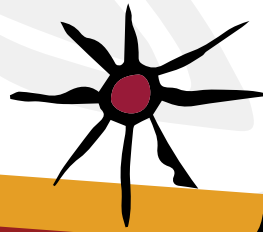


# Funding for the First Nations Child and Family Services Program

## 2023 - 2024



**This guide serves to provide an overview of the funding available to First Nations and First Nations Child and Family Services (“FNCFS”) agencies for the FNCFS Program in Fiscal Year 2023-2024.**

While the Parties to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (“CHRT”) decision negotiate on a Final Settlement Agreement (“FSA”) on the Long-Term Reform of the FNCFS Program, the CHRT has ordered that Canada takes immediate measures to begin remedying their discrimination. These immediate measures will continue, undisrupted until a Final Settlement Agreement is reached. The funding available through these immediate measures, and how to access it is as follows. Any questions, please see Terms and Conditions or contact Final Settlement Agreement team.



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## Prevention Funding

In their 2022 CHRT 8 Decision, the CHRT ordered Canada to fund prevention services at \$2500 per resident on-reserve, to be adjusted annually for population and inflation.

On April 1, 2022, Canada began funding prevention services in the above manner in advance of the complete reform of the FNCFS Program Funding. This funding replaced the reimbursement at actual costs for prevention services for FNCFS Agencies, and the prevention funding provided under the Community Well-Being and Jurisdiction Initiative to First Nations.

Prevention funding is intended to be used for programs and services that address the root causes of involvement with the Child and Family Services.

**First Nations and FNCFS Agencies do not need to apply for prevention funding, it will be disbursed by ISC.**

### Who is Eligible for Prevention Funding?

Funding for the delivery of these prevention services is allocated between First Nations and their affiliated FNCFS Agency. First Nations not served by a delegated FNCFS Agency will receive the entire \$2,500 per capita allocation.

FNCFS Agencies can continue to access funding for activities that fall under least disruptive measures through their protection envelope for families who have been identified as being at risk or likely to be at risk.

## Funding for Protection, Maintenance, and Operations

Under their 2018 CHRT 4 Orders, the CHRT ordered ISC to pay the actual costs incurred by delegated FNCFS agencies/service providers for protection services. This includes intake, investigation, legal fees, maintenance, and building repairs.

**FNCFS Agencies do not need to apply for this funding, it will continue to flow through existing agreements. However, should actual costs exceed the allocation disbursed by ISC, FNCFS agencies will be reimbursed for these additional actual costs following submission of a request for reimbursement.**



## Post-Majority Support Services

Canada was ordered to fund Post-Majority Support Services at actual costs by the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal in their 2022 CHRT 8 Decision. Post-Majority Support Services are intended to be a continuum of supports for First Nations youth and young adults formerly in care, to assist them with the transition to adulthood upon reaching the age of majority. These supports and services are to be funded through the FNCFS Program for First Nations youth who have aged out of care, up to the age of 26 across all provinces and territories, since April 1, 2022.

**Post-Majority Support Services are available at actual costs until March 31, 2024. First Nations and FNCFS Agencies must apply for this funding or submit receipts of actual costs expended for reimbursement. Reimbursement for actual costs can be submitted retroactively to April 1, 2022.**

### Who is Eligible for Post-Majority Support Services?

Any youth, regardless of whether they reside on or off-reserve, who meets one of the following criteria:

- A youth who is in alternate care approaching the age of majority.
- A young adult who was in care, as of the day they turned the age of majority and have not yet reached the age of 26.
- A youth in jurisdictions where voluntary provisions enable a youth to leave care prior to the age of majority.

\*Care status includes extended society care, guardianship, custody, alternate care, kinship care. The definition of care includes when a child or youth, ordinarily resident on reserve or in the Yukon, is funded through the FNCFS Program and has been placed to live outside of the family/home of origin.

### Who can Access Post-Majority Support Services

Youth who are eligible to receive Post-Majority Support Services must connect with their First Nation, FNCFS agency, or a First Nations authorized service provider (such as a First Nation Representative Services Program, or "band rep"). The following service providers can apply for, or make requests for funding on behalf of eligible First Nations:

- First Nations;
- Delegated First Nations Child and Family Services Agencies;
- First Nations authorized service providers.

The above service providers can submit requests for individual youth who are seeking supports, or they can make group requests for supports for multiple youth. Further, service providers can submit requests for funding for a program to deliver Post-Majority Support Services to youth.

