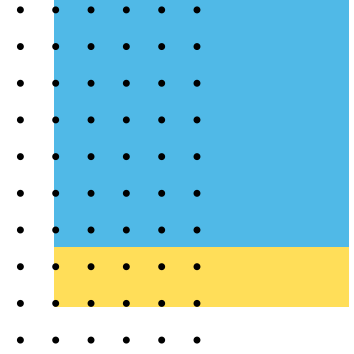




JORDANS PRINCIPLE

A Step-by-Step Guide

TABLE OF CONTENTS



01. HOW IT STARTED

02. WHAT IS JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE?

03. WHAT IS COVERED?

04. HOW JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE CAN BE USED

05. HOW TO APPLY

06. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

07. SUPPORT LETTER DO'S AND DO NOT'S

08. WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER APPLYING

09. PAYMENT & REIMBURSEMENT PROCESS



HOW IT STARTED

JORDAN'S STORY

Jordan was born in 1999 with multiple disabilities and stayed in the hospital from birth.

When he was 2 years old, doctors said he could move to a special home for his medical needs. However, the federal and provincial governments could not agree on who should pay for his home-based care.

Jordan stayed in the hospital until he passed away at the age of 5.

In 2007, the House of Commons passed Jordan's Principle in memory of Jordan. It was a commitment that First Nations children would get the products, services and supports they need, when they need them. Payments would be worked out later.

Today, Jordan's Principle is a legal obligation, which means it has no end date. While programs and initiatives to support it may only exist for short periods of time, Jordan's Principle will always be there. Jordan's Principle will support First Nations children for generations to come.

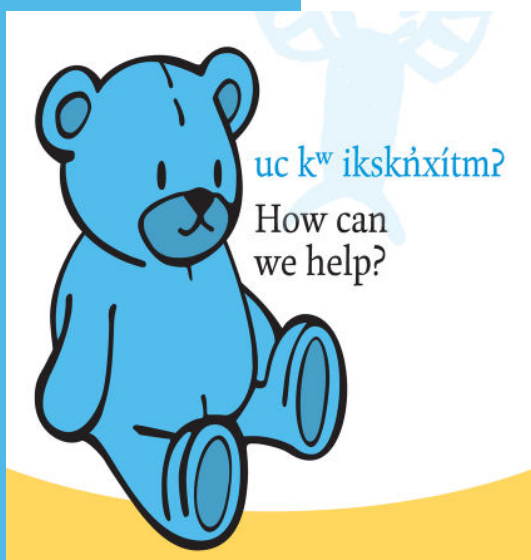
This is the legacy of Jordan River Anderson.

WHAT IS JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE?



ABOUT

Jordan's Principle (JP) is a Human Rights Principle and a Child-First Initiative for First Nations children from 0-18 living on or off reserve. JP is about ensuring First Nations children have access to and receive the products, services and supports they need when they need them. Funding can help with a wide range of health, social, and educational needs.



WHAT WE DO

The ONA is working to implement Jordan's Principle by offering Enhanced Service Coordination throughout the Syilx Territory. It strives to improve access to health, social, and educational supports and services. We are here to help streamline the request process and reduce the stress of navigating complex service systems, including Jordan's Principle applications.



WHO CAN ACCESS

All individuals, families and communities that are members of the ONA, as well as any First Nations residing in the Okanagan Region, can reach out to the ONA JP Service Coordinators (JPSC) to help them access the products, services and supports that they need. ONA JPSC will work with individuals, families, and communities to identify parties eligible to send formal requests to JP.

WHAT IS COVERED?

RESPONDING TO UNMET NEEDS

Funding can help with a wide range of health, social, and educational needs, including the unique needs that First Nations, Two-Spirit and LGBTQQIA children and youth, and those with disabilities may have. Some examples of what has been funded under Jordan's Principle include:

HEALTH

- mobility aids
- wheelchair ramps
- assessments and screenings
- services from Elders
- mental health services
- specialized hearing aids
- traditional healing services
- services for children in care
- transportation to appointments
- medical supplies and equipment
- long-term care for children with specialized needs
- therapeutic services for individuals or groups (speech therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy)

SOCIAL

- social worker
- land-based activities
- personal support worker
- specialized summer camps
- respite care (individual or group)
- specialized programs based on cultural beliefs and practices

EDUCATION

- school supplies
- tutoring services
- teaching assistants
- specialized school transportation
- psycho-educational assessments
- assistive technologies and electronics

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A child under the age of majority in their province or territory of residence can access Jordan's Principle, if they permanently reside in Canada and if the child meets one of the following criteria:

