

Post-Majority Support Services Toolkit



First Nations Child and Family Services Program

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Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Canada



Post-Majority Support Services Toolkit: Version 2 (DRAFT)

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Trigger Warning

The information contained in this toolkit may be triggering.

If you are experiencing distress or crisis, please reach out for support:

Hope for Wellness: 1-855-242-3310
hopeforwellness.ca (chat option available online)

The Hope for Wellness Help Line offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention available 24/7, to all Indigenous peoples across Canada.

Kids Help Phone (toll free): 1-800-668-6868
Text "TALK" or "FIRST NATIONS" to 686868 to reach a counsellor
Kidshelpphone.ca

Kids Help Phone is an e-mental health services provider, available 24/7 to children, youth and young adults across Canada.

This document includes reference to:

- Multigenerational trauma
- Residential schools
- Canada's discrimination
- Child welfare/child and family services
- Care experience/care status
- Indigenous Services Canada
- Government (federal, provincial, territorial)
- Agencies and service providers
- Domestic and family violence



Glossary

Age of Majority – means the age when a child legally becomes an adult in the province or territory where the child lives. Depending on your province or territory this is 18 or 19.

Assembly of Seven Generations (A7G) – an Indigenous owned and youth-led non-profit organization focusing on cultural support and empowerment programs/policies for Indigenous youth and young adults.

Care – when a child or youth, ordinarily resident on reserve or in the Yukon, and has been placed to live outside of the family/home of origin. Care status, for example, includes extended society care, guardianship, custody, alternate care, and kinship care.

Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) – Tribunal mandated to apply the Canadian Human Rights Act and hear cases related to discrimination.

Child and Family Services – services provided by governmental or non-governmental organizations to support the well-being of children and their families.

Child Welfare League of Canada (CWLC) – national, membership-based charitable organization dedicated to promoting the safety and well-being of young people and their families, especially those who are marginalized and systemically oppressed.

First Nations Authorized Service Provider – an organization authorized by a First Nation community to deliver Post-Majority Support Services programming, supports or services on the behalf of the First Nation.

First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program – program, provided by the Minister as authorized by s. 6(2) of the *Department of Indigenous Services Act*, S.C. 2019, c. 29, s. 336. It provide funding and direction for funding for the delivery of child and family services to support the safety and well-being of First Nations children, youth and families, or any successor federal program or policy. Funding is provided as assistance or benefit to First Nations peoples, being a “service” within the meaning of the *Canadian Human Rights Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c H-6, s.5.

FNCFS Delegated and Partially Delegated Agencies – delegated agencies operate with protection and prevention authority; partially delegated agencies provide support and prevention services to children and families. Protection authority is delegated by the province or in the Yukon where services are being delivered. FNCFS agencies provide child and family services to First Nations and receive federal funding through the FNCFS program for these services. (FNCFS delegated and partially delegated agencies will be referred to as FNCFS agencies throughout the document).

First Nation Representative Services (FNRS) – FNRS support First Nations in having a voice when children, youth, young adults and families from their community are involved or at risk of being involved with the child and family services system. FNRS can act as ongoing form of support and advocacy for a child, youth or young adult. There are multiple opportunities for connections



to be made between FNRS and Post-Majority Support Services. With each respective service, providers play a role in promoting rights at the child, youth, and young adults. FNRS helps to ensure First Nations children, youth, young adults and families can meaningfully exercise their rights and have an advocate. As more information and resources become available, these will be shared with First Nations and posted to ISC's webpage on First Nations Representative Services: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1648916987446/1648917051790>.

Indian Status – the legal standing of a person who is registered under the Indian Act.

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) – a department of the Government of Canada that works collaboratively with partners to improve access to high-quality services for First Nations. ISC's vision supports and empowers Indigenous peoples to independently deliver services and address the socio-economic conditions in their communities.

ISC Regional Representative – an employee of ISC within the FNCFS Program that works out of a regional office.

Needs-based – services and programs that are provided based on need. Services and supports are more effective when they are specifically designed to meet a unique need depending on the circumstances of the youth or young adult's life at the timing of request.

Ordinarily Resident on Reserve – "Ordinarily resident" on a reserve means that an eligible First Nations person usually lives on a reserve and does not maintain a primary residence off a reserve. They may, however, temporarily live off a reserve for education purposes or to obtain services not available on a reserve.

Planning Models – a FNCFS service provider's plan to request Post-Majority Support Services funding. The planning model identifies who the funding will help support, and a breakdown of budgetary costs and planned results.

Post-Majority Support Services – supports and services provided to youth and young adults who have reached or are older than the age of majority in the province or territory where services are being sought.

Post-Majority Support Services Request Form – a form used to access ISC funding for the actual eligible costs of direct and indirect Post-Majority Support Services to eligible First Nations youth and young adults.

Request on Actuals – the process in which a request is funded (at the actual eligible cost of the direct or indirect service) through the FNCFS Program.

Service Provider – for the purposes of this toolkit, a service provider is an individual or an organization that funds a service to a youth or young adult either pre- or post-care.

Wrap around services – multiple services and supports provided to a youth or young adult and



their family in a coordinated and integrated manner. Wrap around services are developed through a holistic approach to meet the unique strengths and needs of each young person and their family.

Young Adult – a First Nations person who has reached the age of majority pursuant to a First Nations, provincial or territorial law until the day they turn 26 years old, or to the age as defined in provincial/Yukon legislation (whichever is greater).

Youth – a First Nations person who is at least twelve years old and below the age of majority pursuant to a First Nations, provincial or territorial law.



About this Toolkit

The purpose of this toolkit is to provide a communication resource to inform First Nations youth and young adults who are or have been in care, and First Nations and FNCFS providers, of the tools and supports available to them when navigating and accessing Post-Majority Support Services

Note that the eligibility criteria for accessing Post-Majority Support Services has recently been expanded to help support and eliminate gaps in services for First Nations youth and young adults.

This toolkit will be updated regularly. Please check the version number and “date last updated” identified on the cover. If you would like to confirm you have the latest version, contact us at: sefnp-fncfs@sac-isc.gc.ca.

Context

Youth exiting or leaving care due to having reached the age when mandated or legislated services end (usually at the Age of Majority) are often referred to as “aging out of care.” Services and supports that are provided past the age of majority are often called post-majority services and supports.

Background

In response to a 2007 complaint filed by the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada (Caring Society) and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), in 2016, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT or Tribunal) found that Canada discriminated in the provision of child and family services to First Nations on reserve and in the Yukon, on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, by providing inequitable and insufficient funding for those services. Canada was ordered to cease its discriminatory practices, take measures to reform the FNCFS Program and prevent the discrimination from continuing. The 2016 CHRT decision can be found here:

<https://decisions.chrtcdp.gc.ca/chrtcdp/decisions/en/item/127700/index.do?q=2016+chrt+2>

Since 2016, the CHRT has issued a series of subsequent orders to reform the FNCFS Program a for which CHRT has retained oversight to ensure Canada complies with its orders. In response to current programmatic gaps and as a result of a joint consent order issued by the CHRT in the Immediate Measures order, Canada, agreed, as part of long term reform of the FNCFS Program to fund expanded Post-Majority Support Services up to an individual’s 26th birthday or to the age as defined in provincial/Yukon legislation (whichever is greater). Service delivery has also been extended to include both First Nations and First Nations Authorized Service Providers.



The implementation of Post-Majority Support Services started on April 1, 2022, as a step toward FNCFS Program reform, and eligible expenses can be incurred retro-actively from April 1, 2022. The CHRT's 2022 CHRT 8 decision on Immediate Measures order can be found here: <https://decisions.chrt-tcdp.gc.ca/chrt-tcdp/decisions/en/item/520915/index.do>

Youth in care and young adults formerly in care are considered a marginalized group with unique needs who require specific supports. First Nations youth aging out of care and young adults formerly in care may have higher needs due to the multigenerational trauma of residential schools and hardships arising from Canada's discrimination found by the CHRT.

Current evidence and research suggests that to equitably support youth who will be leaving care, or young adults who have already left care, services need to be extended to at least 25 years of age and beyond.

