



MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE



2026-2027 Extracurricular Support Program Guide

Program Description

The Métis Nation of Ontario continues to offer the Extracurricular Support Program for children 0-12 years to support the healthy growth and development of Métis children. The program is designed to support the social, physical, and mental well-being of our Métis children, focusing on developmentally supportive activities. The Extracurricular Support Program is reviewed and updated annually. Families must review the guidelines thoroughly, as eligibility and program parameters may change yearly.

Eligibility

- The child must be between the ages of 0 and 12 years.
- The parent/guardian or child must be an MNO citizen eligible for direct support.
- The family must reside permanently in the province of Ontario.

Application

One Application

The Extracurricular pre-application will be included in the ELCC One Application for the 2026-27 fiscal year. This will allow eligible MNO citizens to register for the Extracurricular Support Program before submitting formal receipts. The ELCC team will use the information provided to monitor applicants, determine the amount of available monetary support, and advise families of their acceptance into the 2026-27 fiscal-year program. **The One Application will accept extracurricular pre-applications between March 20 and April 24, 2026.** After this period, it will serve as a central waitlist for families unable to meet the submission deadline.

- The pre-application registers your child's interest in receiving extracurricular support for the 2026-27 fiscal year.
- You may only apply to the pre-application once. All children 0-12 years must be included on the application.
 - The application will confirm the name(s) and date of birth of all children who may qualify for extracurricular support. Children not listed on the application will NOT receive support for the 2026-27 fiscal year.
- Completing the application does not guarantee acceptance into the 2026-27 Extracurricular Support Program.
- This application IS NOT for submitting expenses.
- Families expecting a child after the pre-application window closes may apply to the



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waitlist after the birth of their child.

- The support available will be determined after the pre-application period closes. It will be based on the child's age and the number of applications received.
- The ELCC team is not responsible for purchases that do not meet the program's parameters or purchases made before April 1, 2026.

The One Application will also accept applications for the MNO Christmas Program, the Back-to-School Backpacks, and the Early Learning Kit. The application period for these four programs is also open from March 20 to April 24, 2026.

Submission Portal

The submission portal will open for approved families on May 15, 2026, and will be the only method of submitting receipts to the program.

The link for the 2026-27 application portal is https://metisnation.smapply.io/prog/ec_receipts

The portal will close on March 19, 2027, at 4:30 p.m. EST. Families who expect to incur expenses between March 20 and March 31, 2027, should contact their Family Supports Administrator by March 5, 2027.

To facilitate the application process:

- Only children who received approval can submit applications to the submission portal. Children who were not approved will be declined.
- Receipts must show proof of payment dated between April 1, 2026, and March 19, 2027.
- Late applications will not be considered.
- A minimum of \$50 of receipts (per family) is required per submission.
- Families are encouraged to apply multiple times during the submission period.
- Multiple children can be included in the submission.
- The ELCC team requires detailed proof of payment/receipts.
- The ELCC Family Supports team will not send reminder emails for funding or deadlines.
- Please allow the team 30 business days to review your application.
- At peak periods, such as when the program opens in May, during early fall (October), and just before the program closes (February-March), reviews may take up to 40 business days.
- Applications submitted in December will take up to 45 days to review due to the MNO holiday closure.

Program Guidelines

The following are general guidelines for the 2026-27 Extracurricular Support Program:



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- The support available will be determined based on the number of applicants and the children's ages. This amount will be announced via email on May 15, 2026.
- Each child must have submitted receipts that align with and meet all criteria of the program guide and totals at least 50%, and submit a receipt for a registered program or activity that takes place for 8 weeks/ sessions of their funding by October 15, 2026.
 - If a child has not utilized 50% of their funding by October 15, 2026, they will be removed from the program and forfeit their remaining financing for the 2026-27 fiscal year.
 - Children whose funding is forfeited will NOT be eligible to apply for the waitlist.
 - There are NO exceptions to the activity requirement.
- ELCC staff will not pre-approve items. Families are expected to familiarize themselves with the guide.
 - ELCC staff cannot make specific product or program recommendations, as each child has different interests, capabilities, and areas of need.
- Support cannot be transferred between program years or shared between siblings.
- For children turning 13 this fiscal year, receipts must be dated BEFORE the child's 13th birthday.
- The activity and/or equipment must be developmentally appropriate and align with the child's age and used primarily by the child(ren).
 - Further information may be requested to verify that the equipment suits the child.
- Proof of activity enrollment may be requested to verify that the child is registered and the span of time for the activity.
- The number of items reimbursed may be limited.
- When applying, please upload as many receipts as possible into the application. This will ensure that your application is processed promptly.
- The MNO's reimbursement for any activity fees or equipment purchased is at the sole discretion of the MNO after an assessment of the complete application.