- is registered or eligible to be registered under the Indian Act
- has one parent or guardian who is registered or eligible to be registered under the Indian Act
- is recognized by their nation for the purposes of Jordan's Principle
- is ordinarily resident on reserve



HOW JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE CAN BE USED

EACH CHILD'S SITUATION IS UNIQUE

The Service Coordinator will speak with you about your child's needs and will start the request process. We will work with you to gather all required supporting documentation. Here are some situations in which JP can help you:

- ☒ You notice that your nine-year old daughter does not seem to read at the same pace that her friends do and after working with teachers and the school principal, there are no additional supports. You may want to reach out to your Service Coordinator to find out whether Jordan's Principle could offer services and supports to help.
- ☒ Sometimes, you could really use some extra help caring for your fifteen-year-old grandson's special needs. Jordan's Principle may offer respite care and other supports for you.
- ☒ You are seventeen years old and are finding it difficult to get to your mental health appointments after school. You feel like you are always late to your appointments because the walk is very far. Jordan's Principle may be able to help you with transportation to get there.
- ☒ Your three-year-old foster child has been diagnosed with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). If you need more support than your foster care agency can provide, Jordan's Principle may help you access additional special education programs for him to be assessed and support and training for you as the caregiver.

HOW TO APPLY

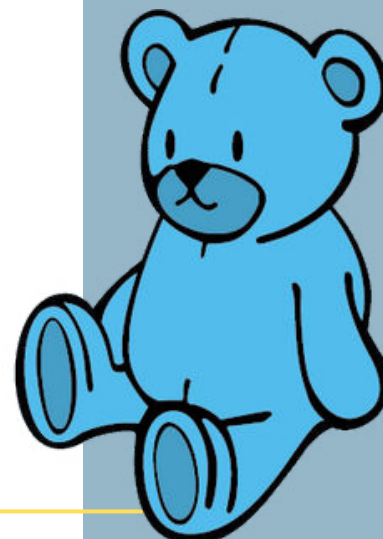
WHAT YOU WILL NEED

When a family member or service provider calls or emails the JPSC Intake, they will be asked to complete an intake by providing demographic information (name, date of birth, address, email, phone, Status number/eligibility criteria).

- ☒ Child's name, date of birth, address and Indian Status Card number (if registered)
- ☒ Parent/guardian name and contact information
- ☒ Reason for request
 - What is your child's unmet need?
- ☒ Description of the requested product and services
 - You can list more than one: for instance, you may require training as well as travel to the training.
 - Identify the duration – how long do you require the service or product? Is it a one-time event/product? Will the product need to be replaced at some point?
- ☒ History of the request
 - Has this been previously submitted to another program or service, for instance Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) or another private insurance company? What was the outcome? Is the request partially covered?
- ☒ Supporting documents from licensed/registered educational, social, or health professionals
 - Did your doctor or another professional prescribe or refer this for your child? Some examples could be massage or speech therapy, or even ergonomic equipment.
 - Supporting document from a teacher, or others. For example, a teacher may recommend a special type of electronic device that will assist in your child's learning.
- ☒ Consent form (to be obtained from the JPSC)

If you have any questions, you can contact your Service Coordinator (listed on the back of this booklet).

Additionally, you can also call Canada's Jordan's Principle Call Centre 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-855-JP-CHILD.



LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN WRITING A LETTER

Support letters must be from a Professional involved in the child's circle of care. If you are unsure, please use your Service Coordinator to brainstorm who can provide these letters for your child. Things to think about when writing a letter:

- Have you accessed **other resources**? What public services are available and why do they **NOT** meet this child's specific needs? Is there waitlists?
- Do you have benefits that do not extend to your children?
- Is the child **status**? If so, have you contacted FNHA to cover the support needed?
- What is the worry if this requested support is not provided?
- What are **you seeing from** the children? Challenging behaviours, developmental delays, safety concerns, social skills?
- Is this a **financial barrier**? Please include details such as is the parent on disability, fixed income, raising other children, is the child receiving disability tax, is the family on income assistance, laid off work, 1 parent household etc
- If you live **on-reserve**, have you approached resources available to community members?

4 MAIN POINTS OF A SUCCESSFUL LETTER



How the professional knows the child



What they see is the "gap/need"



What they recommend to meet this need (the request details and how it will address the above concerns).