The *Children Back, Land Back: A Follow-Up Report of First Nations Youth In Care Advisors* by the Assembly of Seven Generations (A7G)¹, indicates the need for Canada to make systemic changes to improve the lives of youth within the system of First Nations Child and Family Services and their transition out of it.

The report emphasizes the need for:

- improved and expanded resources such as: service navigators, employment opportunities, stable housing, mental health support, access to foods, community and cultural (re)connection supports and support towards education and life skills; and
- resources to be provided in a non-judgmental, non-discriminatory way and to be in collaboration with the youth leaving care and to ensure it is based on their own readiness level.

¹ https://www.a7g.ca/uploads/9/9/9/1/99918202/79004_land_back_report_v5f.pdf



How does ISC's funding for Post-Majority Support Services fit into this?

Post-Majority Support Services include a continuum of supports for First Nations youth and young adults formerly in care to assist them with their transition to adulthood upon reaching the age of majority which may be 18 or 19 depending on the province or territory they live in. Post-Majority Support Services aim to support the safety and well-being of First Nations youth and young adults in an approach that is culturally appropriate, in their self-identified best interest, and provided on the basis of substantive equality.

Funding for Post-Majority Support Services will support the delivery of wrap around services that promote holistic positive outcomes for thriving youth and young adults, and meets their distinct needs. Supports could include assistance with housing, food, employment and financial security, mental health, wellness, addiction supports, cultural supports and healthy relationships.

Canada remains committed to compensating those harmed by child and family services policies, and is aware that the expansion of the Post-Majority Support Services Program serves as one step to mending past wrongs. An expanded Post-Majority Support Services Program works to lay a strong foundation for a more equitable future for First Nations children, youth, young adults, their families and communities.

Post-Majority Support Services intends to provide First Nations youth and young adults the same support and opportunities to thrive as any other youth or young adult in Canada. This will aid in supporting their distinct needs and self-identified goals as youth and young adults transition into adulthood.

"The reality of many Indigenous youth is not having access to appropriate services when they need them most. This lack of service impedes the success of Indigenous youth in multiple areas of life including education and employment"²

² https://www.a7g.ca/uploads/9/9/9/1/99918202/mapping_indigenous_youth_services_a7g_-_final_.pdf



Navigating Post-Majority Support Services

Who is eligible for Post-Majority Support Services?

- Youth who are in FNCFS care* approaching the age of majority. A youth is in FNCFS care when the care costs for the child or youth are funded by the FNCFS Program;
- Youth who were in FNCFS care* and who exercised a voluntary care provision to leave care prior to the age of majority;
- Individuals who have reached the age of majority, who are under the age of 26 or the eligibility age for post-majority services specified in the applicable provincial or Yukon legislation (whichever age is greater), and who were in FNCFS care* on the day they reached the age of majority;
- Youth who are in care* funded by the province or Yukon, are ordinarily resident on reserve, or residing in the Yukon, and are approaching the age of majority;
- Youth who were in care* funded by the province or Yukon, who exercised a voluntary care provision to leave care prior to the age of majority and who are ordinarily resident on reserve, or residing in the Yukon; and
- Individuals who have reached the age of majority, who are under the age of 26 or the eligibility age for Post-Majority services specified in the applicable provincial or Yukon legislation (whichever age is greater), who were in care funded by the province or Yukon on the day they reached the age of majority and who are ordinarily resident on reserve, or residing in the Yukon

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

What is Voluntary Protection?

A “voluntary protection” clause is a sentence or phrase in a province or territory’s child and family services legislation that enables a young person to decline or withdraw from protective services at a certain age. In other words, a youth can make the decision to be involved with a service provider for protective intervention/services or not, as outlined in the applicable legislation.

Scenario:

If a First Nations youth in New Brunswick makes the decision to leave care at the age of 16, they may be eligible to access Post-Majority Support Services through the FNCFS Program after the date they turned 16 instead of waiting until they turn the age of majority, which is 19 in New Brunswick.



What is Age of Protection?

The age of protection is the age specified by a province’s or territory’s legislation that defines the age that the province or territory is mandated to provide protection services up to. When a youth reaches the age of protection before the age of majority, in applicable provinces and territories, they are able to make decisions about the services they are involved with or access voluntarily. For example:

- In Newfoundland and Labrador the age of protection is 16 whereas the age of majority in this province is 19.
- In Saskatchewan the age of protection is 16 whereas the age of majority in this province is 18.

Child and family service legislation can be very different in each First Nation or province and territory in Canada. The region you reside in may use different language and criteria with the associated legislation and service agreements. It is important that young people and providers discuss eligibility and the age at which Post-Majority Support Services can be accessed.

Information on how legislation varies across Canada can be found on this webpage by accessing the respective legislation in the region where services are sought or by connecting with your First Nation to inquire about the applicable child and family services legislation:

[Additional references and links provided by the provinces and territories](#)

Below is a chart that summarizes the age of majority, age of protection, age of eligibility, and associated post-majority support programming in each province and the Yukon.

Province/ Yukon (P/Y)	Age of Majority	Age of Protection	Age of P/Y Post- majority Support Services	Associated P/Y Program
Alberta	18	18	18-24	https://www.alberta.ca/transition-to-adulthood-program.aspx#:~:text=The%20new%20Transition%20to%20Adulthood,young%20adults%20for%20merly%20in%20care
British Columbia	19	19	Up to age 27	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/youth-and-family-services/teens-in-foster-



				care/agreements-with-young-adults
Manitoba	18	18	Up to age 21	https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/cfsmanual/1.1.8.html
New Brunswick	19	19	Up to age 24	https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/social_development/services/services_renderer.12675.html
Newfoundland and Labrador	19	16	Up to age 21	https://www.gov.nl.ca/cssd/childprotection/#youthservices
Nova Scotia	19	19	Up to and including the year when they reach their 24 th birthday	https://novascotia.ca/coms/families/post-care-and-custody-agreements.html
Ontario	18	18	Up to 21 st birthday, may last for up to 12 months	https://www.ontario.ca/page/support-youth-child-welfare-system
Prince Edward Island	18	18	For youth aged 18-21	https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/sites/default/files/legislation/c-05-1-child_protection_act.pdf
Quebec	18	18	Until the age of 25	https://cisss-outaouais.gouv.qc.ca/language/en/accessing-a-service/children-youth-and-families/troubled-youth-and-families/youth-qualification-program/
Saskatchewan	18	16	Aged 18 to 21	https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/family-and-social-support/youth-services
Yukon	19	19	Up to 24 th birthday	https://yukon.ca/en/places/children-care-and-custody-services

*Note that associated programming within the province or in the Yukon where services are being sought does not preclude an eligible youth or young adult in accessing Post-Majority Support Services via the FNCFS Program.



Does a youth or young adult need to return to their care provider to access services?

In acknowledging the inter-generational and devastating impacts the child welfare system has had on First Nations peoples, Canada recognizes a youth's or young adult's care experience or provider may not be safe for them to revisit. In an attempt to reduce barriers for young people accessing services, multiple options for providers of Post-Majority Support Services have been integrated into this model. There is no requirement to go back to your care provider to receive post-majority support specific programming and services under the FNCFS Program.

Post-Majority Support Services are voluntary, which means that youth or young adults who have reached the age of majority or have left care voluntarily are given the support to make the decisions about the services that will help them thrive into adulthood.

Can Post-Majority Support Services be accessed at the same time as other programs?

Post-Majority Support Services do not intend to replace other programs; rather they serve to equitably support youth and young adults who will be exiting care or have transitioned out of care. They aim to work in conjunction with other existing programs and not limit or negatively impact youth or young adults in accessing the services they need to transition to adulthood.

Post-Majority Support Services are determined based on the needs of the individual, the young person's self-identified goals and their life plan. This allows for a delivery that includes both consistent and/or episodic supports based on readiness.

A readiness approach means that if a youth or young adult had previously withdrawn from Post-Majority Support Services for a particular reason and/or circumstances in their life had changed, they could access Post-Majority Support Services again at a later time until they are ready to disengage from services or until they reached their 26th birthday or the age consistent with the territorial or provincial legislation where they live, whichever is greater.