Receipt Guidelines

The following is a general guideline of acceptable receipts for the 2026-27 Extracurricular Support Program.

- Receipts MUST have a date (including the year) and the item(s) purchased. They must also fully describe the purchase and the price charged. In addition, the organization or seller must be on the receipt.
 - Receipts that are not detailed (for example, state "item" and price without a



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description) may be accepted on a case-by-case basis and will require additional supporting information, such as pictures of the items purchased.

- Receipts must be readable:
 - The ELCC team recommend screenshots rather than taking a photo of a screen.
 - If required, take multiple photos of a receipt. Photos taken from a distance become pixelated when they are zoomed in.
- Handwritten receipts **MUST** have a signature, identify the organization, and describe the activity/purchase. They should also indicate the payment date and method.
- For multi-item equipment receipts, please provide the child's initials by each item.
- The ELCC team verifies SKUs when the item description is unclear. Additional information will be requested if the team cannot verify the item.
- Debit/credit card receipts that do not provide details on the items purchased are not accepted.
- Bank, credit card, and PayPal statements are not accepted.
- Order confirmations/ summaries are not accepted (i.e. before the item is shipped or picked up).
- E-transfers may be accepted if they meet the following criteria:
 - Date of e-transfer.
 - Recipient of the e-transfer.
 - A description of the item/activity is provided in the comment section.
 - Information (such as the ad) of the purchased equipment or proof of activity enrollment.
- For children turning 13, the receipts must be dated before their 13th birthday.
- The ELCC team may require additional information for some activity receipts, including a breakdown of fees, as lottery, ticket, and fundraising charges are not reimbursable.
- For Hockey Canada receipts, the receipt **AND** invoice from Hockey Canada **MUST** be included in the application.
- Receipts should be uploaded as a JPEG, PDF, or TIFF to ensure a smooth review process.
- Uploads should not have characters (&! etc.) in file name.
- Ensure you are submitting the invoice for the extracurricular submission, provide time for shipping, and the receipt to be made before submitting expenses.

Key Dates

- The One Application period will be from **March 20, 2026, to April 24, 2026.**
 - This is to review all the applicants, complete citizenship checks, and allocate



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funding to each child approved into the program.

- The waitlist will open **May 1, 2026 – January 15, 2027**, and act as a waitlist for families who did not apply during the original application period.
- Families will be advised of the outcome of their pre-application no later than **May 15, 2026**.
- The extracurricular submission portal will open between **May 15, 2026, and March 19, 2027**.
- The portal opens at 8:30 am EST and closes at 4:30 pm EST.
- Receipts must be dated between April 1, 2026, and March 19, 2027.
 - Please contact your Family Supports Administrator before March 5, 2027, for activities paid for between March 20 and 31, 2027.
- Receipts for equipment or supplies dated after March 19, 2027, will not be accepted.
- All equipment receipts must be submitted to the portal before it closes.
- By October 15, 2026, receipts that total 50% of the funding and registered activity spanning 8 weeks/sessions need to be submitted.
- Questions about program guidelines and activities must be submitted by September 28, 2026.
- Families will be advised if they did not meet the criteria to remain in the program no later than November 30, 2026.

Program Parameters

Spending and Activity Policies

- **Each child must have submitted receipts that total at least 50% of their funding by October 15, 2026.**
 - If a child has not spent 50% of their funding by October 15, 2026, they will be removed from the program and forfeit their remaining financing for the 2026-27 fiscal year.
 - Children whose funding is forfeited will NOT be eligible to apply for the waitlist.
- **By October 15, 2026, each child MUST submit a receipt for one (1) registered program or activity that spans 8 weeks/sessions.**
 - The ELCC team may also support pool/gym family membership, provided there are activities for the child.
 - Daily passes do not meet this requirement
 - Children born between 2026-2023, such as museum membership, zoo membership, provincial park passes, or conservation park passes, will meet this requirement.