- Incomplete Recommendation: *I recommend that funding be provided to this family for groceries and recreation to ensure healthy development.*
- Complete Recommendation: *I recommend that Meredith, Derrik and Bailey receive funding for groceries in the amount of \$500.00 per child for 3 months to ensure they have access to proper nutrition to contribute to each child's healthy growth and development.*
- Complete Recommendation: *I recommend that Meredith, Derrik and Bailey receive \$500.00 per child for recreation to ensure access to learning needed for social skills, opportunity to participate on the land, and to develop fine & gross motor skills setting them up for success in many areas of their lives.*



On letterhead including **signature, date and contact info**



SUPPORT LETTER DO'S AND DO NOT'S

DO

- **Connect and link the "needs" to the children** - please use the children's names rather than the parents' names as Jordan's Principle is child-specific funding. If the letter reads as a support for a parent it will delay the application and require additional documents.
 - For example: if the 'need' is food, link that to healthy development.
 - If the child has a health diagnosis, link this need to the diagnosis if related.
 - Example: Sensory items for a child diagnosed with ADHD/ASD, etc.
- If for more than one child, letter must state **all children's** names.
- If each child has different needs, they require separate letters or a clear breakdown of what is being recommended and how it is **UNIQUE** to each child?
- **Include cost, frequency and duration of the requested support**
- Include any deadlines for registrations, assessments, dental appts, etc.

DO NOT

- Do not write the letter speaking to the parents needs
- Do not only include one child's information if applying for a sibling group
- Do not use words such as "would benefit" or "could use support" (**Jordan's Principle is NEEDS based funding, these phrases imply that it is a WANT rather than a NEED**).

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER APPLYING

NEXT STEPS

Once the intake process is completed, you will be assigned to a Service Coordinator (SC) who will support the family with the Jordan's Principle application process. At the direction of the family, the SC will help to identify needs and gaps in services, provide available resources, and will work with the family and service providers in compiling the necessary supporting documentation in order to complete an application.

When all the information and supporting documents are gathered, the SC completes the application and submits it to the Regional Focal Points/National Office for review and await a decision.

Please Note: ONA JPSC Team does not make file approvals or denials.

Indigenous Services Canada British Columbia regional office is responsible for application decisions in BC.



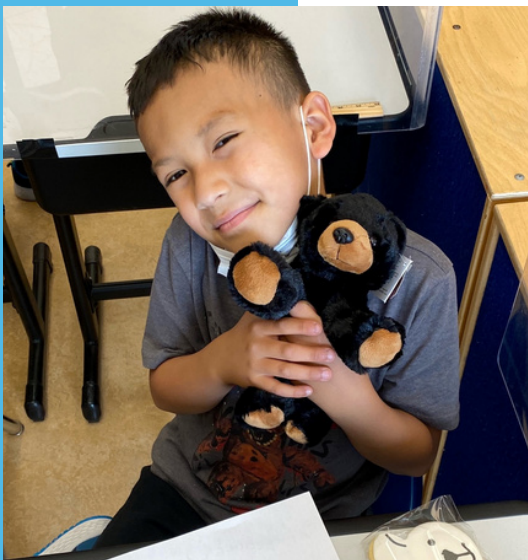
PAYMENT & REIMBURSEMENT PROCESS



Payments

Individual payments approved by ISC are processed by either cheque, direct deposit and/or credit card, and are processed when all required forms related to payment are received by the ONA Approved Request Contingency (ARC) department.

Group Request payments are processed by the BC Region Jordan's Principle Team.



Reimbursements

Reimbursements are processed based on actual receipts provided from the client, and clients are reimbursed only for the specific items indicated in the approval email from Jordan's Principle.

Confirmation of Product or Service Received Forms are provided when items are shipped to children/youth.



Approved Requests

All completed forms are returned to the ONA ARC by email: tj.gardner@syilx.org

Vendors/clients may also email the ARC department with the required forms and all the required documents requested, which may include invoices and receipts. When all the required forms have been obtained, reviewed, and approved by the ARC department, payment will be processed.

RESOURCES

If you require urgent support regarding a Jordan's Principle request during weekends or holidays, please contact the Jordan's Principle National Call Centre available 24 hours a days, seven days a week.

Jordan's Principle Call Centre: 1-855-JP-CHILD (1-855-572-4453)

Teletypewriter: 1-866-553-0554

On weekends and statutory holidays, the BC Region duty phone is monitored from 8:00 am PST to 4:00 pm PST to help with urgent and time-sensitive requests:

BC Region Duty Phone: 1-778-951-0716

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jen Hilditch, Jordan's Principle Team Lead

Phone: 250-707-0095 ext. 247

Cell: 250-869-6391

Email: JPSC.Lead@syilx.org

T.J. Gardner, Jordan's Principle Finance Coordinator

Phone: 250-707-0095 ext. 125

Cell: 250-469-0149

Email: tjgardner@syilx.org

Toll Free: 1-866-662-9609

Confidential Fax: 1-778-754-0060

Address:

101-3535 Old Okanagan Hwy.

Westbank, BC V4T 3L7

www.syilx.org



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