What supports can be accessed under Post-Majority Support Services?

Eligible activities under Post-Majority Support Services are based on the distinct needs of youth and young adults and could include the activities listed in the tables below. This table was informed by the research with lived experts outlined in these two reports:

https://www.a7g.ca/uploads/9/9/9/1/99918202/79004_land_back_report_v5f.pdf

<https://www.cwlc.ca/post/equitable-standards-for-transitions-to-adulthood-for-youth-in-care-public-report-policy-brief>



The term “needs-based” refers to services and programs that are provided based on need. Services and supports are more effective when they are specifically designed to meet a unique need depending on the circumstances of the youth’s or young adult’s life at the timing of request. Additionally, there can be more than one request submitted and eligible supports can be funded on behalf of a youth or young adult as their circumstances continue to change and as needs arise.

Needs often drive behavioral responses. More information can be found here:
[Strengths/Needs-Based Support for Children, Youth & Families \(martybeyer.com\)](https://martybeyer.com/Strengths/Needs-Based-Support-for-Children-Youth-&Families)

"Youth is an important time to nurture the physical, emotional, and spiritual balance that is foundational for mental wellness. This balance is enhanced through strong connections with culture, family and community."³

The report *Justice, Equity and Culture: The First-ever YICC Gathering of First Nations Youth Advisors*, highlights equity, as one of the major themes for child welfare reform.

Equity means adequate needs assessments for youth instead of a one-size-fits-all formula. There must be available and accessible education and services so First Nations youth in care can live happy and full lives.⁴

FNCFS Post-Majority Support Services aims to ensure youth and young adults have access to:

Financial Support & Safe, Stable, Comfortable Housing

- ✓ Needs-based financial support (i.e. budgeting, credit, money management)
- ✓ Equitable funding to meet basic needs (i.e. accessing clothing and hygiene items)
- ✓ Livable basic income based on local realities and inflation
- ✓ Financial literacy programs and access to financial advisors
- ✓ Financial planning
- ✓ Financial costs and support to acquire various forms of identification (i.e. birth certificate, government ID, passports)
- ✓ Financial cost and support for driver’s permit and driver’s education

³ <https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-PHO-Sacred-and-Strong-Youth.pdf>

⁴ https://www.a7q.ca/uploads/9/9/9/1/99918202/38228_chrt_compensation_report_v5_final.pdf



- ✓ Needs-based financial support
- ✓ Rent and rent subsidies
- ✓ Interim housing options during transition of youth to independence
- ✓ Housing stability during transition to adulthood
- ✓ Supports in viewing housing, guidance, transportation
- ✓ Moving costs and support
- ✓ Housing-related skills training
- ✓ Basic household necessities
- ✓ Basic household utilities (i.e. internet connectivity and clean water)
- ✓ Home repairs
- ✓ Life /home skills including in home supports (i.e. cooking, housekeeping, planning, life coaching)
- ✓ Clothing including clothing required for employment
- ✓ Personal care and hygiene including menstrual supplies

“Living well is connected to one’s cultural, emotional, intellectual, and physical well-being – all of which are interconnected with each other.”⁵

Learning, Educational & Professional Development Opportunities

- ✓ Education mentorship and support
- ✓ Assistance to navigate education systems and options
- ✓ Access to resources and support related to education, rights
- ✓ Education-related costs
- ✓ Professional development and skills training, and/or career path planning
- ✓ Specialized supports (i.e. tutoring, career counselling)
- ✓ Cultural learning (i.e. regalia, resources, and opportunities)
- ✓ Technology required for education (i.e. laptop)
- ✓ Financial support for training/certifications (i.e. first aid, food safe, childcare)

“For Indigenous Peoples’, increasing educational attainment has the additional benefit of closing the employment gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Education and career are key factors in living a good life, balanced with their culture, ways of knowing and being, and language(s).”⁶

⁵ <https://www.rhf-frh.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Indigenous-Youth-Well-Being-Report-EN.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.rhf-frh.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Indigenous-Youth-Well-Being-Report-EN.pdf>



Physical, Mental and Social Well-being

- ✓ Noninsured medical, dental and allied health services prescribed by relevant professional
- ✓ Sexual and gender identity health supports (i.e. education related to sexually transmitted diseases, sexual health)
- ✓ Recreation and sport
- ✓ Funding to ensure consistent access to holistic health services, transportation, support navigating health systems
- ✓ Counselling
- ✓ Healthy relationships counselling/support (i.e. Personal safety, gang involvement, domestic violence, healthy boundaries, addictions)
- ✓ Trauma informed Mental Health and Addictions support options
- ✓ Access to treatment
- ✓ Support for family violence and/or domestic violence
- ✓ Early intervention and parenting services for youth expecting a child or who have dependents, if needed
- ✓ Nutrition training, mentorship (i.e. groceries, meal planning)
- ✓ Access to physical activity supports
- ✓ Rehabilitative supports, when required
- ✓ Self-care and well-being training and supports

“Relationships and connections to family, community, and one’s Nation serve as anchoring points that help foster a sense of being loved and supported by others”⁷

(Re)connect with Land, Culture, Language & Community

- ✓ Building lifelong connection to community and develop support networks (i.e. mentorship)
- ✓ Youth-centered permanency planning
- ✓ Reconnection with family, community, culture (i.e. costs and expenses related to maintain and/or reconnecting with family, community and culture)
- ✓ Family mediation and counselling
- ✓ Safe reintegration into community and culture of origin (i.e. visits to community of origin)
- ✓ Cultural programs and ceremony, land-based wellness)
- ✓ Funding for language/identity (i.e. courses, workshops, resources)
- ✓ Support and guidance from Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers, traditional knowledge
- ✓ Cultural youth groups and peer supports

⁷ <https://www.fnha.ca/wellness/wellness-for-first-nations/first-nations-perspective-on-health-and-wellness>



The FNCFS program's Terms and Conditions⁸ includes the list of eligible expenditures under the care and maintenance funding stream that support the development and delivery of Post-Majority Support Services. The hiring of additional staff such as a navigator to support the development and delivery of Post-Majority Support Services programming is eligible.

First Nations and FNCFS providers have access to funding to support the following:

Eligible Expenditures

- ✓ Operational and direct support services to implement a young adult's transition plan
- ✓ Provincial or Yukon approved professional services (i.e. child representation and/or associated legal services, where funding from other sources was or will not be received, in whole or in part, to support that activity)
- ✓ Support and guidance from Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers, traditional knowledge
- ✓ Staff salaries and benefits to support the direct delivery of Post-Majority Support Services
- ✓ Employee assistance program costs
- ✓ Staff travel and transportation
- ✓ Staff recruitment, training and professional development costs (i.e. training, workshops)
- ✓ Costs to support the central administration functions (i.e. administrative overhead and costs such as office lease, computer and IT, utilities, insurance and janitorial and ground maintenance services to support the delivery of services)
- ✓ Interpretation costs (i.e. cultural and First Nations language supports to ensure the delivery of culturally appropriate services)
- ✓ After hours and crisis intervention supports
- ✓ Professional dues and subscriptions (i.e. licenses, memberships, insurance fees)
- ✓ Costs related to development or purchase, implementation and evaluation of client information management and technology systems (i.e. data collection, data management and analysis)
- ✓ Costs to support the development and implementation, audits, monitoring, program evaluation
- ✓ Provisions to ensure privacy, security and proper management of records
- ✓ Incorporation costs and incorporation reporting costs (i.e. annual general meetings)
- ✓ Costs to support eligible First Nations youth and young adults transition into adulthood and independence (i.e. housing assistance, health and wellness activities and supports, life skills development, education activities or assistance, community and cultural (re)connection and assistance to establish family and social relationships and self-care supports)

⁸ <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1648577221890/1648577242550>



Who can request funding for Post-Majority Support Services?

In order to access supports through Post-Majority Support Services, an eligible First Nations youth or young adult will need to connect with their First Nation or an FNCFS service provider. The following service providers can apply/make requests for funding for the provision of Post-Majority Support Services:

- A delegated or partially delegated FNCFS Agency and provincial/Yukon service provider;
- A First Nation; and,
- A First Nation Authorized Service Provider.

