



# Information for Approvers of Parking Placards for Persons with Disabilities

<http://www.servicealberta.ca/parking-for-people-with-disabilities.cfm>

## Who can approve an Application

- Parking placard applications must be approved by an authorized healthcare professional. An authorized healthcare professional is a physician, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, surgeon, physical therapist, podiatrist, nurse practitioner, or chiropractor.

## What types of disabilities are eligible

- Only disabilities that prevent the applicant from being able to walk 50 metres (164 feet) are eligible for a parking placard. “Walk” is defined as “to progress by lifting and setting down each foot in turn, never having both feet off the ground at once” (Source: The concise Oxford Dictionary, 2001).
- People who have sensory impairments are not eligible for a parking placard unless they have reduced mobility as identified above.

## What information is required to be provided on the Application

- Identify the severity of the applicant’s disability as one of the following:
  - **Short Term** – unable to walk more than 50 metres (164 feet) for the next three to twelve months.
  - **Long Term** – Unable to walk more than 50 metres (164 feet) but they **may** improve in the next five years. The applicant will be required to reapply to determine their eligibility for a placard.
  - **Permanent** – Unable to walk more than 50 metres (164 feet) and they **will not** improve in the next five years. At the time of placard renewal, the applicant will be able to self-declare their disability and will not require verification from an eligible profession.
- A description of the nature of the applicant’s disability, including but not limited to if the disability is classified as neurological, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory or other as well as if the disability is chronic, varying from day to day.

- A description of the limitations to the applicant's mobility, including but not limited to how the disability impairs their mobility and what mobility aid(s) (ex. wheelchair) and/or boarding assistance device(s) (ex. wheelchair lift for boarding, riding, or disembarking a vehicle) the applicant uses.
- If a Medical Report and/or a Road test is recommended to assess the applicants ability to operate a motor vehicle
  - Please visit <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/2560.htm> or call Driver Fitness and Monitoring at (780) 427-8230 for a better understanding of medical conditions that could affect an applicant's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

**Please note the following:**

- The applicant's disability must be detailed on the application.
- Applications must be completed in full. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Information provided in the application form may be disclosed to the Driver Fitness and Monitoring branch of Alberta Transportation to assist in the evaluation of an individual's medical fitness to drive.
- The Government of Alberta may verify the applicant's disability in the event of misuse of the privileges associated with the issuance of the parking placard with the healthcare professional that authorized its issue.

**For more information**

- Please visit <http://www.servicealberta.ca/parking-for-people-with-disabilities.cfm> or call the Service Alberta Contact Centre at (780) 427-7013. If you are outside the Edmonton calling area, call toll-free at 310-0000.