

# Apply for funding for Projects Component under the Canadian Family Justice Fund

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### **Application Period**

This invitational call for proposals is open from July 3, 2024, until August 16, 2024 (11:59 pm EST)

The deadline to submit the completed funding application form and the budget is August 16, 2024 (11:59 pm EST).

### **Description of funding**

Should they be approved, activities under this funding opportunity may begin upon project approval and must end March 31, 2028, at the latest.

Provincial and territorial governments are eligible for up to \$250,000 annually for project funding under this call for proposal.

### **Overview**

#### **Objective**

The Canadian Family Justice Fund (CFJF) facilitates access to the family justice system for families experiencing separation and divorce through various services, programs and information resources.

Projects component is designed to support provincial and territorial governments, not-for-profit organizations, associations, academic institutions and individuals in the following capacity:

- i. the development, implementation and evaluation of provincial and territorial innovative family justice services and programs;
- ii. projects/activities that inform Canadians about family law issues such as parenting arrangements and child/spousal support; or
- iii. the development of new strategies, models and tools intended to improve access to family justice.

## **Priorities**

The Canadian Family Justice Fund has been designed to address specific priorities. Under the Projects component, a minimum of one priority, listed below, must be addressed in the application form:

### Fostering Federal Provincial and Territorial Collaboration:

This priority supports work that encourages collaboration amongst provincial, and territorial and federal governments to make improvements to the Canadian family justice system. This work includes: participation on cross-jurisdictional initiatives, such as work on inter-jurisdictional support and parenting issues, enforcement issues, participation on Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) sub-committees and working groups. This priority also includes work on coordination of family justice activities and implementation of new family law legislation.

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### Supporting Well-being of Family Members:

This priority includes activities that help support the overall well-being of family members engaging with the family justice system including:

- The emotional well-being of family members, for example so that parents understand the importance of focusing on their children's best interests in parenting matters, and/or communicating more effectively with the other parent;
- The economic well-being of family members which contributes to poverty reduction;
- The physical well-being of family members, in particular in cases of family violence.

### Reaching Diverse and Underserved Populations:

This priority supports access to family justice for diverse and underserved populations such as: Indigenous communities, newcomers to Canada, Official Language minorities, individuals whose primary language is neither English nor French, and rural and northern populations.

### Supporting Alternatives to Court:

This priority includes programs and services that support alternatives to court that reduce their need in family law matters, including the need for courts to adjudicate contested family law matters. This priority would include mechanisms such as **the administrative establishment or recalculation of child support**. Additionally, projects that aim to support families comply with their income disclosure obligations so that they may be eligible to use administrative establishment or recalculation of child support services are included in this priority.

### Improving and Streamlining Family Justice System Links/Processes

This priority supports the simplification of family court processes, information sharing between courts and family justice services, improved coordination with other parts of the justice system. It also supports linkages between FPT governments to improve family justice processes and improvements to inter-jurisdictional processes.

## **Eligibility**

### **Eligible Applicants**

- provincial and territorial government departments, agencies, or other organizations designated by provincial and territorial governments as responsible for child support, the enforcement of support orders and agreements and parenting arrangement programs and services.

### **Eligible Activities/Projects**

The following are examples of eligible activities funded under the Canadian Family Justice Fund.

- The development, implementation and evaluation of provincial and territorial innovative family justice services and programs.
- Public Legal Education Information (PLEI) to support information and awareness of family law issues
- Professional training to support continuing education efforts for professionals and intermediaries on separation and divorce, parenting arrangements, spousal and child support, and support enforcement measures.
- Innovative strategies, models or tools intended to improve access to family justice.

## **Steps to apply**

### **Application Package**

To apply, you must complete the Application Form, the Workplan and the Budget Form.

## **How we assess your application**

### **Review Process**

- Proposals will be reviewed by a departmental committee composed of representatives of relevant sections of the Department. Officials from Family Law and Youth Justice Policy Sector and the Programs Branch may consult with different sectors within the Department and, when appropriate, with other federal departments, provincial and territorial governments and other key stakeholders in the justice system;

## **After you have applied**

We will review your application and evaluate all projects against a set of assessment criteria and funding recommendations will be made for final approval.

We will communicate funding decisions to you once they have been made.

## **Contact Us**

For more information, please contact:

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