www.access2card.ca)