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- Where admission is free for the child, the program will support the cost of a single-parent membership, which can count towards the 8 sessions.
- For children born 2024-2026, EarlyON programming, Healthy Babies Healthy Children programming, and public library programming can meet the requirement of an activity.
 - Reach out to your program administrator, and they will provide you with a form to be signed by the Librarian, Coordinator or Educator
- All other children must be in an ongoing, registered, formal activity for 8 weeks/sessions. This can include, but is not limited to, sports activities, music lessons, overnight camps, and community groups (such as scouting and guiding).
 - Overnight camp will meet the full registered activity criteria
 - Memberships for activities such as swimming, golf, or skiing will meet the requirement of a registered activity.
- Summer day camps, March Break camps, PD Day camps, and camps over Christmas holidays do not meet this requirement.
- Registered activity examples are listed in this document on page 8.
- If a child does not submit a receipt for a registered activity for 8 weeks/sessions by October 15, 2025, they will be removed from the program and forfeit their remaining funding for the 2026-27 fiscal year.
 - Children whose funding is forfeited will NOT be eligible to apply for the waitlist.
 - There are NO exceptions to the registered activity.
 - There is no minimum for the activity cost. In addition, the activity cost IS included in the 50% of the funding requirement above.
- If a family has submitted equipment receipts totalling 50% of their reimbursement, all additional equipment receipts will be held until the family submits an activity receipt. If the family fails to submit an activity receipt by October 15, 2026, they will forfeit the remaining funding, including the additional equipment receipts.
- Families are encouraged to submit receipts early and often. Receipts submitted close to the deadlines that are declined may not be eligible for resubmission.
- All deadlines are firm, and no receipts will be accepted after the deadline has passed.



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Registered Activities

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list. An activity must require registration, be ongoing for more than 8 sessions, and support skill-building. Community organizations that run registered activities over several weeks (such as the YMCA or Boys and Girls Clubs) will count toward this requirement. To meet the 8-week/session minimum, it can be submitted over multiple receipts or activity types. Activities without a fee do not count towards the activity criteria.

- Archery lessons
- Art classes
- Bowling league
- Cheerleading
- Coding courses
- Cycling/skateboarding clubs
- Dance class
- Drama clubs
- Golf membership
- Guiding/ Scouting/ Cadets
- Gym memberships (child's portion only)
- Gymnastics/ Ninja/ Parkour
- Horseback riding
- Language school (other than French)
- Kayak/canoe lessons or club
- Martial arts
- Music lessons
- Overnight camp (each day at camp counts as a session)
- Parent and child activities for ages 0-4 (i.e., Parent and child swimming, yoga, Etc.)
- Skiing/snowboarding lessons or passes
- Sports (hockey, soccer, baseball, tennis, golf, basketball, football, track, etc.)
- Skating/ figure skating lessons
- STEM/STEAM clubs
- Swimming classes
- Yoga classes
- Youth group/church groups
- Virtual programming

Summer Camps

For Summer 2026, families can submit summer camp expenses to the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program. Camp is eligible for the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program if:

- The child is attending at least 1 week of camp (different locations/camps are allowed)
- The child has completed Junior Kindergarten – Grade 6 as of June 30, 2026
- The camp meets the program's guidelines

The Summer Child Care Subsidy Program provides support based on the family's needs. Families cannot submit the same receipt to both programs.

Families accessing the Summer Child Care Subsidy Program can use extracurricular funding to support non-child-care-focused activities. PD day camps, Christmas Break camps, half-day



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summer camps, and March Break camps can only be reimbursed through the Extracurricular Support Program.

Other Eligible Activities

These activities are reimbursable but do not count toward the registered activity policy. This list is not exhaustive.

- Babysitting course
- Day camp (PD day, March Break, or Christmas)
- Family or child passes are allowed for the following:
 - Parks Canada
 - Ontario Parks
 - Conservation authorities
 - Historical sites/cultural centres
 - Museums and science centre
 - Aquariums
 - Libraries
- Home Alone course
- PAL courses (12 years old only)
- School trips
- Sports tryout fees

