

Except in Alberta, where 25 p.c. of an allowance is borne by the municipality, the whole cost is provided from provincial funds. In Quebec, not more than 5 p.c. of the amount of the allowances paid may be imposed on municipalities, but no levy has been made under this provision.

Each Act stipulates that an applicant must be a resident of the Province and, except in Alberta, have resided there for a certain period. Alberta merely requires that the husband should have had his home in the Province at the time of his death, committal to an institution or desertion of his wife.

Except in Saskatchewan and Alberta, nationality is an important condition of eligibility. In Quebec, the mother must possess Canadian citizenship by birth or have been a Canadian citizen for 15 years, or she must be the widow or the wife of such a Canadian citizen. In the remaining provinces, the applicant must be a British subject or the widow or wife of a British subject or her child must be a British subject. In Nova Scotia, the applicant herself must be a British subject, and in New Brunswick and Manitoba the child is eligible if he is a British subject, even if the mother is not. In British Columbia, a woman may be eligible if she is or was a British subject by birth or naturalization.

An applicant must be a widow, or a wife whose husband is mentally incapacitated or, except in Alberta, totally and permanently disabled. In some provinces mental disability means confinement in a provincial mental hospital. A permanent physical disability is also variously defined. The British Columbia and Quebec Acts, for example, specify a physical disability which may reasonably be expected to continue for at least one year; Saskatchewan for a period of nine months or more. In New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan, a mother is declared eligible if her husband is confined to a sanatorium for tuberculosis. In New Brunswick, the allowance may be continued if the parent in respect of whom the allowance is being paid is discharged from a sanatorium and following treatment at home. In Nova Scotia, an allowance may be paid regardless of whether the husband is in an institution or receiving treatment at home. In Saskatchewan, when the mother is deceased or in a mental institution or sanatorium, the allowance may be paid to the father if he is incapacitated and living at home with the children. Foster mothers caring for children whose parents are dead or disabled are also eligible, except in Nova Scotia and Alberta.

Deserted wives who meet specified conditions are eligible, except in Nova Scotia, but the period that must elapse after desertion varies from province to province. Mothers who have been divorced or legally separated from their husbands for two years are eligible in British Columbia, and a mother who is divorced may be paid an allowance in Saskatchewan. In British Columbia and Saskatchewan, the wives of inmates of penal institutions are eligible.

In Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec, allowances may be paid in respect of a legally adopted child. In Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, allowances are paid, in some cases, for children born out of wedlock.

Mothers of one or more children are eligible except in Nova Scotia, where the mother of one dependent child is eligible only if she is incapacitated, if she has residing with her a husband permanently disabled or if the welfare of the one child requires it.