



MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE



Subsidy 2026 Guide for Métis Nation of Ontario Summer Child Care Subsidy Program

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Program Description

The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Summer Child Care Subsidy Program assists Métis families with accessing safe, high-quality child care during summer holidays. The program is for Métis families with childcare costs for their children when schools are closed during the summer. This program covers the mandatory cost of child care or camp. It does not include additional fees such as programming, application costs, clothing, equipment or materials, day trips/excursions, or food. The unique program considers a family's income and expenses to calculate a subsidy.

This program is limited to families with school-age children. Children must meet the following age requirements:

- Turn 5 years before December 31, 2026
- Turn 13 years old before September 4, 2026
 - They may qualify for the program until their 13th birthday

Families can choose the child care that best meets their needs, including day camps and licensed child care, and can combine child care locations. All families who access at least one full week of summer care are eligible for the summer subsidy program.

Eligibility

To qualify for the MNO Summer Child Care Subsidy Program:

- One parent or guardian, or child, must be an MNO citizen eligible for direct support.
- Applicants must have a child who has completed Junior Kindergarten-Grade 6 by June 2026.
- Children must be attending a child care environment that is one of the following:
 - Licensed child care
 - Forest School
 - Day camp run by a municipality, post-secondary institution, or school board
 - Day camps run by community organizations such as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.
 - Day camps run by non-profit organizations, for example, La Clé
 - Day camp run by sports associations, clubs, or groups, for example, soccer or golf camp.
 - Day camp run by museums, such as Science North.
- Children must attend at least one full week of camp between June 22 and September 4, 2026.
- The child care or camp must be for full-day child care.
- Applicants and children must reside permanently in Ontario.
- The camp or child care must be in Ontario.

Please note that summer day camp or child care costs can only be reimbursed through the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program. The extracurricular program no longer supports summer child care. The extracurricular program will support half-day camps and overnight camps.

The application portal closes on **October 3, 2026, at 4:30 PM EST.**



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All Métis families who meet the eligibility criteria are encouraged to apply using the following link:

Application Process

Application Requirements

Families are required to apply online. The online application will require families to have the following information:

- Proof of child's age
- Citizenship information
- Guardianship information (if applicable)
- Parenting agreement information (if applicable)
- 2024 or 2025 Notice of Assessment for all adults or the 2025 Canadian Child Benefit explanation showing household income
- Budget information

To facilitate the application process:

- Applications can only be completed by the parent or guardian.
- Camp receipts can be submitted up until October 15, 2026. Receipts received after this date will not be reimbursed.
- Receipts should include:
 - The full details of the camp/child care, including name and phone number
 - Date of payment (including year)
 - Details of the program and/or child's name
 - Full details of the payment, including taxes (if applicable) and other fees
 - Payment is complete (future/scheduled payment dates cannot be reimbursed)
- All documents must be readable. Please avoid taking screenshots of screens and use the screenshot function instead.
 - Each device has a different way to capture screenshots. Please refer to your device's website for troubleshooting.
- The ELCC Family Supports team will work with families if there are financial barriers.

Child Cares or Camps Ineligible for the Program

Programs that are not eligible for this program include:

- Camps that are for half-days (i.e., 3.5 hours or less)
- Overnight camp
- Private child care
- Child care provided by a babysitter, nanny, au pair, friend, grandparent, or family member, etc.
- Camp where there is no online or social media presence for ELCC to verify eligibility
- Private school fees
- Summer school fees



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- Tutoring organizations.

Application Process

Upon receipt, the application will be reviewed by a Family Supports Administrator and the ELCC leadership team. The team will contact you if more information is required.

Families will be informed of their eligibility and provided with information on the next steps in the reimbursement and payment process. Families do not need to be registered in camp at the time of application.

Parenting Agreements

In the case of joint custody of a child(ren), each parent or guardian must submit a separate subsidy application, provided the parent or child is an MNO citizen. A parent cannot use a former spouse's citizenship to access the program.

A copy of the parenting agreement is required. Each parent is eligible for child care subsidy only during parenting time, unless the parenting agreement specifies an alternate arrangement. Families without a formal agreement must provide an affidavit for parenting time and child care expenses.

Families who cannot resolve their disputes must access legal or mediation advice from a professional. The family support team will not mediate disputes or refer to specific legal or mediation services.

If a family has trouble accessing the information required, they can email elccsupport@metisnation.org

MNO Summer Child Care Subsidy Policies

Child Care or Camp Information

The following camps or child care are eligible for the program:

- Licensed child care
- Forest School
- Day camp run by a municipality, post-secondary institution, or school board
- Day camps run by community organizations such as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.
- Day camps run by non-profit organizations, for example, La Clé
- Day camp run by sports associations, clubs, or groups, for example, soccer or golf camp
- Day camp run by museums, such as Science North
- Other camps may be approved on a case-by-case basis.

The following policies also apply:

- Children must be enrolled or intending to enroll in at least one full week of camp/child care over the summer.
- Families must submit all receipts for summer camp no later than October 3, 2026. Families will be provided instructions on how to submit receipts. Receipts submitted after October 3, 2026, will be declined without exception.



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- On a case-by-case basis, MNO will work with the camp or child care to pay directly, but cannot guarantee this option is available.
- Families must provide a link to the camp or child care's website or social media when submitting the receipt(s).

Eligible Fees

Only child care or camp fees are eligible for the program. It does not include specialized or additional fees such as programming, application costs, transportation, clothing, equipment or materials, day trips/excursions, and food. The program can subsidize families when they are required to pay additional fees for before- and after-care.

Extra Curricular Program

Summer day camp or child care costs can only be reimbursed through the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program. The Extra Curricular Program no longer supports summer child care. The Extra-Curricular Program will support both half-day and overnight camps.

Payment of Camp and Child Care Fees

Families are encouraged to pay the full cost of child care or camp up front. The MNO will reimburse camp or child care fees based on the subsidy assessment.

If there are financial barriers, the MNO will work with the family and camp or child care provider to arrange payment when possible. In these cases, the family pays their portion directly to the provider. These barriers can be identified during the application to facilitate prompt payment to the camp or child care provider.

All receipts must be submitted by October 3, 2026.

Half-day vs. Full-day Camp

Half-day camps are ineligible for the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program. Half-day camps can be submitted to the extracurricular program for eligible families.

MNO Child Care Stipend Program

Families who have been approved and are active in the child care stipend program may apply; however, they must report during their bi-monthly check-in the weeks covered by the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program. Failure to do so may result in being removed from the Stipend and/or Summer Child Care Subsidy Program.

Program Length

Families must apply to the program annually. For 2026, all child care or camp must occur between June 22 and September 4, 2026.

Subsidy Amounts and Income Threshold

The subsidy is based on the family's total household income and expenses. Families may receive subsidies of 40% to 100% of their child care costs.



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If a household income exceeds \$200,000 annually, the family must pay 75% of their childcare costs, with MNO subsidizing up to \$35/day.

CONTACT

If you need help with your application or would like to learn more about the programs available to you, please get in touch with the Early Learning and Child Care team at elccsupport@metisnation.org

When you email us, please include the MNO region or the municipality where you live so we can support you promptly.