Equipment

- The maximum reimbursement is \$225 per item **(Including taxes)**.
- Some exceptions apply to larger items; more information is provided below.
- It must be developmentally appropriate for the child.
- It must align with the age of the child.
- ELCC staff will use the suggested age guidelines for some equipment (for example, 3+) and approve equipment based on child development for typically developing children. Further guidance on age guidelines is available in this document.
- It must support the child's social, physical, and mental well-being.
- It must be for use specifically and primarily by the child.
- A reasonable equipment purchase is necessary for the child's extracurricular activity. Items may be limited and must be for a child's personal use.
- Proof of equipment (i.e., equipment list) may be requested for items required for a registered program.
- Examples of equipment may include:
 - Sports equipment (e.g., soccer ball, basketball),
 - Fishing equipment,
 - Outdoor activity equipment (e.g., bike),



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- Safety equipment (e.g., bike helmet, snowmobile helmet, lifejackets, etc.),
- It must not be infrastructure, machinery, entertainment, firearms, firearm accessories, building materials, equipment, or services designed for adults. Ineligible items are listed below.
- Additional consideration will be given to children with special needs on a case-by-case basis.

Maximum Amount Reimbursed for Equipment

- The following equipment purchases are eligible for the indicated maximum reimbursement amount.
- Equipment meeting the overall program parameters and not included in the list below will be reimbursed to a maximum of \$225 (including tax).
- The maximum has been based on market research on potential youth/child-sized equipment costs. Eligibility for reimbursement for large items will be confirmed after an assessment of the family's access to the program for the same or similar items in the current and previous years.
- Note that some items have age limits. The ELCC team will review the application based on the child's age at the time the item was purchased.
- Some items are limited per child or family, and some are limited annually.

Bikes (Tricycles and balance bikes)

All amounts are inclusive of tax.

Category	Age	Maximum
Infant/Toddler	1-2	\$175
Preschooler	3-5	\$225
Child	6-10	\$550
Youth	11-12	\$750

Ice Skates

All amounts are inclusive of tax.

Category	Age	Maximum
Preschooler	3-5	\$150
Child	6-10	\$300
Youth	11-12	\$350



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Equipment

All amounts are inclusive of tax.

Item	Maximum	Age Range	Quantity
Archery and hunting equipment. (No guns) (archery bows, arrows, targets, etc.)	\$400	Age 10+	Per child
Arts and Craft materials (NOT craft kits)	\$50	2+	Per child, annually.
Basketball nets (full size)	\$500	Age 7 +	One per family, limited in future years
Beading supplies	\$150	Age 3+	Annual per child
Canoe	\$750	Age 10 +	One per family, limited in future years
Cross-country skis – classic or skate, including bindings	\$500	Ages 2+ and appropriate for the child's size	One type per child
Downhill skis- including bindings	\$700	Age 2+ and appropriate for the child's size	One per child
Fishing Equipment (Fishing knives 10+ ONLY), rods, reels, tackle, etc. (Coolers and ice huts not eligible)	\$300	Age 3 +	Annual per family
Golf clubs (individual)	\$100	Age 6+	Per child
Golf club sets	\$450	Age 6+	One set per child
Horse tack	\$500	Age 4 +	Annual per child
Kayak	\$750	Age 6 +	One per child, limited in future years
Musical instruments	\$750	It depends on the instrument	Drums, pianos/keyboards – one per family
Ninja lines	\$500	Age 5+	One per family, limited in future years
Rink kits/synthetic ice (Not lumber, building material, tarps, etc.)	\$500	Age 3 +	Limited in future years
Sewing Machine/ Circuit Machine (Electronic cutting machine) (Add-ons are included in this amount)	\$300	Age 8+ and appropriate for the child's age	One per family, limited in future years
Snowboards – Including bindings	\$700	Age 2+ and appropriate for the	One per child



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		child's size	
Soft zone/ play couch and accessories	\$500	9 months – age 5	One per family, limited in future years
Stand-up paddleboard	\$750	Age 6 +	One per child, limited in future years
Trampoline	\$750	Age 4 + for a large trampoline	One per family, limited in future years

Footwear

- Only specialized footwear required for activities will be approved, such as ballet shoes and cleats. As listed in the previous tables, the maximum for footwear is \$125.
- Running shoes will only be approved with proof of specialized running programs outside of school
- Indoor shoes will not be approved

Limits on Equipment Purchases

- Some items, such as musical instruments, trampolines, and canoes, may be limited to one per family based on their nature (e.g., to be used by multiple children).
- Items must be primarily for the child and used by the child.