Services are funded-based on the actual eligible costs and examples of eligible costs can be found above. The timeframe for requests on actuals process will be processed in a 15-business day window to fund requests.

See the Post-Majority Support Services funding section on page 18 for more information on how funding for Post-Majority supports is accessed by each type of eligible provider.

The expansion of Post-Majority Support Services service providers in the FNCFS Program to include First Nations and First Nation Authorized Service Providers signifies:

- Greater scope for providers and greater access to services for youth;
- More control for First Nations to develop and deliver community-led, needs based programming;
- Shift toward a more holistic service delivery model, empowering First Nations to address gaps in service that had been created by colonial child welfare systems.

Post-Majority Support Services Funding Request

Post-Majority Support Services funding intends to enable First Nations, FNCFS providers and First Nations Authorized Service Providers to fill gaps in services for youth in care approaching the age of majority and young adults formerly in care.

The request form included in this Toolkit serves to confirm eligibility of the young person and has been developed to support the planning and requests of Post-Majority Support Services funding

- **Annex A: Post-Majority Support Services Request**

The data collected in the request forms will directly contribute to long-term reform of the FNCFS Program, and the planned results will help develop forecasting for Post-Majority Support Service needs and the future of the FNCFS Program.



What are indirect services?

Indirect services are costs or activities related to operational activities that support the development and delivery of Post-Majority Support Services implemented for eligible First Nations youth and young adults under the FNCFS Program.

What are direct services?

Direct services are activities, services and costs that ensure young people:

- Have opportunities to learn and grow in ways that are meaningful to them, their goals and life plan;
- Have the financial resources to meet their needs in a secure and consistent way;
- Have timely ongoing services that support their health and well-being; and
- Are connected to their families, culture and communities in ways that meet their needs and are meaningful to them.

In requesting advance funding or direct reimbursement the following elements and considerations are reviewed:

- The activities and costs are eligible and align with the corresponding sections 5.2 and 6.3 of the [FNCFS Transitional Terms and Conditions](https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1648577221890/1648577242550):
<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1648577221890/1648577242550>
- Evidence and documentation are included to support the funding request

The additional documentation below may be required to include when requesting funding:

- Financial details (needs or costs incurred) to support the proposed activities;
- Administrative costs to deliver the services; and
- Linkages to the FNCFS program Terms and Conditions:
 - Community or needs assessment in relation to Post-Majority supports services
 - Proposed activities to address the needs and the planned results.

Examples of supporting documentation could include: funding proposal, community plan, needs assessment, community priorities, job descriptions, payroll documents, copy of comparable provincial wages and benefits, organization chart, cash flow of budget forecast, salary grids, invoices, travel receipts and policies, quotes, general ledgers details or any other documentation as requested.

Should a requestor require support in the development of their Post-Majority Support Services request, contact your ISC regional office:

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100016936/1534342668402>

For additional information, consult ISC's website:

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



Post-Majority Support Planning and Development Considerations

- As a general rule, at what age might you start preparing children and youth in care for the transition out of care?
- What supports could be provided to family or extended family (including siblings who are in care) to nurture positive relationships when the young person in care reaches the age of majority?
- What supports can be provided to maintain or reconnect and nurture the youth or young adult's connection to their community and culture?
- What are some best practices (and the conditions that made those best practices possible) for Post-Majority Support Services?
- What might the range of services that could be provided to young people aging out of care until age 26 look like?
- What mechanisms could be in place to ensure the young person has a key role in shaping the services they receive and to ensure they are of a high-quality?
- What tools, training and resources should be provided to staff working with young people receiving Post-Majority Support Services?
- How could Post-Majority Support Services be provided to young people transitioning from care or who have transitioned out of care in urban centers or living away from community?
- What special measures could be taken to support young people aging out of care with mental and or physical disabilities?
- What special measures could be taken to support L2SLGBTQ+ young people transitioning from care or who have aged out of care?
- What supports could to be provided to young people receiving Post-Majority Support Services who are incarcerated?
- What supports could be provided to young people receiving Post-Majority Support Services who have mental health and/or addictions challenges?
- What supports could to be provided to young people receiving Post-Majority Support Services who are parents or are looking after younger family members?

Reporting Requirements

ISC collects program data to support requirements, funding allocation, performance reporting, accountability, program planning, policy analysis and operational requirements.

Below are the links to the general reporting requirements under ISC and the specific reporting form for Post-Majority Support Services, which is titled the "Activities and Expenditures Report". First Nation and FNCFS providers who are accessing funding through ISC are required to complete the program reporting outlined in their funding agreements. More information is found in the **reporting guide**:

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1573764124180/1573764143080>



Please refer to the report for Post-Majority Support Services titled “**Activities and Expenditures Report**” for instructions and , please find the **instructions** here:

https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/DAM/DAM-ISC-SAC/DAM-TRNSPRCY/STAGING/texte-text/dci_2021_2022-4548549_ins_1607385679880_eng.pdf

and **the form to fill in** here:

https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/DAM/DAM-ISC-SAC/DAM-TRNSPRCY/STAGING/texte-text/dci_2022_2023_4548549fil_1639493196216_eng.pdf

Funding for First Nations

First Nation communities can submit a request on actuals for Post-Majority support services and supports delivered by First Nations, either to fund programming being developed by the community to help support those youth and young adults who are eligible for Post-Majority support services, or by funding supports directly to those eligible youth and young adults. Funding can be accessed by:

- Submission through request on actuals.
- ISC regions will support the use of planning models which could include business planning models. For example: A business plan model outlines the submission, and any other supporting documentation relevant to the submission.

Funding for First Nations Authorized Service Providers

A First Nations Service Provider is authorized by the First Nation they will serve through written documentation. This is a document prepared by a First Nation community that states post-majority support services will be delivered to eligible First Nations youth and young adults by the authorized service provider.

First Nations authorized service providers can access funding through a request on actuals submission and planning models which could include business planning models.

Funding for delegated and partially delegated FNCFS Agencies, provincial and territorial service providers

For FNCFS Agencies that previously requested funding through the FNCFS Program, the request on actuals process for post-majority support funding will look similar to what would be submitted within the existing FNCFS Program claims on actuals process.



Over recent years, various FNCFS programming and services have been funded through the claims on actuals process. For post-majority support specifically the terminology being used is “request” instead of “claim” to be inclusive of funding of reimbursement and future proposal requests.

FNCFS Agencies and provincial/Yukon providers will access post-majority support funding through existing processes, which could include:

- Annual submission through existing mechanisms (where said mechanisms enable timely reimbursement at actual cost) which could include planning models
- Submission through request on actuals for care and maintenance or intake and investigation
- Partially delegated/mandated agencies can also bill for Post-Majority Support Services through the maintenance or intake and investigation funding at actuals streams
- Planning models which could include business planning models

Post-Majority Support Services funding in support of an individual youth or young adult

If an individual First Nations youth or young adult reaches out to an authorized service provider and is seeking assistance for Post-Majority Support Services, help can be provided in various ways. Once eligibility is confirmed, assistance can be made available either through individual support, financial assistance, life planning, or other individualized direct services.

As a service provider, Post-Majority Support Services delivery can ensure that First Nations youth and young adults have access to:

culturally appropriate services and supports that meet their needs and are substantively equal

stability and connection in areas of housing, employment, education, mental health, and well-being

financial support

the opportunity to remain connected and actively engaged in their communities, language, and culture



holistic support through an approach that recognizes historical and contemporary disadvantage and contextual and cultural differences

access to supports that promote safety, security, and stability to develop necessary life skills

Post-Majority Support Services funding enables service providers to develop and deliver long-overdue post-majority support programming and offer necessary and relevant services to assist First Nation youth and young adults determine their own needs and self-identified goals as they transition into adulthood. This could include assistance with housing, food, employment and financial security, mental health, wellness, addiction supports, mentorship and culturally relevant professional and personal development supports to help foster healthy relationships.

