

Attachment A

Professions Eligible for Authorizer Status and Documentation Required for Visual Aids – Low Technology

Assistive Devices Program
Ministry of Health

ontario.ca/page/assistive-devices-program

Introduction

The information contained in Attachment A outlines:

- the health professionals eligible to apply for authorization status for Visual Aids – Low Technology; and
- the documentation the applicant is required to include with their application for authorization status.

Authorizers are the gatekeepers to the ADP and play a significant role in:

- providing Ontario residents with accurate information about the ADP;
- assessing Ontario resident's needs for assistive devices;
- confirming the Ontario resident's eligibility for funding assistance; and
- completing the application form to request funding assistance.

A healthcare professional must be registered as an ADP authorizer before they can:

- recommend ADP-approved assistive devices to eligible Ontario residents; and
- complete the ADP application form for eligible Ontario residents.

See table on next page

Device Category	Professions Eligible for Authorizer Status	Documents (copies) which must be submitted with application
<p>Visual Aids – Low Tech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Magnifiers (not spectacle mounted) ✓ Telescopes, Binoculars ✓ Monoculars ✓ Field Enhancement ✓ Specialized Glasses ✓ Contact Lenses ✓ Spectacle-Mounted Low Vision Aid ✓ Non-prescription Absorptive Filters 	<p>Ophthalmologist who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • holds a valid certificate of registration from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario; AND • holds a certificate in the specialty of Ophthalmology from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of current membership with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. • Copy of certificate in the specialty of Ophthalmology from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.
<p>Visual Aids – Low Tech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Magnifiers (not spectacle mounted) ✓ Telescopes, Binoculars ✓ Monoculars ✓ Field Enhancement ✓ Specialized Glasses ✓ Contact Lenses ✓ Spectacle-Mounted Low Vision Aid ✓ Non-prescription Absorptive Filters 	<p>Optometrist who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • holds a valid certificate of registration from the College of Optometrists of Ontario 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of current membership with the College of Optometrists of Ontario

Device Category	Professions Eligible for Authorizer Status	Documents (copies) which must be submitted with application
Visual Aids – Low Tech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Magnifiers (not spectacle mounted) ✓ Telescopes, Binoculars ✓ Non-prescription Absorptive Filters ✓ Audio playback machines 	Vision Rehabilitation Worker who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has obtained a Low Vision Specialist/Therapist certificate from Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario 	Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of Low Vision Specialist/Therapist certificate from Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario
Visual Aids – Low Tech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Audio playback machines ✓ Brailers such as Perkins brailers ✓ Other low tech writing aids 	Specialist Teacher of the Blind who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • holds an Ontario Ministry of Education and Training Ontario's Teacher's Qualifications Record Card showing Points 1 & 2, and Blind Specialty 	Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy Ontario Ministry of Education and Training Ontario's Teacher's Qualifications Record Card showing Points 1 & 2, and Blind Specialty

Device Category	Professions Eligible for Authorizer Status	Documents (copies) which must be submitted with application
<p>Visual Aids – Low Tech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Audio playback machines ✓ Brailers such as Perkins brailers ✓ Other low tech writing aids 	<p>Rehabilitation Teacher who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has obtained an Independent Living Skills Specialist (Vision Rehabilitation Therapist) certificate from Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • holds a diploma from a Post-Secondary and Educational Program in Vision Loss Rehabilitation 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of Independent Living Skills Specialist (Vision Rehabilitation Therapist) certificate from Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of diploma from Post-Secondary and Educational Programs in Vision Loss Rehabilitation*
<p>Visual Aids – Low Tech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mobility Canes 	<p>Orientation and Mobility Instructor who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has obtained an Orientation & Mobility Specialist certificate from Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • holds a diploma from a Post-Secondary and Educational Program in Vision Loss Rehabilitation 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of Orientation & Mobility Specialist certificate from Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of diploma from Post-Secondary and Educational Programs in Vision Loss Rehabilitation*

***NOTE:** proof of completion in **one** of the following Post-Secondary and Educational Programs in Vision Loss Rehabilitation or equivalent accreditation:

- University of Montreal; Visual Impairment and Rehabilitation, Orientation and Mobility or Low Vision Master's Program
- Salus University; Vision Rehabilitation Therapy Certificate, Blindness and Low Vision Studies
- University of British Columbia; Certificate in Orientation and Mobility
- Dr. Stephen Whittaker, Vision Education Seminars; Low Vision Therapy
- Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP)