



## JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE

Jordan's Principle recognizes that Indigenous children may need government services that exceed the normative standard of care and will evaluate the individual needs of the child to ensure substantive equality, culturally appropriate services, and/or to safeguard the best interests of the child.

**Please do not use the acronym "JP" to refer to Jordan's Principle.**

Jordan's Principle is a gift from the Anderson family in Jordan's memory. Shortening Jordan's Principle to an acronym reduces it to the level of a government policy, program, or technical term, and dehumanizes Jordan's legacy. The Caring Society has observed that the dehumanization of Indigenous children and families through use of acronyms and file numbers is a government pattern that perpetuates discrimination. In honour of Jordan and his family, please do not shorten Jordan's Principle to the acronym "JP".

[https://fncaringsociety.com/sites/default/files/jordans\\_principle\\_resource\\_guide\\_2021\\_final.pdf](https://fncaringsociety.com/sites/default/files/jordans_principle_resource_guide_2021_final.pdf)

### Definition:

1. For the purposes of Jordan's Principle, a 'child' is defined as an individual who is under the Age of Majority within their province or territory. In BC, the age of majority is 19. As such, eligibility for Jordan's Principle ceases when Age of Majority is attained (date of the child's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday).

### Eligibility

Services provided under Jordan's Principle are available to:

- Registered Indigenous children living on or off reserve;
- First Nations children entitled to be registered, under the *Indian Act*;
- Any Indigenous child, including non-status First Nation or Métis, who are ordinarily resident on reserve.

### Request for Enhanced Services and Support

Requests must be specific to the needs of the child or a cohort of Indigenous students who are below the age of majority. The request must show evidence the families have provided informed consent and be accompanied by supporting documentation to demonstrate "above normative need".

Requests may be made for **health supports**, **social supports**, or **educational supports**.

(See Related Documents: [Jordan's Principle Handbook](#) – Developed and made available by the Assembly of First Nations).

See Appendix A for an overview of the Central Okanagan Public Schools process relating to Jordan's Principle applications.

### **Who May Submit Requests?**

1. A request for a child or children in the same family or with the same guardian may be submitted by:
  - Parents or guardians caring for a dependent Indigenous child under the age of majority in the child's province/territory of residence;
  - An Indigenous child above 16 years of age;
  - An authorized representative of the child, parent or guardian (e.g., School-Based Team).
2. If a parent's application is for a CEA, it is strongly recommended they collaborate with the school's Advocate or staff member and submit a joint application through the School-Based Team.
3. A request for a group of children from multiple families or guardians may be submitted by a School-Based Team, or community or service provider, who can request services, such as:
  - Respite care
  - Wheelchair ramps
  - Educational Support programs/supports
  - Transportation to school
  - Local therapeutic specialists, etc.

### **When to Submit a Request**

The timeline for School-Based Team applications for currently enrolled students is prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> for the upcoming school year.

### **How to Submit a Request (Please refer to Appendix A)**

1. If a Jordan's Principle application is appropriate, the School-Based Team, applying for funding (applicant), must ensure they obtain consent from the child's parents/guardian prior to considering an application. A record of consultation (Appendix B) must be completed with the following:
  - a) The site administrator
  - b) Indigenous Education
  - c) Inclusive Education
2. When the application is ready to submit, the applicant should contact **one** of the following Jordan's Principle offices:
  - BC Regional Focal Point:
    - Phone 778-951-0716
    - Email [principedejordan@bc-jordan-principle@sc-isc.gc.ca](mailto:principedejordan@bc-jordan-principle@sc-isc.gc.ca)

Jordan's Principle Call Centre (open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

- Phone: 1-855-JP-CHILD (1-855-572-4453)
- Teletypewriter: 1-866-553-0554

When you are seeking access to funding for a product, service, or support, it is helpful to have the following information available:

- Registration number for child or parent under the Indian Act (if available);
- The product, service or support required and how often the product, service or support will be needed;
- Estimated costs;
- Copies of documents related to requests (e.g., prescriptions, referrals from health, social or education professionals); and
- Any additional information that should be considered to support the request.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE WHEN SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS**

Please note that if approved, Jordan's Principle will pay staff wages, for example; however, expenses that exceed the approved amount or that do not fit within the parameters of the approval may need to be covered by the requestor.

#### **Additional Information**

For additional information regarding Jordan's Principle, visit the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society website: <https://fncaringsociety.com/>.

For information specific to children with disabilities or special needs, see Jordan's Principle and Children with Disabilities and Special Needs: A Resource Guide and Analysis of Canada's Implementation at [https://fncaringsociety.com/sites/default/files/jordans\\_principle\\_resource\\_guide\\_2021\\_final.pdf](https://fncaringsociety.com/sites/default/files/jordans_principle_resource_guide_2021_final.pdf).