Scenario:

A youth approaches their First Nation. They have transitioned from care and want to go to culinary school and work. They are seeking support in reaching their goals.

They sought support from their First Nation directly and asked about post-majority supports and whether there would be supports available to assist them in getting to and from school, as well as coverage for their specialized equipment required for their culinary program. The First Nation verified the youth's eligibility under Post-Majority Supports Services.

The First Nation has a navigational support worker whose role is to directly support youth through Post-Majority Supports Services.

The navigational support worker and the youth review the youth's needs and goals and come up with a plan together. Through this involvement the following supports were funded to aid in the youth's transition to reaching their self-identified goals: driver's education and permit costs, a bus pass for daily transport, and the specialized equipment that was required for their culinary schooling.

The youth and the navigational support worker will continue to work together on building life skills and revisiting the youth's plan to ensure they are supported in reaching their goals.



Post-Majority Support Services funding to support youth and young adults collectively in their First Nation

Funding from Post-Majority Support Services can be used in the community to develop dedicated programming on a community level to support eligible young people.

Post-Majority Support Services being funded federally will fill service gaps that have otherwise left youth and young adults disadvantaged post-care. Given that some service providers will be new to delivering Post-Majority Support Services, capacity building and program development will be critical at this stage. Through the current funding through the actuals process, which reimburses the actual eligible amount of indirect and direct service costs, an authorized service provider can request funding to start developing programming for the First Nation's youth and young adults post-care collectively in addition to individually.

Programming thrives when providers collaborate on the services being delivered in community, and post-majority supports is no exception. The hope is that providers collaborate on the services that are being provided to youth and young adults within a First Nation to both strengthen existing networks of support to meet the actual needs of youth and young adults at a community level, and minimize service duplication.

Scenario:

Through consultation with community members and partner programs in a First Nation, it was determined that the youth and young adults leaving care in the community could really benefit from building financial literacy skills through culturally relevant financial education and mentorship. The First Nation consulted with a financial institution for help in developing their own programming to be delivered within the community, that highlights the unique needs and circumstances of the First Nation's youth and young adults.

Funding Post-Majority Support Services through the FNCFS Program allows for First Nations or FNCFS service providers to develop unique Post-Majority Support Services to assist the First Nation youth and young adults in their communities as they emerge into adulthood.

Below is a chart which highlights eight areas, or pillars, where youth and young adults need support in order to transition equitably from childhood through to adulthood. The chart is the 8 Transition Pillars identified by the Child Welfare League of Canada in the ***Equitable Standards for Transitions to Adulthood for Youth in Canada***

https://www.cwlc.ca/files/ugd/f54667_45d7b4d41270453e8d720296d22edc6c.pdf



The foundation of financial support provides the materials to build on the other areas of support. Each component works together and all are necessary for youth and young adults to be adequately supported during their transition to adulthood. The pillars were developed in an evidence informed way through research and engagement with young people that are lived experts. **The Standards⁹**

- 1



Financial: Every young person should have the financial resources required to meet their needs. Youth in care deserve to have a financial starting point that is above the poverty line, and allows them to pursue their career interests and dreams.
- 2



Educational & Professional Development: Every young person should experience an environment where they can learn and grow in ways that are meaningful to them and at their own pace.
- 3



Housing: Every young person should have a place they can call home, without strict rules and conditions to abide by.
- 4



Relationships: Every young person should have people in their life that they can count on unconditionally and interdependently. Youth in care need to feel that they belong, have worth and are valuable members of their communities.
- 5



Culture & Spirituality: Every young person should be connected to their culture and spirituality, in ways that are meaningful to them, safe, and at their own pace.
- 6



Health & Wellbeing: Every young person should be provided with timely ongoing services and benefits that support their lifelong health and well-being. These supports need to be offered within a trauma-informed, non-judgemental harm reduction approach, without significant wait times.
- 7



Advocacy & Rights: Every young person should have their rights respected and should experience environments where their voices are heard, and their silence is addressed holistically.
- 8



Emerging Adulthood Development: Every young person should experience environments that cultivate personal growth and development as they transition into adulthood.

A paramount consideration of Post-Majority Support Service delivery is to support First Nations youth and young adults to thrive during their journey to adulthood. This includes their self-identified best interests, their physical, emotional, mental, cultural, relational, and psychological

⁹ <https://www.cwlc.ca/post/equitable-standards-for-transitions-to-adulthood-for-youth-in-care-evaluation-model>



safety, security, and well-being. Recognizing that First Nations through amplifying the voices of their youth and young adults are best positioned to advance their collective well-being for generations to come.

The First Nations Mental Wellness Framework can guide communities to better plan, implement, and coordinate comprehensive responses to the full range of mental wellness challenges in a manner consistent with community priorities. It outlines how communities can adapt, optimize, and realign their mental wellness programs and services to achieve a comprehensive continuum of quality programs and services.



10

The Framework describes the four key wellness outcomes. From coast to coast to coast, First Nations people have said that: a connection to spirit (i.e. identity, values, and belief) promotes hope; a connection to family, community, land, and ancestry promotes a strong sense of belonging; knowing who one is and where one comes from allows one to think and feel and understand life from an Indigenous perspective and promotes a sense of meaning; and an understanding of the unique First Nations way of being and doing in the world promotes purpose.

The Framework outlines how communities and governments can realign their existing services and funding to build a more culturally based system of services. It is clear that application of this framework must be driven by the needs and priorities identified by communities. More information is available in the full report.

https://thunderbirdpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/24-14-1273-FN-Mental-Wellness-Summary-EN03_low.pdf

¹⁰ https://thunderbirdpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/24-14-1273-FN-Mental-Wellness-Summary-EN03_low.pdf



Advocacy and rights

Youth and young adults in and from care have rights under the law and it is important that they be aware of this vital information regarding their care, rights, safety and future. Young people have a variety of supports and services available to them and it is important that they are supported in understanding and exercising their rights.

When a youth or young adult has been involved with FNCFS, it is documented. Youth and young adults have the right to access information about themselves and their care experience. There are multiple options that youth and young adults can take in accessing information from their relevant file. Some of these options could include contacting their previous care provider, contacting their First Nation to support this process, reaching out to other involved support people or asking family and friends for help in navigating this.

Children have the right to be treated fairly, the right to decisions being made in their best interest, the right to life survival and development, and having their opinions taken into account.

For more information on children's rights visit:

- ✓ Convention on the Rights of the Child
<https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/convention-text-childrens-version>.
- ✓ Rights of Children, Children First Canada
<https://childrenfirstcanada.org/>

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) protects the rights of Indigenous children and youth. The document and more information can be found here:

https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/mandated-areas1/children-and-youth.html>.

Youth in Care Canada¹¹ is a national level charitable organization involved in advocacy through research, collaboration, policy development and training of caregivers and child welfare professionals. Youth in Care Canada provides additional information regarding various resources and advocacy centers for regions throughout Canada.

There are a variety of initiatives that work to ensure the rights and interests of children and youth are protected and upheld. These representatives work with youth, children and their families who have been involved in the child welfare system. The table below is a non-exhaustive list that aims to serve as a starting point for advocacy resources.

¹¹ <https://youthincare.ca/resources/>



In the *Children Back, Land Back: A Follow-Up Report of First Nations Youth In Care Advisors*¹² developed by the A7G, youth and young adults were surveyed and asked the question “What can Canada do to stop the discrimination in the system of First Nations child and family services?” First Nations young people with lived experiences suggested: access to information and education. “Several forms of information sharing and public education are necessary for all this to be achieved too. This includes ensuring information on child welfare is made publicly available, supporting research to access, compile, and interpret that information and data, raising general awareness of Indigenous issues, child welfare, racism, and disabilities, amongst other topics, providing Nation-sensitive cultural training for future child welfare professionals and caregivers, and community-level education to support families and holistic well-being.”

