THE INCLUSION STRATEGIST

Free RDSP Starter Checklist

Everything you need to open an RDSP and claim the government money.

- [ ] **1. Confirm DTC eligibility**
  The Disability Tax Credit is the key that unlocks the RDSP. If the person the RDSP is for is not yet approved, start the T2201 application with the CRA first.

- [ ] **2. Get approved for the DTC**
  Once approved, the CRA notifies Employment and Social Development Canada. This is what makes the grants and bonds possible.

- [ ] **3. Choose where to open the RDSP**
  Banks, credit unions, and financial institutions can issue RDSPs. Pick one you trust and that you can reach easily.

- [ ] **4. Open the RDSP**
  You will need the beneficiary's SIN and DTC approval. The holder (often a parent) manages the plan.

- [ ] **5. Make your first contribution**
  There is no minimum to open most RDSPs. Even small, regular contributions add up, and they attract matching grants.

- [ ] **6. Claim the Canada Disability Savings Grant**
  The government matches contributions up to $3,500 per year, to a lifetime max of $70,000, based on family income.

- [ ] **7. Claim the Canada Disability Savings Bond**
  For lower-income families, the government deposits up to $1,000 per year with no contribution required, to a lifetime max of $20,000.

- [ ] **8. Know the $200,000 contribution limit**
  Lifetime contributions are capped at $200,000 per beneficiary. Grants and bonds do not count toward this cap.

- [ ] **9. Respect the 10-year holding rule**
  Grants and bonds must generally stay in the plan 10 years or they may be repaid. Plan withdrawals with this in mind.

- [ ] **10. Book your free conversation with Sean**
  Walk through your specific situation with someone who lives this stuff. It is free, and you will never get a bill.

Educational content only, not financial advice. Figures reflect 2026 program rules: $70,000 lifetime grant cap, $20,000 lifetime bond, $200,000 contribution limit.