

RECOGNIZE. REFORM. RENEW.

Compensation for First Nations Child and Family Services and Jordan's Principle

Support from the Hope for Wellness Helpline 1-855-242-3310

We recognize that Survivors may need support during the compensation process. The Helpline offers free, anonymous counselling and crisis intervention 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by telephone at 1-855-242-3310.

Children and youth can call Kids Help Phone anytime at 1-800-668-6868.

Every child in Canada deserves to grow up with their family, supported by their community and their culture. However, for decades thousands of First Nations children have been unnecessarily removed from their homes, families and communities.

Change is coming. On December 31, 2021, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), the Government of Canada and other parties, including the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, reached two historic agreements – one on long-term reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program and Jordan's Principle, and one on compensation.

The Government of Canada has agreed to pay \$20 billion in compensation to children removed from their homes on-reserve and in the Yukon from April 1, 1991 to March 2022, as well as to caregivers. They have also agreed to compensate children who were denied the essential services and other supports they needed, or received them after a delay, because the Government of Canada failed to meet the essential service needs of First Nations children and failed to meet the legal requirements of Jordan's Principle. Some of the caregivers of these children will also be compensated.

*"To all children taken without reason from their families, this is our message:
We are all in this together. You are loved. You are precious. You are our future."*

- Assembly of First Nations National Chief RoseAnne Archibald

Important note: Compensation is not available yet. Individuals who qualify for compensation can expect payments to start by late 2022 or early 2023. Details on the compensation process and application form will be determined in the Final Settlement Agreement and finalized after a decision by the Federal Court of Canada.

[Sign up for updates about the compensation process.](#)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About Compensation for the FNCFS Program and Jordan's Principle

Here are answers to questions you may have about compensation.

Do I qualify for compensation, and if I do how much will I get?

The amount of compensation for individuals is being negotiated with the AFN, Government of Canada and other parties and will be determined as part of a Final Settlement Agreement. There are four groups of people who qualify for compensation:

Children taken into care:

First Nations individuals who were under the age of majority who were taken into out-of-home placement under the Government of Canada's FNCFS Program between April 1, 1991 and March 31, 2022 and who were ordinarily resident on a reserve, or were living on-reserve or in the Yukon.

Jordan's Principle:

All First Nations individuals who were under the age of majority and who, during the period between December 12, 2007 and November 2, 2017:

- a) Were denied essential services and products relating to a confirmed need because of the Government of Canada's failure to implement and uphold Jordan's Principle, and/or
- b) Were subjected to a delay by the Government of Canada in the receipt of essential services and products on grounds such as, but not limited to, lack of funding or a jurisdictional dispute between the federal and provincial/territorial governments.

Trout Class:

First Nations individuals who were under the age of majority and who, during the period between April 1, 1991 and December 11, 2007:

- a) Were denied essential services and products relating to a confirmed need, and/or
- b) Were subjected to a delay by the Government of Canada in the receipt of essential services and products on grounds such as, but not limited to, lack of funding or jurisdictional dispute between the federal and provincial/territorial governments.

Family Class:

Individuals who are the primary caregiver of:

- a) a member of the Removed Child Class at the time of removal;
- b) a member of the Jordan's Principle Class at the time of delay, denial or service gap; and/or
- c) a member of the Trout Class at the time of the delay, denial or service gap.



What is the total amount of compensation Canada will pay?

In the Agreement-in-Principle negotiated between the AFN, Moushoom Class and the Government of Canada, a total of \$20 billion has been agreed to for compensating individuals who have been discriminated against in the Government of Canada's FNCFS Program and Jordan's Principle.

When will I get compensation?

Compensation is not currently available. If you qualify for compensation, we expect that you will be able to receive it by late 2022 or early 2023.

How can I apply to get compensation?

At this time, there is no application form. Details on the compensation process and application form will be determined in the Final Settlement Agreement. However, it is not final until it is approved by the Federal Court of Canada.

When will a person who qualifies but is under the age of majority receive compensation?

Eligible individuals will only receive compensation after they reach the age of majority. The amount of compensation and the process to qualify will be finalized once approved by the Federal Court of Canada.



How will Survivors be supported if the compensation process is difficult for them?

The Government of Canada has agreed to pay for mental wellness supports, such as counselling, for Survivors as they go through the compensation process. This will be funded separately from the \$20 billion for compensation.

The AFN is also advocating to have other types of support included in the Final Settlement Agreement, including:

- culturally appropriate health and wellness services
- counselling on how to manage money, including saving and investing
- helping youth who are aging out reconnect with their First Nations

Will the Assembly of First Nations be distributing compensation?

The AFN will not be distributing compensation. That will likely be managed by an independent organization, as determined in the Final Settlement Agreement and approved by the Federal Court of Canada.