Child and Youth Advocate Offices	Website
Alberta – Child and Youth Advocate	http://www.gov.ab.ca/advocate/
British Columbia – Representative for Children and Youth	http://www.rcybc.ca
Manitoba – Children’s Advocate	https://manitobaadvocate.ca/
New Brunswick – Office of the Child and Youth Advocate	https://www.cyanb.ca/
Newfoundland & Labrador – Office of the Child and Youth Advocate	http://www.childandyouthadvocate.nf.ca
Nova Scotia – Office of the Ombudsman	http://www.gov.ns.ca/ombu/youth.htm
Ontario – Ombudsman Ontario: Children & Youth Unit Collective of Child Welfare Survivors The Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres: Children and Youth	https://www.ombudsman.on.ca/what-we-do/topics/children-youth https://collectiveofcws.ca/individual-advocacy/ https://ofifc.org/policy/children-youth/
Prince Edward Island – Office of the Child and Youth Advocate	https://www.childandyouthadvocatepei.ca
Québec – Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse	https://www.cdpcj.qc.ca/fr
Saskatchewan – Advocate for Children and Youth	https://www.saskadvocate.ca/
Yukon – Child and Youth Advocate Office	http://www.ycao.ca

¹² https://www.a7g.ca/uploads/9/9/9/1/99918202/79004_land_back_report_v5f.pdf



*An Act Respecting First Nations, Métis and Inuit children, youth and families*¹³ provides a framework for First Nations section 35 right to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services. **For more information please see the following:**

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1582150667684/1582150830500>.

Additional Resources

Additional Networks, Resources and Support Contacts by Region

It is important to note that the enclosed regional contact listing is not an exhaustive list of supports for First Nations youth and young adults. This tool serves to provide a starting point and a sense of the services immediately available to First Nations youth and young adults. These supports can be accessed during the time that providers may require to develop targeted programming and culturally appropriate services specific to the needs of the youth and young adults in their community.

- British Columbia
- Alberta
- Saskatchewan
- Manitoba
- Ontario
- Quebec
- New Brunswick
- Nova Scotia
- Yukon

To find an FNCFS agency in your area please consult:

<https://geo.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/FNCFS-SEFPN/>

First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada has co-developed with the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) a financial literacy series:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rrl5hC3DbHg>, <https://fncaringsociety.com/welcome>.

Federal programs and initiatives for First Nations youth and young adults

Employment & Opportunity:

Youth in Canada –

Youth in Canada is a hub providing information and resources for various opportunities for youth across Canada. It allows youth to explore job, volunteer, education and training opportunities.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/youth.html>

¹³ <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/bill/c-92/royal-assent>



Youth Digital Gateway –

Employment and Social Development Canada has created this online service for youth across Canada to find job and volunteer opportunities, build on their skills as well as help with resumes and preparing for an interview.

<https://www.youth-jeunesse.service.canada.ca/en>

Youth Job Bank –

This website allows youth (ages 15-30) to find summer jobs in a government program.

<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/youth>

True North Aid –

A Canadian charity that provides humanitarian assistance, raises awareness and promotes understanding of Indigenous relations in Canada.

<https://truenorthaid.ca/about/>

Prime Minister’s Youth Council –

The Prime Minister’s Youth Council is a group of young Canadians who provide non-partisan advice to the Prime Minister and the Government of Canada on issues of importance to them and to all Canadians.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/campaign/prime-ministers-youth-council.html>

Canada Service Corps –

(Volunteer opportunities for youth, grants for youth-led community projects)

Supporting a national movement to build a culture of service in Canada by encouraging youth between 15 and 30 years of age to give back to their community through meaningful service.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/youth/canada-service-corps.html>

Health, Well-being and Cultural Supports:

National Association of Friendship Centres –

The National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC) was established in 1972 to represent, nationally, the growing number of Friendship Centres emerging across Canada. The NAFC represents over 100 Friendship Centres and Provincial/Territorial Associations (PTAs) from coast-to-coast-to-coast.

<https://nafc.ca/friendship-centres/find-a-friendship-centre?lang=en>

First Nations and Inuit Family Health Programs–

Explore programs and access support to help First Nations and Inuit improve the health of their families.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581521891928/1581521943655>



Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve –

The Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve (AHSOR) program helps enhance child development and school readiness for children living in First Nations communities on reserve.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1572379399301/1572379483050>

First Nations and Inuit Home and Community Care –

The First Nations and Inuit Home and Community Care (FNIHCC) program provides funding and advice on developing home and community care services to Indigenous people living in First Nations and Inuit communities.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1582550638699/1582550666787>

Benefits and Services Under the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program –

Information regarding coverage for drugs, dental and vision care, medical supplies and equipment, mental health counselling and medical transportation.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1572545056418/1572545109296>

Healthy Eating and Food Safety for Indigenous Peoples –

Canada's Food Guide, Nutrition North Canada and food safety tips.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581522106156/1581522147811>

Jordan's Principle – Jordan's Principle makes sure all First Nations children living in Canada can access the products, services and supports they need, when they need them. Funding can help with a wide range of health, social and educational needs, including the unique needs that First Nations Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA children and youth and those with disabilities may have.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396042341/1568396159824>

Substance use affecting First Nations and Inuit –

Learn about community-based programs to help reduce and prevent problematic use of alcohol, drugs, solvents and other substances.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1578494486629/1578494542175>

National Youth Solvent Abuse Program –

A national residential in-patient treatment program that compliments community-level activities aimed at preventing youth solvent abuse.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1576090099314/1576090141721>

National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program

A program largely controlled by First Nations communities and organizations with the goal to help First Nations and Inuit communities set up and operate programs aimed at reducing high levels of alcohol, drug, and solvent abuse among on-reserve populations.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1576089851792/1576089910366>



Education:

Indigenous Youth Policy School –

Canadian Roots Exchange is a national Indigenous youth-led organization, that collaborates with communities that are grounded in Indigenous ways of knowing and being. It has three main types of activities: leadership training programs, workshops and gatherings.

<https://canadianroots.ca/programs/indigenous-policy-school/>

Colleges and Institutes Canada –

These institutes work in collaboration with local Indigenous communities to remove barriers to education across Canada.

<https://www.collegesinstitutes.ca/policyfocus/indigenous-learners/#:~:text=Colleges%20and%20institutes%20across%20Canada%20are%20the%20primary,deeply%20engaged%20in%20advancing%20reconciliation%20and%20empowering%20communities>

Finance:

On-Reserve Income Assistance program –

This program helps eligible on-reserve residents and Status Indians in Yukon cover daily living costs and access pre-employment supports.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100035256/1533307528663>

Pre-Employment Supports Program –

Enables youth 18-24 to prepare to enter the workforce.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100035256/1533307528663>

Financial Literacy for Indigenous Peoples (RBC)

This course was created in response from residential school survivors and First Nations youth who recommended financial training as a means to maximizing the benefits of financial compensation.

<https://www.rbc.com/indigenous/financial-literacy-for-indigenous-peoples.html>



Post-Majority Support Services Call Line

ISC is developing an information line to deliver accurate and regionally relevant information about Post-Majority Support Services. The contact number will be provided once the call-line is functional. **Please note the following if you are experiencing distress, are in crisis, or need support:**

Hope for Wellness: 1-855-242-3310

hopeforwellness.ca - The Hope for Wellness Help Line offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention to all Indigenous peoples across Canada.

Kids Help Phone (toll free): 1-800-668-6868

Text "TALK" to 686868 to reach a counsellor

Kidshelpphone.ca - Kids Help Phone is a e-mental health services provider, available 24/7 to children, youth and young adults across Canada.

References and additional resources

Finances :

Programme d'aide au revenu dans les réserves

Ce programme aide les résidents admissibles des réserves et les Indiens inscrits du Yukon à couvrir les coûts de la vie quotidienne et à accéder à des aides préalables à l'emploi.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/fra/1100100035256/1533307528663>

Programme de soutiens préalables à l'emploi

Permet aux jeunes de 18 à 24 ans de se préparer à entrer sur le marché du travail.

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/fra/1100100035256/1533307528663>

Littératie financière pour Autochtones (RBC)

Ce cours a été créé en réponse aux victimes des pensionnats indiens et aux jeunes des Premières Nations qui ont recommandé une formation financière comme moyen de maximiser les avantages de la compensation financière.