Relevant Board Policy:

Developed by: Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Date Agreed: August 24, 2023

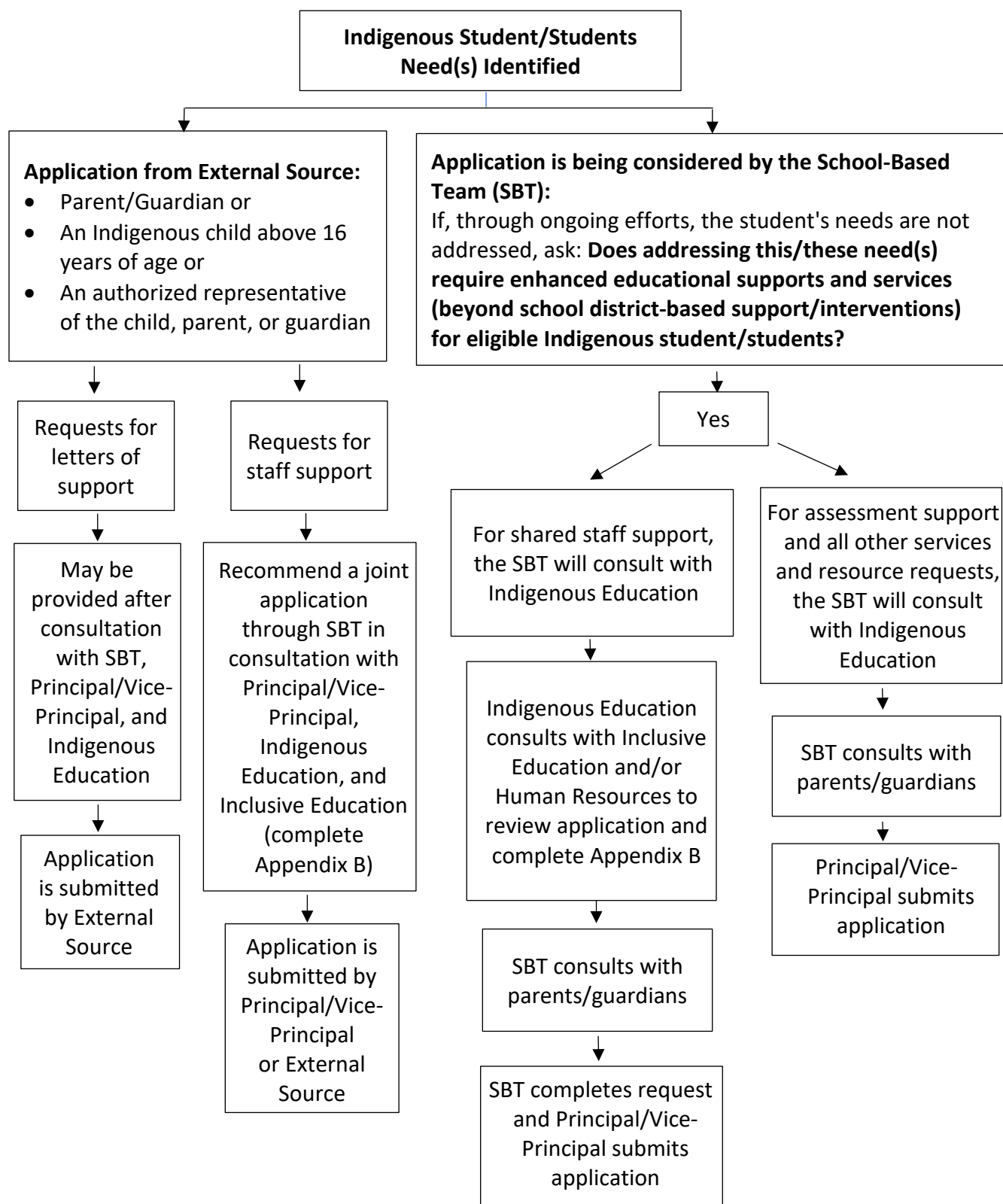
Date Amended:

Related Documents: Jordan's Principle Handbook (Developed and made available by the Assembly of First Nations)

## APPENDIX A

### Central Okanagan Public Schools Decision-Making Process - Jordan's Principle -

*(Timeline for applications, for currently enrolled students, is prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>.)*



## APPENDIX B

### Central Okanagan Public Schools - Record of Consultation

Planning Tool For Jordan's Principle Applications Involving Request for Staff.

**Do not include this form in your application to the Jordan's Principle Office.**

*(Timeline for applications, involving staff request, for currently enrolled students, is prior to June 30th.)*

Application is from: External Source ☐ School-Based Team (SBT) ☐

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

SBT Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Indigenous Advocate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Position of Person Submitting Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Student	Designation (Please indicate if none.)	Current Supports	Previously Supported through Jordan's Principle (Yes/No)

#### Considerations

A Jordan's Principle application, requesting staff support, is recommended as shared support. Shared support promotes student independence, social inclusion and provides the school flexibility in the event a student, involved in this application, has inconsistent attendance.

*(Contact the Finance Department to obtain current staffing costs.)*

1. Request for shared CEA support:

Number of CEA's requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of CEA hours per week: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of weeks: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of CEA: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Request for classroom support teacher

FTE requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of weeks requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of Classroom Support Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended amendments: \_\_\_\_\_

Preliminary support to move forward with application: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Consultation with Director of Instruction – Indigenous Education and Equity

☐ Consultation with Director of Instruction – Inclusive Education

**Principal (Signature):** \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Director of Instruction – Indigenous Education and Equity

Director of Instruction – Inclusive Education