

## VISUAL DEVICES PROGRAM

The Visual Devices Program is designed to make visual devices available on loan to visually impaired persons in order to enable them to read, write or move about in unfamiliar surroundings.

### FOR WHOM IS THE PROGRAM INTENDED?

The program is intended for persons insured under the Québec Health Insurance Plan who are blind or have low vision.

Persons eligible for the program are those whose visual acuity in each eye is less than 6/21, or whose visual field in each eye is less than 60° in the 180° and 90° meridians after correction by appropriate ophthalmic lenses (eyeglasses or contact lenses, but not special optical systems or additions of more than 4 dioptries).

To take advantage of the program, a student must be pursuing studies leading to a diploma, certificate or attestation recognized by the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, while a worker must be doing paid work as a salaried employee or as a self-employed individual.

### INSURED DEVICES AND SERVICES

Visual devices made available on loan include:

- **reading aids**, such as tape recorders, closed-circuit television systems, optical systems and calculators;
- **writing aids**, such as conventional typewriters and braille;
- **mobility aids**, such as white canes and electronic obstacle detectors.

Reading, writing and mobility aids of greater complexity, such as colour closed-circuit television systems with reading functions, can be loaned to elementary-school and secondary-school students, to college

and university students, and to workers. In addition, under certain program criteria (particularly those concerning studies), computer aids such as braille displays, voice synthesizers, print magnification systems and print recognition units may be loaned to these persons.

First-generation computer aids can be loaned for use in everyday activities and in volunteer work.

All persons benefiting from the program must first take training at one of the 12 accredited centres in order to learn how to use the visual devices loaned to them.

The cost of purchasing, replacing and repairing the visual devices is reimbursed by the Régie to the accredited centres that loan and service them.

Finally, persons benefiting from the program are granted \$210 for the cost of acquiring a **seeing-eye dog**, and \$1028 per year thereafter for the cost of looking after the dog.

### RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER

The cost of replacing visual devices that are lost, stolen or destroyed, and the cost of repairing visual devices used negligently, must be paid by the user. However, some of these costs may be covered by private supplemental insurance. For information, contact your insurer.

All visual devices no longer in use must be returned to the centre that loaned them.

### TO BENEFIT FROM THE PROGRAM

To benefit from the program, you must apply to one of the 12 accredited centres that have signed an agreement with the Régie and that specialize in rehabilitation of the visually impaired.

In addition, you must present your valid Health Insurance Card.

Your application will be studied, and you will be accepted for the program if you meet the eligibility requirements. Upon acceptance, the centre will provide you with the visual devices you need.

## Accredited Centres Specializing in Rehabilitation of the Visually Impaired

Centre de protection et de  
réadaptation de la Côte-Nord  
1250, rue de Lestrat  
**Baie-Comeau** (Québec) G5C 1T8  
Phone: 418 589-2038  
1 866 389-2038

Centre de réadaptation  
La RessourSe  
135, boulevard Saint-Raymond  
**Gatineau** (Québec) J8Y 6X7  
Phone: 819 777-8109

Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille  
1111, rue Saint-Charles Ouest  
**Longueuil** (Québec) J4K 5G4  
Phone: 450 463-1710  
1 800 361-7063

Centre de réadaptation L'Interaction  
(Hôpital de Mont-Joli)  
800, chemin du Sanatorium  
**Mont-Joli** (Québec) G5H 3L6  
Phone: 418 775-7261

Montreal Association for the Blind  
7000, rue Sherbrooke Ouest  
**Montréal** (Québec) H4B 1R3  
Phone: 514 489-8201

Institut de réadaptation en déficience  
physique de Québec  
(Centre Louis-Hébert)  
525, boulevard Hamel Est, aile J  
**Québec** (Québec) G1M 2S8  
Phone: 418 529-9141

Centre de réadaptation Le Bouclier  
60, rue Aubert  
**Repentigny** (Québec) J6A 4N8  
Phone: 450 581-3113  
1 888 880-8240

Centre de réadaptation La Maison  
100, chemin Docteur-Lemay  
C.P. 1055  
**Rouyn** (Québec) J9X 5C8  
Phone: 819 762-6592

Carrefour santé services sociaux  
de Jonquière (Déficience visuelle)  
2230, rue de l'Hôpital, C.P. 1200  
**Saguenay** (Québec) G7X 7X2  
Phone: 418 695-7700

Centre de réadaptation de la Gaspésie  
230, route du Parc, C.P. 370  
**Sainte-Anne-des-Monts** (Québec)  
G4V 2C4  
Phone: 418 763-3325

Centre de réadaptation Estrie inc.  
1930, rue King Ouest  
**Sherbrooke** (Québec) J1J 2E2  
Phone: 819 346-8411

Centre de réadaptation L'Interval  
375, rue Vachon  
**Trois-Rivières** (Québec) G8T 8P6  
Phone: 819 378-4083

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Go to our website at  
**www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca**

You may also obtain information by calling.

**In Québec City**  
418 646-4636

**In Montréal**  
514 864-3411

**Elsewhere in Québec**  
1 800 561-9749

**By TDD**  
(telecommunication device for the deaf)  
418 682-3939 (in Québec City)  
1 800 361-3939 (elsewhere in Québec)

**By mail**  
Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec  
PO Box 6600  
Québec (Québec) G1K 7T3

**Opening hours**  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
and Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Outside our opening hours, our office phone numbers  
connect you to an automated information system.

If you change your address, you must let us know. You  
can call or simply go to **www.adresse.info.gouv.qc.ca**.

*Ce document est aussi disponible en français.*

**Direction des communications**  
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