



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Day Home Startup Pilot Project

What is the Otipemisiwak Métis Government?



Children and Family Services

Previously known as the Métis Nation of Alberta, the Otipemisiwak Métis Government is a representative organization for the Métis people in the province of Alberta. We represent the uniqueness of the Métis people and look to create programs and initiatives that benefit our communities.

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Program Background



Children and Family Services

The Children and Family Services Department (CFS) Early Years Team at the Otipemisiwak Métis Government is excited to announce the Day Home Startup Pilot Program. This program aims to support Métis Albertans in opening licensed day homes, and is made possible in partnership with Apeetogosan Métis Development Inc.

The Day Home Startup Program will support Métis Albertans in opening licensed day homes committed to providing culturally appropriate programming for Métis children and families seeking childcare in Alberta. These day homes will create safe spaces for Métis children to learn and grow, which can serve as a protective factor and strengthen their cultural identity and sense of belonging.

The Day Home Startup Program is a two-year Pilot Program with the hope of continuing in the future.

Who is Eligible for the Program?

In order to be eligible for the program, successful applicants must be *current residents of Alberta* as well as *current citizens of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta* (previously the Métis Nation of Alberta).

Successful applicants must be **18 years of age or older** and own the home in which they intend to operate the day home (or live in Métis Urban Housing - this is being clarified with our legal team).

Successful applicants must be *willing to operate a Licensed Family Day Home incorporating elements of Métis culture for at least two full years* and must be able to *meet all the requirements of a Licensed Family Day Home Agency* as well as any additional regulatory requirements outlined by the Day Home Licensing Agency.

Finally, successful applicants must *demonstrate a personal financial commitment equivalent to 10% of the total grant amount*. This amount will be reimbursed to the applicant after two years of compliant day home operation.

What Supporting Documents are Needed to Apply for the Program?



Children and Family Services

After the online application form is approved, the successful applicant will be required to provide the following supporting documents.

Licensing Required Documents:

- Proof of age documentation
- Proof of home ownership (may also be able to qualify if living in Métis Urban Housing)
- A clean criminal record and vulnerable sector check for all adults who will be in the home during day home operating hours
- A statement disclosing prior criminal involvement of all people under 18 who will be in the home during day home operating hours
- Three satisfactory references from non-relatives that corroborate suitability working with children
- Childcare First Aid Certificate
- A physician's note stating that the applicant is mentally and physically able to work with children
- Early Childhood Education Level 1 Certificate (to be completed within 3 months of approval)

Apeetogosan Required Documents:

- A Void Cheque
- A budget submitted for approval outlining startup costs (based on the sample budget provided by the CFS team)

What is Apeetogosan's Role in the Program?

Apeetogosan, as an affiliate of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, will support the financial aspect of the program.

Is this a Loan or a Grant Based Program?

This program is a grant-based program. All financial transactions will be made through the Otipemisiwak Métis Government affiliate Apeetogosan.

What is the Grant Amount?



Children and Family Services

Successful applicants will receive a one-time \$20,000 grant.

How Will the Grant Funds be Allocated?

The grant funds will be paid out to the successful applicant in two installments.

The first deposit will be made after the applicant meets with the licensing agency and provides a budget outlining the preliminary costs related to opening a day home and meeting licensing requirements.

The second deposit will be made four months after the initial deposit. All purchases made with the grant money must be documented and accompanied by a receipt that will be submitted to Apeetogosan for tracking purposes.

Why do Applicants Need to Provide a Financial Commitment?

To receive the grant funds, applicants must provide Apeetogosan with a deposit equivalent to 10% of the grant funding (\$2,000). This security deposit represents a commitment to operate a day home for the two-year period required to receive the grant funding. This security deposit will be reimbursed to the applicant once they have reached the two-year commitment required to obtain grant funds.

If you are interested in applying for the grant but are unable to come up with the security deposit funds, please reach out to the program contact or manager (see page 6).

What is the Role of the Licensing Agency?

The licensing agency provides training for day home educators and monitors for compliance with the family day home standards. Licensing agency consultants help family day home educators to develop programs for children at different stages of development and provide advice about nutritious meal planning.

Do I Need to Find my Own Day Home Licensing Agency to Work With?



Children and Family Services

No, the Children and Family Services Department's Early Years Team has compiled a list of day home agencies, along with their contact information, and can assist in connecting you to a suitable day home licensing agency in your area.

How Do I Apply?

Citizens interested in opening and operating a licensed day home in Alberta incorporating elements of Métis culture can find the application form using this link:

[Day Home Startup Program Application Link](#)

How do I Know if my Application was Received and Successful?

Once an applicant has completed the online Google Form through the link provided above, successful applicants will be notified of the status of their application within approximately two weeks.

If it has been over two weeks and you have not received a response, please email dayhomestartup@metis.org to check on your application status, as this might indicate a problem with your application.

What if I am Unable to Complete the Online Registration?

If you do not have access to a computer or are having trouble with the online application form, please reach out by email to dayhomestartup@metis.org or by phone at 780-455-2200 to speak with a team member about alternative ways to apply.

Other Questions or Concerns Not Outlined in this Document

If an applicant or potential applicant has other questions or concerns regarding this program that are not outlined in this document, please contact Cynthia Lalonde by email at clalonde@metis.org or by phone at 780-455-2200 ext. 138.

Who is the Program Contact?



Children and Family Services

All inquiries regarding registration, eligibility, and support for the “Day Home Startup Pilot Program” will be directed to the Program Coordinator, Cynthia Lalonde, who can be reached by email at clalonde@metis.org or by phone at 780-455-2200 ext. 138.

The manager overseeing this program is Tania Kruk. Questions outside the scope of the Program Coordinator can be directed to Tania by email at tkruk@metis.org or by phone at 780-453-0289.

Further contact information: dayhomestartup@metis.org