



# The White-Cane-Fund Program



*"Putting a white cane into the hands of every child (who needs O&M)"*

**Eligibility:** Children aged 2 to 20. Must currently have a qualified O&M Specialist assigned to them who has appropriately assessed them for a white cane (*see next page for further details*)

Name of cane user: \_\_\_\_\_  
 LASTNAME, First Middle

Birthdate / Age: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ years  
 month day year age

Vision Condition(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Name of O&M Specialist: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact info for O&M Specialist (email/ phone): \_\_\_\_\_

O&M's initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Cane information (size etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (and/or include a letter from the O&M Specialist)

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
(or student, if aged 18-20)

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town, Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_, AB \_\_\_\_\_

Phone / Email: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

please check box to indicate "Yes, I have read and agree to the terms on the following page"

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

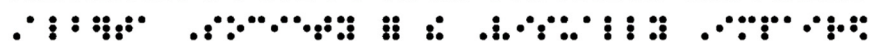
Signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of cane purchaser to be reimbursed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different than parent/guardian)

*Either snail-mail the completed form **with attached cane receipt** to the address below  
OR email a scanned version (to [info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org)):*

Alberta Society for the Visually Impaired, Edmonton District  
11007 Jasper Avenue NW, Suite 178  
Edmonton, AB T5K 0K6

# ALBERTA SOCIETY for the VISUALLY IMPAIRED



## EDMONTON DISTRICT

*The white cane is intended for home, community and/or school use (no restrictions on user settings). Please recycle the previous white cane with your O&M Specialist. Should this new white cane no longer be needed, return it to your O&M Specialist to redistribute to others.*

### Restrictions:

- The "White-Cane-Fund Program" is only for residents of North-Central Alberta
- Not intended for use by VLR (as they secure their own funding for white canes)
- ASVI-Edmonton is not responsible for the purchase of the white cane
- ASVI-Edmonton will *reimburse* only, with receipt, the new purchase of a white cane
- Applicant/purchaser (typically "the family") must be a current member-in-good-standing of ASVI-Edmonton:
  - If the applicant/purchaser is not yet a member, or their membership has lapsed, **they are to submit the \$20 annual membership** (or renewal) **fee\*** along with their "White-Cane-Fund Program" application.
- Application must be initialed by the O&M Specialist and include cane specifications
- Must be signed off by parent / guardian
- Complete application can be snail-mailed, **or** scanned-and-emailed (to [info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org))

**\*Payment** can be by e-Transfer to:

[treasurer@asviedmonton.org](mailto:treasurer@asviedmonton.org)

**\*OR** by mailing a cheque to:

*ASVI Edmonton, Suite 178  
11007 Jasper Ave  
Edmonton, AB T5K 9K6*

**\*OR** in-person at an ASVI meeting, by cash or cheque

For more information, contact ASVI-Edmonton at the following:

[www.asviedmonton.org](http://www.asviedmonton.org)  
[info@asviedmonton.org](mailto:info@asviedmonton.org)

# ALBERTA SOCIETY for the VISUALLY IMPAIRED



## EDMONTON DISTRICT

### About ASVI-Edmonton's "White-Cane-Fund Program":

**Synopsis:** To expedite the process whereby children with a visual impairment can be provided with a mobility (or identification) white cane or replacement cane tip, as appropriately assessed by a qualified O&M Instructor/Specialist, where the purchase of said cane is reimbursed after ASVI has receipt from vendor.

**Background:** Children and students who are visually impaired (to the point where their vision impedes their ability to safely crossing streets without assistance or training, putting themselves at risk of harm) would require a mobility tool (and the necessary training related to cane use) to be an independent traveler.

**Process:** A unique, simplified application form (one that is not linked to the current ASVI "EQUIPMENT LOAN APPLICATION FORM") would need to be filled out for the child/individual, and submitted to ASVI-Edmonton for approval.

Forms do not need to be filled out specifically by a parent/guardian, but these must be signed off by the parent/guardian. Note the information required is limited to basic contact/demographic information, the child's visual diagnosis, and confirmation of need of cane (and its dimensions) as per an O&M Specialist.

Applicants who are not already current ASVI-Edmonton members (in good standing) are required to fill out a membership form and pay the current yearly rate of membership, along with the application form for white cane reimbursement.

A cheque would be issued to successful applicants, typically mailed to the family address and made out in the name of the parent signee (unless other arrangements have been requested and agreed upon ahead of time).

**Restrictions:** For cane users or potential cane users 2-20 years of age (assuming for the latter that the individual is still in school).

White cane sizing and style would require assessment by a qualified Orientation and Mobility Specialist/Instructor, and requires a letter or documentation by said O&M.

For use wherever the individual travels (i.e. may be used in community, schools, vocation, vacation, both within and within the province or country of residence).

Return the previous (shorter) white cane to an O&M Instructor if no longer used.

This program is limited to families living in the region historically covered by *ASVI-Edmonton* since the 1970s: this included those geographically north of Red Deer (but now also includes Red Deer itself), all the way up to the greater Fort McMurray area.

It only covers the cost of canes that would fall under the definition of a "white cane", as per the *Alberta Blind Persons Rights Act*.

**Coverage:** Includes white canes classified as rigid or collapsible; white canes with alternate grips (cork, rubber – black, rubber – coloured, etc.); white canes comprised of graphite, aluminum, etc.; white canes with various cane tips; replacement cane tips, or alternate terrain tips.

**Duration:** This is a trial program from January 2023 – August 2024, or until funds expire (entire program capped at \$5000 CDN).