

OW or ODSP: Which one to apply for

Ontario Works (OW)	Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
Think about applying for financial assistance from OW if you need money because:	Think about applying for income support from ODSP if your income is low and:
• you can't find work	• you have a disability
 you can't work right now For example, you might not be able to work because: you're a caregiver for a family member who needs ongoing daily physical assistance because of a disability, illness, or old age you're a sole-support parent and your child has not started school yet 	 you can prove your disability by having an approved health professional confirm that: you have a physical or mental health problem that's expected to last a year or more, and your health problem limits your ability to work, look after yourself, or do daily activities your health problem is substantial and limits your abilities in a substantial way
 you're working but making so little money that you qualify for assistance you're applying to ODSP but you need money while you wait for a decision 	Some people can qualify without proof of a disability. For example: • you get disability benefits from the Canada Pension Plan (CPP-D) or the Québec
	 Pension Plan you're over 65 years old but are not eligible for Old Age Security



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CLEO's Steps to Justice website has more information about income assistance. Visit <u>stepstojustice.ca/legal-topic/</u>income-assistance.

This is general information for people in Ontario, Canada. It is not intended to be used as legal advice.