## What is Eligible?

### Direct Eligible Costs for Post-Majority Support Services

Eligible activities under Post-Majority Support Services are based on the distinct needs of youth and young adults. They aim to ensure youth and young adults have access to the following:

- Financial Support and Safe, Stable, and Comfortable Housing;
- Learning, Education, and Professional Development Opportunities;
- Physical, Mental, and Social Well-Being;
- (Re)connect with Land, Culture, Language, and Community.

### Indirect Eligible Costs for Post-Majority Support Services

First Nations, FNCFS Agencies, and First Nations authorized service providers also have access to costs that relate to the delivery of Post-Majority Support Services that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Staff salaries and benefits to support the delivery of Post-Majority Support Services;
- Staff Travel and Transportation;
- Cost to support central administrative functions;
- Costs to support eligible First Nations youth transition to adulthood.

## Further Information and Support

When requests are made, the activities and costs are reviewed to ensure they align with the FNCFS Transitional Terms and Conditions (Section 5.2.1 Post-Majority Care).

For additional information on Post-Majority Support Services, please consult the ISC website at:

Post Majority Care Services for First Nations Youth and Young Adults

**Should a requestor require support in the development of their Post-Majority Support Services request, they can contact the ISC Ontario Regional offices for additional support.**



## First Nations Representative Services

In their 2018 CHRT 4 Decision, the CHRT ordered Canada to fund at actuals costs First Nations Representative Services, also called Band Representative Services until an alternative funding system is chosen.

First Nations Representative Services are services delivered by a First Nation or First Nations authorized service provider that provide for a First Nation's participation in child and family service, and child welfare processors involving its members.

For more information see FNCFS Transitional Terms and Conditions (Section 7 First Nations Representative Services).

### Funding for FNRS On-Reserve

First Nations Representative Services on-reserve is allocated based on previous actual expenditures.

**First Nations do not need to make a request for their allocation, it will be disbursed by ISC.**

**Additional funding for FNRS on-reserve can be accessed through the actuals claim process until a Final Settlement Agreement is complete. To access this additional funding, First Nations must demonstrate that 75% of their existing funding allocation for FNRS on-reserve has been expended.**

### Funding for FNRS Off-Reserve

Funding for delivering FNRS to children and families residing off-reserve continues to be available at actual costs to Ontario First Nations.

**First Nations must submit a funding request to access this funding. They are to be submitted to the ISC Ontario Regional Office.**

## Capital Assets

In their 2021 CHRT 41 decision, the CHRT ordered Canada to fund the purchase and construction of capital assets that support the delivery of the FNCFS Program and Jordan's Principle.

The Capital funding is intended to be used for capital needs assessments, feasibility studies, and the purchase and construction of capital assets related to the delivery of the FNCFS Program (including Post-Majority Support Services, and First Nations Representative Services) and Jordan's Principle.

**This funding is currently at actuals until a Final Settlement Agreement is concluded. First Nations and FNCFS Agencies must apply for this funding.**

For more information on Capital Funding, please consult the ISC website at:

Funding for Capital Assets: Jordan's Principle and First Nation Child and Family Services



## Who is Eligible?

The following funding requestors are eligible to apply for capital assets funding:

### FNCFS Stream

- First Nations;
- Delegated FNCFS Agencies;
- First Nations that have concluded a self-government agreement but have not exercised child and family services jurisdiction.

### Jordan's Principle

- First Nations and First Nations-authorized service providers supporting the delivery of Jordan's Principle services to First Nations children who live on-reserve in a province.

Please note that First Nations who have entered into a coordination agreement under the framework provided in An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit, and Metis children, youth, and families are not eligible for capital funding through this process.





## What is Eligible?

To be eligible for funding, a capital asset must support the delivery of one of the following:

### Jordan's Principle

Must support the delivery of Jordan's Principle services.

### FNCFS

Must support the delivery of child welfare services, including post-majority support services, prevention, and protection.

### First Nation Representative Services

Must support the delivery of FNRS (Band Rep services)

### Eligible Costs

The following are examples of eligible costs under both the FNCFS and the Jordan's Principle Streams:

- Capital needs assessments;
- Capital feasibility studies;
- Professional fees (contractor, architects, etc.);
- Purchase, new construction, renovation, and replacement of assets;

For a more comprehensive list, please consult the ISC website on capital.



### First Nations Child and Family Services Transitional Terms and Conditions

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1648577221890/1648577242550>

### Post Majority Support Services

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1650377737799/1650377806807>

### Capital

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1644603745673/1644603776364>

### ISC Ontario Region

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1603370021929/1603370103408>



For any further questions related to FNCFS Funding please contact Joanne MacMillan, Final Settlement Agreement Manager at [jmacmillan@nan.ca](mailto:jmacmillan@nan.ca)



