

VAD is happy to celebrate with individuals with disabilities the long overdue call for the indexing for AISH. An Act to Combat Poverty and Fight for Albertans with Disabilities has been introduced to legislation. If passed, Bill 26 would increase core and supplementary benefits for AISH, going up each year to keep up with inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

The bill increases the maximum monthly core benefit rate for a single person covered by AISH to \$1,685 from \$1,588. If passed, Bill 26 would take effect Jan. 1, 2019. The legislation would mark the first increase to AISH benefits since 2012. The legislation would increase savings limits to match general eligibility criteria for AISH.

Benefit - core rate examples for single people with no children	Current rate	New rate on Jan. 1
AISH	\$1,588	\$1,685
Income Support (expected to work)	\$627	\$745
Income Support (barriers to full employment)	\$809	\$866
Income Support (learners)	\$847	\$866
Alberta Seniors Benefit	\$280	\$285
Min. monthly disposable income for seniors in the lodge program	\$315	\$322

Examples of proposed eligibility changes

- The value of a person’s assets (vehicle, savings accounts, etc.) are considered when determining if they are eligible for benefits.
- If passed, the asset limits to access the following programs would go up on Jan. 1, 2019 to allow people to save for their future and regain their independence:

Benefit	Current asset limit	New asset limit on Jan. 1
AISH child allowance	\$3,000	\$100,000 (same as general AISH eligibility)
AISH personal benefits	\$3,000	\$5,000

<https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=61969950DFBC-EB3E-67D5-D2020578DC9A86F8&fbclid=IwAR1jLYjhf6FZCgSyZmAa2uqeZ4OjtEISQ-f26F6035SCL94HGttxltCLVM>

