



# Attendant Care through SABS Ontario

June 19, 2023



## What is attendant care

Attendant care is a type of support service provided to individuals who require assistance with daily living tasks due to a physical, cognitive, or mental disability. The goal of attendant care is to help individuals with disabilities live as independently as possible while ensuring their safety and well-being.

These services are often provided by professional caregivers who are trained and experienced in working with individuals with disabilities and can be arranged through home care agencies or other healthcare providers. Depending on your specific needs, you may want to explore different options and consider factors such as need, cost, availability, and experience when making your decision.

## What is a Form 1

When you have been injured in a motor vehicle accident, the Ontario Insurance Act would like to know what sorts of claims (benefits) you are eligible for. They figure this out by having a healthcare professional fill out an assessment and ask you a series of questions and observe you doing different activities. This assessment is called an Assessment of Attendant Care Needs (Form 1).

A Form 1 is an assessment that helps to figure out what your life looks like after an accident and what activities you need help with. It takes a "snapshot in time" of how you are doing different activities, and what you find difficult after the motor vehicle accident (MVA) you experienced.



## Role of Occupational Therapist

An Occupational Therapist's role when doing a Form 1 is to tell your story to the insurance company by painting a picture of your life before and after the accident. This is done by their assessment of how you are functioning in your day-to-day activities in the areas of self-care, productivity and leisure. They also look at how much assistance you need to do these tasks. They want to know what your life was like before and after the accident. They keep in mind your unique interests, culture, environment, social relationships and more. They send this information to the insurance company, and the insurance broker decides which benefits you are eligible for.



# Attendant Care through SABS Ontario

June 19, 2023



## Levels of attendant care

Level 1 - Focuses on your personal care and hygiene. It also looks at whether it takes you more time to do the task and if you need assistance, cueing, reminders and more.

Level 2 - Focuses on your comfort, care, and safety. It also addresses whether you can respond to an emergency in a safe way. It takes into account your mental health, pain, and fatigue and how that impacts your functioning.

Level 3 - Focuses on how you can complete more complicated hygiene. It also looks at if you can perform exercises or your medication care. It considers whether you need more skilled services for behaviors that are a harm to yourself or others.

## Benefits of attendant care

With the help of an attendant care provider, individuals with disabilities can perform daily activities that they might not be able to do on their own. Attendant care services can help individuals with disabilities to remain in their own homes and communities, which can improve their overall quality of life.

Attendant care can play an important role in helping individuals who have suffered an economic loss as a result of a disability. In situations where a person's disability prevents them from being able to work or earn a living, attendant care services can provide crucial assistance with daily living tasks, allowing the person to focus on other aspects of their life, such as education, rehabilitation, or job training.



## CAT or non-CAT

Your injuries can be categorized as minor, non-catastrophic or catastrophic injuries which dictates your eligibility for attendant care benefits. This is always determined by the insurance company. A Form 1 can help an adjuster determine how much funding you will receive to help cover attendant care costs. The amount you could receive in attendant care benefits will depend on your situation. The nature and extent of your injury is of utmost importance. It is beneficial to seek professional advice from a personal injury lawyer or healthcare provider to understand eligibility for attendant care benefits and their limits. based on the latest changes to the SABS.