<https://www.rbc.com/autochtones/litteratie-financiere-pour-autochtones.html>

- https://www.a7g.ca/uploads/9/9/9/1/99918202/38228_chrt_compensation_report_v5_final.pdf
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- Child Welfare League of Canada (2021). Equitable Standards for Transitions to Adulthood for youth In Care. Ottawa, ON. https://www.cwlc.ca/files/ugd/f54667_45d7b4d41270453e8d720296d22edc6c.pdf



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https://www.a7g.ca/uploads/9/9/9/1/99918202/mapping_indigenous_youth_services_a7g_-_final_.pdf
- Foundation (2015). First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum Framework:
https://thunderbirdpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/24-14-1273-FN-Mental-Wellness-Framework-EN05_low.pdf
- Reid, C. & Dudding, P (2006). Building a Future Together: Issues and Outcomes for Transition – Aged Youth. Ottawa, ON. <https://cwrp.ca/sites/default/files/publications/BuildingAFutureTogether.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Question	Answer
<p>What is care under Post-Majority Support Services?</p>	<p>For the purposes of Post-Majority Support Services, care status includes extended society care, guardianship, custody, alternate care, kinship care.</p> <p>The definition of care includes when a child or youth, ordinarily resident on reserve or in the Yukon has been placed to live outside of the family/home of origin. For example, care status includes extended society care, guardianship, custody, alternate care, and kinship care.</p>
<p>What are the eligible activities and costs under Post-Majority Support Services?</p>	<p>Post-majority support services are captured under maintenance and care; expenditures are eligible in accordance with the FNCFS Terms and Conditions at: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1648577221890</p> <p>Eligible costs include the financial cost of the service or the tangible need of the youth, and can be categorized under financial, housing, food, education, health and wellness, and cultural and community (re)connection supports.</p> <p>Post-majority support services website: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1650377737799/1650377806807</p>



<p>What is the criteria for accessing Post-Majority Support Services under the FNCFS Program?</p>	<p>Youth in the following situations whose care was funded through the FNCFS Program or Provincially can access support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth who are in FNCFS care* approaching the age of majority. A youth is in FNCFS care when the care costs for the child or youth are funded by the FNCFS Program; • Youth who were in FNCFS care* and who exercised a voluntary care provision to leave care prior to the age of majority; • Individuals who have reached the age of majority, who are under the age of 26 or the eligibility age for post-majority services specified in the applicable provincial or Yukon legislation (whichever age is greater), and who were in FNCFS care* on the day they reached the age of majority; • Youth who are in care* funded by the province or Yukon, are ordinarily resident on reserve, or residing in the Yukon, and are approaching the age of majority; • Youth who were in care* funded by the province or Yukon, who exercised a voluntary care provision to leave care prior to the age of majority and who are ordinarily resident on reserve, or residing in the Yukon; and • Individuals who have reached the age of majority, who are under the age of 26 or the eligibility age for Post-Majority services specified in the applicable provincial or Yukon legislation (whichever age is greater), who were in care* funded by the province or Yukon on the day they reached the age of majority and who are ordinarily resident on reserve, or residing in the Yukon
<p>Who can apply for funding?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A delegated or partially delegated FNCFS Agency and provincial/territorial service provider; • A First Nation • A First Nation Authorized Service Provider
<p>If a youth has aged out of care would they be eligible to get Post-Majority</p>	<p>Yes, a youth who is now past the age of majority who meets the eligibility criteria (see below) for Post-Majority Support Services, can access Post-Majority Support Services until their 26th birthday or to the age as defined in Provincial/Yukon legislation (whichever is greater).</p>



<p>Support Services until they are 25?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth who have been in alternate care who are approaching the age of majority • Young adults who were in care as of the day they turned the age of majority and have not yet reached the age of 26 or to the age as defined in Provincial/Yukon legislation (whichever is greater) • Youth in jurisdictions where voluntary care provisions enable a youth to leave care prior to the age of majority (e.g. New Brunswick voluntary protection age 16; age of majority 19)
<p>How would the First Nation verify that a youth or young adult is eligible for services?</p>	<p>There are multiple ways that a youth or young adult could be verified as being eligible to receive Post-Majority Support Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth or young adult signing consent for release of information to the First Nation, or FNCFS provider to access their personal information for the purposes of verifying care status and age they left care • The youth or young adult could access their own file information of their time in care to verify with the First Nation • The First Nation and the former FNCFS provider from the time the youth or young adult was in care could form an agreement on information sharing for verification purposes • The First Nation could contact the ISC regional office for assistance with verifying file information of a youth or young adult seeking Post-Majority Support Services and confirm against their care and maintenance file at ISC
<p>What post-secondary education related-costs are covered under Post-Majority Support Services?</p>	<p>Post-Majority Support Services could include costs related to post-secondary education.</p> <p>Direct post-secondary education can be widely funded via other programs (i.e. First Nation or ISC, etc.) these programs could be considered in parallel with Post-Majority Support Services to help remove barriers and support a youth or young adult in accessing post-secondary education.</p> <p>The intent is not to replace other programs/funding. The education-related costs under Post-Majority supports are provided on the basis of substantive equality and are needs-based.</p>



ANNEX A: Post-majority support services Funding Request Form

This funding request form and explanation below is intended to support First Nations, FNCFS providers (which includes delegated and partially delegated FNCFS agencies and provincial/territorial service providers), and First Nations Authorized Service Providers requesting funds from ISC, for the development and delivery of Post-Majority Support Services to First Nations youth in care approaching the age of majority, and young adults formerly in care.

Background

Post-Majority Support Services support youth aging out of care and young adults formerly in care across all provinces and in the Yukon, from the age of majority up to and including the age of 25. Post-Majority Support Services aim to support the safety and well-being of First Nations youth and young adults in an approach that is culturally appropriate, in their self-identified best interest, and provided on the basis of substantive equality.

The goal of Post-Majority Support Services is to provide voluntary wraparound support that meets the distinct needs, and promotes holistic positive outcomes for thriving First Nations youth and young adults. Supports could include assistance with housing, food, employment and financial security, mental health, wellness, addiction supports, and healthy relationships.

The request form is based on the distinct costs of direct, and indirect Post-Majority Support Services. For examples, **please see the table below:**

The FNCFS Post-Majority Support Services Request:

- A communication tool for the requestor to assist in establishing a common understanding of the purpose, goals and strategy with communities, partners, governments and other affiliated organizations;
- Aims to support the First Nation and FNCFS provider in developing a strategic approach to achieving long-term planned results as they relate to Post-Majority Support Services;
- Builds upon the collaboration between First Nations, FNCFS providers, and First Nations Authorized Service Providers;
- Supports the delivery of wrap around services that meet distinct needs, and promotes holistic outcomes for thriving First Nations youth and young adults, and;
- Provides insight needed by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to effectively support First Nations, FNCFS providers, and First Nations authorized service providers.

ISC will use the information included in the Post-Majority Support Services request to help ensure that First Nations and FNCFS providers have the necessary resources and support to meet the needs of First Nations youth in care approaching the age of majority, and young adults formerly in care.