Expenses **NOT Eligible for Reimbursement** under the Program

The following is a non-exhaustive list of examples of items that are not eligible under the program. This is due to the program's design and purpose, the funding terms and conditions, and MNO's financial policies. Items that are similar but not explicitly mentioned (e.g., Samsung tablet vs. iPad vs. tablet) will be included.



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- Activity tables
- Additional uniforms, personalization of equipment and promotional clothing, suits for hockey, branded team jackets, NHL jerseys for practice, etc.
- Amusement park passes, seasonal events, farm experiences, escape rooms, waterparks, entertainment tickets (movies, concerts, stage performances), athletic events, etc.
- Airtoobz
- Animal habitats or items for pets/animals
- Art and Craft Kits
- Aqua beads
- Bags, including hockey bags, backpacks, activity bags, etc.
- Ball pits
- Bath toys
- Batteries
- Board games, card games.
- Books, curriculum books, and literature or financial courses
- Camping supplies such as tents, shovels, sleeping bags/pads/mattresses, coolers, cooking supplies, lighters, fire starters, chairs, or flashlights (unless required for the activity, such as scouting, guiding, or cadets. You must provide proof from the organizer)
- Chairs, bean bag chairs/ filling.
- Clothing items (Jerseys, socks, dance outfits, base layers (unless required protection))
- Construction materials
- Cooking/ food preparation equipment
- Coolers
- Full-day summer camp
- Donations, mandatory fundraisers, volunteer fees, lottery tickets, etc.
- Drones
- Educational resources
- Equipment, activity, or materials primarily for use by adults.
- Exercising equipment (e.g., Peloton, mirror, Bowflex, rowers, recumbent bikes, etc.)
- Facility rentals (Ice rentals, community areas, swimming pools, etc.)
- Fidget spinners
- Firearms, ammunition, firearm accessories, firearm storage devices
- Food, supplements, and drinks

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- Foosball, hockey tables
- French language courses
- Furniture
- Gaming systems, video games, karaoke machines, fitness trackers, laptops, computers, iPads, tablets, phones, phone/tablet accessories, stylus pens, Leapfrog items, and other electronic items
- Gardening supplies
- Gatherings- for example, birthday parties and family reunions
- Gift cards
- Ice augers
- Imaginative play such as dress-up, kitchens, workshops, playhouses, etc
- Indoor playground pass
- Inflatable bouncers, water bouncers, slip and slides, water slides
- Installment or whole payments made outside the fiscal year
- Insurance for item delivery
- Import fees or tariffs
- Kneeboard, tube, wakeboard, island hopper (for behind the boat)
- Late fees or interest
- Layaway or payment plans for equipment
- Legos, Magnstix, knex, mega block, magnatiles, etc.
- Licensed or private child care receipts
- Motorized equipment (such as snowmobiles, dirt bikes, e-scooters, boats, battery-operated toys/vehicles, power wheels, motorized augers, hoverboards, etc.)
- Nerf guns and Nerf gun scooters
- Non-mandatory clothing, including outdoor/winter clothing, shoes, and boots
- Novelty oversized board games such as Connect 4, Jenga, checkers, chess, etc.)
- Occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and pathology therapy, and paramedical costs.
- Orthotics
- Overnight camping, cabin fees or rentals, and accommodation costs for camping trips
- Permanent playsets, treehouses, sheds, or home improvements
- Play-Doh and Play-Doh sets
- Playpens, crib mobiles, sleeping areas, and baby gates

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- Power tools
- Puzzles.
- Replacement items that the MNO previously reimbursed
- Roof racks/rail or car accessories and bike racks
- Sensory items
- Science kits
- Sleds / GT Racers
- STEM/STEAM sets
- Shipping from outside Canada.
- Snowmobile trail pass
- Snowmobile suits
- Non-specialized shoes (for example, indoor shoes or running shoes)
- Outdoor Tubing pass
- Strollers, baby carriers, pull-style wagons, bike trailers, ski trailers, baby bike seats, and car seats
- Stuffed animals
- Subscription boxes
- Swimming pools and hot tubs, including wading pools
- Taxes, tariffs or duty fees for shipping and border crossing
- Teething toys
- Toys
- Trailers, campers, or RVs
- Trampoline park pass
- Transportation, including parking passes, valet, or transit
- Travel expenses, including car rentals and hotel accommodation
- Tutors
- Utility sleds
- Warranty fees
- Water bottles
- Water table or sand tables
- Water balloons
- Water Mat
- Zipline

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