

Key Messages for Service Coordinators

Jordan's Principle is an ongoing legal obligation to support First Nations children, which Canada will continue to uphold. As such, on Feb 11, 2019, Valerie Gideon, Senior ADM at ISC who is responsible for Jordan's Principle sent a letter confirming policy authority to continue existing Jordan's Principle activities into next fiscal year.

Jordan's Principle is available to all First Nations children living in Canada. As of June 19, 2018, Jordan's Principle also includes non-status Indigenous children ordinarily resident on reserve. And, on February 21, 2019, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) issued an Interim Relief Order (2019 CHRT 7) on the motion challenging Canada's definition of a First Nations child as it applies to Jordan's Principle.

This interim relief order applies to:

- First Nations children **without *Indian Act* status or not eligible for Indian Act status** who **live off-reserve** but are **recognized as members by their Nation**, and
- who have **urgent and/or life-threatening needs**.

To help you respond to any questions from First Nations children, families/guardians, and communities that may come your way below are key messages that you can use.

Key Messages

The intake process for individuals and group requests under Jordan's Principle remain the same.

Should the request for a service, support, or product be beyond the normative standard of care, the Focal Point must consider whether the request should be provided to ensure substantive equality, cultural appropriate service provision and/or to safeguard the best interests of the child.

Submitting a request to Jordan's Principle:

- To submit a request for products, services and supports under Jordan's Principle for a First Nations child contact your local Jordan's Principle focal point – Visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/services/jordans-principle/submit-request-under-jordans-principle-step-3.html> to find your local Jordan's Principle focal point.

Individual requests for children who will need support:

- Products, services and supports under Jordan's Principle will not stop. Please continue to submit requests to your Regional Focal Point. For information on how to apply visit Canada.ca/jordans-principle.



- Please remember to include the following information/documents with each request:
 - Community of residence and mailing address
 - Status number or parent's registration number
 - If non-status, details of membership or recognition by the community
 - An assessment/prescription/referral/letter from a health/social/education professional directly involved in the child's life that indicates diagnosis(es) or identified need and directly recommends the requested product/support/service. The provider must not be someone who will benefit financially from the approval of the request.
- **In Urgent or time-sensitive cases – documentation can be provided after the case has been evaluated and determined.**

For communities/group requests:

- With respect to new requests for activities as of April 1, 2019, the current application process remains in effect – visit Canada.ca/jordans-principle for more information.
- Please work with your community, providers, children, and families to think about the service needs requires and ways in which the needs of the group can be addressed
- Group requests for products/services/supports can be made by a:
 - Community;
 - Community organization; or,
 - Service Coordinator/Navigator/Case Manager.
- Please include a letter from a health/social/education professional in a relevant field that does not stand to benefit financially from the request:
 - Stating all children in the group have assessments relevant to the request on record; OR
 - Summarizing the demonstrated need.

To Service Coordinators (front line workers):

- Jordan's Principle is an ongoing legal obligation to support First Nations children, which Canada will continue to uphold.
- As Canada is legally obligated to meet specific timeframes ordered by the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, we encourage you to refer families or service providers to make their requests directly to Indigenous Services Canada as much as possible. If you have the ability to assist the requester to gather and provide ISC with the information required to determine the request in a quick manner, this is appreciated but the impetus is on Canada to meet the legal timeframes and provide a timely response to requests.

During regular business hours, the Ontario phone line is 613-618-1833

The 24 hour National Call Centre Line is 1-855-572-4453

Or Email sac.jordansprincipleon-principedejordan.isc@canada.ca