Post-Majority Support Direct Services			
Direct Services	Purpose	Population	Examples (not limited to)
Learning, Educational & Professional Development Opportunities	Activities, services and costs that ensure young people have opportunities to learn and grow in ways that are meaningful to them, their goals and life plan.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education mentorship and support • Education-related costs • Specialized supports: tutoring, career counselling • Cultural learning: regalia, resources, opportunities • Financial support for training/certifications
Financial Support & Safe, Stable, Comfortable Housing	Activities, services and costs that ensure young people have the financial resources to meet their needs. To have their basic needs met in a secure and consistent way.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing assistance, rent and rent subsidies • Needs based financial support • Livable basic income, financial planning • Housing stability • Basic household necessities • Life/home skills including home supports • Clothing, personal care and hygiene
Physical, Mental & Social Well-being	Activities, services and costs that ensure young people have timely ongoing services that support their health and well-being.		<p>First Nations youth transitioning from care</p> <p>First Nations young adults formerly in care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-insured medical, dental and health services prescribed by relevant professional • Sexual and gender identity health supports • Recreation and sport • Counselling • Trauma informed mental health and addictions support options • Intensive treatment • Early intervention and parenting supports • Nutrition training and mentorship • Access to physical activity supports • Rehabilitative supports • Self-care and well-being supports
(Re)connection with Land, Culture, Language & Community	Activities, services and costs that ensure young people are connected to their culture and communities in ways that are safe, meaningful to them, and at their own pace.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Re)connection with family, community, culture • Family mediation and counselling, safe reintegration into community of origin, visits • Cultural programs, ceremony, land based wellness • Language, identity, courses, workshops, resources • Support and guidance from Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers, traditional knowledge • Cultural youth groups and peer supports



Post-Majority Support Indirect Services			
Indirect Services	Purpose	Population	Examples (not limited to)
<p>Operations: Activities or costs related to operational activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs that are not readily identified for the project function or activity, but are necessary for the general operation of the conduct of Post-Majority Support Service activities • Costs that go toward the operations or overhead expenses of supporting Post-Majority Support Services, such as salaries, utilities, • program expenditures • Related costs that do not directly go to supporting the young person 	<p>First Nation FNCFS provider Organization Employee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee salaries • Office rental • Office utilities • Insurance • Office supplies • Interpretation services • Travel for board meetings • Recruitment • Transportation for staff (mileage, etc.)

Additional documentation may be required to include when requesting funding.



Supporting documentation could outline:

- financial details (needs or costs incurred) to support the proposed activities;
- administrative costs to deliver the services; and
- linkages to the FNCFS Program terms and conditions: community or needs assessment in relation to Post-Majority Support Services, and; proposed activities to address the needs and the planned results.

Examples of supporting documentation could include: funding proposal, community plan, need assessment, community priorities, job descriptions, payroll documents, copy of comparable provincial wages and benefits, organization chart, cash flow of budget forecast, salary grids, invoices, travel receipts and policies, quotes, general ledgers details or any other documents as requested.

Should a requestor require support in the development of their post-majority support services request, **please contact your ISC Regional office for additional support:**

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100016936/1534342668402>

For additional information, please consult the *Post-Majority Support Services Toolkit*, and the **ISC website:**

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



Contact Information

Organization Information		
Requestor Name		
Recipient Number	Organization Type	
Address		
Province/Territory	Postal Code	
Phone Number	Email Address	
Organization Contact		
Given Name	Family Name	Title
Phone Number	Email Address	
Date	ISC Regional Contact	
<p>Declaration for Direct Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information provided in the request is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and; • The youth or young adult’s eligibility for PMSS has been verified within the relevant program guidelines, and through the criteria listed here (youth and young adults accessing Post-Majority Support Services): https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1650377737799/1650377806807 <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Declaration for Indirect Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information provided in the request is accurate to the best of my knowledge. • The declaration regarding the youth or young adults care and maintenance is not applicable as the request is not for direct services to a youth or young adult. <p>Signature: _____</p>		



Example Request

Priority – Goals and objective(s) for the year, as they relate to Post-Majority Support Services

Key Activity – Description of the activities to achieve the priorities

Resources – list of resources requested to help complete the activity. Specify the budget requirement for each of the planned activities. Also describe the other resources – staff, facilities, etc. – that will be involved in delivering the activity. If there are resources other than those that are FNCFS funded that will be used, highlight those as well

Anticipated and/or Planned Results – The objectives to be met

Add additional lines if needed to the chart provided below

Priority	Key Activities	Resources	Planned Results
Promote housing, food, and financial security of youth and young adults within the community.	Development and implementation of life skills programming with concrete examples which apply to everyday situations faced by youth in community X.	Consultation (program readiness): \$10,000 youth community financial planners Includes cost of facilities, food	75% of eligible youth under Post-Majority Support Services within community X will have increased financial knowledge including budgeting knowledge, reducing their risks of homelessness, increasing food security.
Many of the youth within community X who have aged out of care, and who are set to be aging out of care, are facing a variety of challenges including housing, food, and financial insecurities.	Develop & implement a financial literacy program, which includes mentorship supports.	Staffing needs: \$225,000 Includes: 3 full time staff, salary & benefits.	50% of eligible youth under Post-Majority Support Services within community X will have knowledge of services available within the Post-Majority Support Services program, reducing youth homelessness within the community.



<p>Community X has the following statistics: Ages 14-16: 7 Ages 16-17: 5 Ages 18+ (who have aged out of care): 8</p>	<p>Development & implementation of a larger life skills mentorship support program.</p>	<p>Staff Travel: \$20,000. Program Costs: \$15,000.</p>	
	<p>Direct supports to youth.</p>	<p>Direct Supports to youth: \$15,000, includes regalia, travel costs for ceremony and program attendance, food costs</p>	



Example Budget

In addition to the examples provided in the charts above, please consult the transitional terms and conditions of the FNCFS Program and the list of eligible activities and expenditures contained therein:

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

Post-Majority Support Service Cost Type	Amount (\$)
Direct Service Costs (based on support to approx. 20 youth)	
Learning, Educational & Professional Development Opportunities	
Regalia	\$5,000
Financial Support & Safe, Stable, Comfortable Housing	
Food costs	\$5,000
Hygiene items	\$5,000
Physical, Mental & Social Well-being	
Recreation supports	\$5,000
(Re)connect with Land, Culture, Language & Community	
Travel to ceremony and program attendance	\$5,000
Subtotal:	\$25,000
Indirect Service Costs	
Consultation	\$10,000
Staffing	\$225,000
Staff Travel	\$20,000
Program Delivery Costs (including supplies)	\$15,000
Subtotal:	\$270,000
Total:	\$295,000



Privacy Act Statement

The collection, use and disclosure of personal information by First Nations Child and Family Services is authorized under Department of Indigenous Services Act and is in accordance with the requirements of Privacy Act.

Information collected will be used to facilitate and administer the processing of the requests for First Nations Child and Family Services' Post-Majority Support Services Funding. The collection, use and disclosure of personal information may be required for the administration of the Program. Personal information will be retained pursuant to the Privacy Act and its Regulations.

The collection of information is described in the First Nations Child and Family Services Personal Information Bank (<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1639748667069/1639748703555#chp20>) located in the departmental *InfoSource publication*. Individuals have the right to the protection of, access to and request the correction of their personal information under the Privacy Act.

If you require clarification concerning the Privacy Notice Statement, **please contact** *the Departmental Access to Information and Privacy Office* at **1-819-997-8277** or by email at: upvp-ppu@sac-isc.gc.ca.

For more information on privacy issues, your right to file a complaint and the Privacy Act in general, you can consult the *Privacy Commissioner* at **1-800-282-1376**.



Request

Priority – Goals and objective for the year, as they relate to Post-Majority Support Services

Key Activity – Description of the activities to achieve the priorities

Resources – list of resources requested to help complete the activity. Specify the budget requirement for each of the planned activities. Also describe the other resources – staff, facilities, etc. – that will be involved in delivering the activity. If there are resources other than those that are FNCFS-funded that will be used, highlight those as well

Anticipated and/or Planned Results – The objectives to be met.

Add additional lines if needed to the chart provided below

Priority	Key Activities	Resources	Planned Results



Budget

In addition to the examples provided in the charts above, please consult the transitional terms and conditions¹⁴ of the FNCFS Program and the list of eligible activities and expenditures contained therein.

Post-Majority Support Service Cost Type	Amount (\$)
Direct Service Costs	
Learning, Educational & Professional Development Opportunities	
Financial Support & Safe, Stable, Comfortable Housing	
Physical, Mental & Social Well-being	
(Re)connect with Land, Culture, Language & Community	
Subtotal:	
Indirect Service Costs	
Subtotal:	
Total:	

Additional supporting documentation and details may be required for this request. This supporting documentation will be retained within an ISC database and could be used for the purposes of quality assurance and/or audits.

This information is protected under the Federal Privacy Act:

<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/P-21/page-1.html>

Documentation confirming youth eligibility for service should be retained by the service provider, and provided to ISC upon request.

¹⁴ <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1648577221890/1648577242550>