

# Life Skills Program Assessment Q&A

## Question 1:

Q: Can the life skills program only serve those 19 – 26 years of age?

A: No. Any program can serve a range of ages within a program; however, the program submitted under this application process must offer service to young adults age 19-26.

## Question 2:

Q: What are the criteria for the individuals who would like to take Life Skills?

A: Any individual who wants to attend a Life Skills program can do so according to the program's own eligibility criteria.

Young adults who wish to participate in a ministry-approved life skills program while receiving AYA funding should apply through their MCFD or Delegated Aboriginal Agency social worker. More information about the AYA program can be found here:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/youth-and-family-services/teens-in-foster-care/agreements-with-young-adults>

## Question 3:

Q: What type of certification is needed for the Life Skills Instructor?

A: The types of certification can vary. It's expected that agencies hire qualified staff to be instructors for their Life Skills Programs.

## Question 4:

Q: The application template states that "financial assistance is provided to the young adult and may be applied towards living expenses, child care, tuition/program fees and health care." Does this mean that an approved Life Skills Program agency would charge the young adult directly for participating? If so, are there any guidelines on pricing?

A: The funding through the Agreements with Young Adults Program is provided to Young Adults based on need and to help pay for basic living costs. Life skills programs are funded through a variety of methods and it is not intended through this process that programs will charge Young Adults for Life Skills Programs or related services. Tuition and program fees refer to school tuition and school supplies, not tuition for Life Skills programs. Life Skills programs expecting direct payment of tuition from Young Adults on AYA will not be considered for the approved list.

**\*\* Only Life Skills programs currently operating and funded should apply to be included on the approved list.**

## Question 5:

Q: If an agency's application qualifies under the Ministry's review, is funding provided to operate the program for referred AYA clients?

A: No. There is no funding for starting or maintaining a Life Skills Program through this application process. By submitting an “Application for Life Skills Program Assessment”, life skills providers will be assessed according to the outlined criteria, and programs that are approved will be placed on a list of “ministry-approved” life skills providers. Young adults on an Agreement with Young Adults will be able to receive AYA funding while attending a “ministry-approved” life skills program. AYA funding is provided directly to Young Adults and may be applied towards living expenses, health care, etc. The Young Adult is not permitted to use their AYA funding to pay for life skills programs.

**Question 6:**

Q: Is the assessment only looking for current Service Providers offering this program? Could Agencies that have the qualifications, credentials and experience apply and implement the program/service as needed?

A: Agencies that apply to be included on this list must be currently operating a Life Skills program. **Fee for service programs need not apply.** There is no new funding available for costs of running a life skills program. AYA is to fund the needs of Young Adults while they are attending a “ministry-approved” life skills program.

**Question 7:**

Q: Will the ministry consider proposals for new programming?

A: No. The Ministry will not accept proposals for new programs.

**Question 8:**

Q: Can the entire application be sent as a scanned PDF or only the signature page?

A: Both can be sent as a PDF.

**Question 9:**

Q: Is there a detailed list or breakdown of the required policies and practices you are seeking (for example, health and safety policies; staffing policies; operational policies)?

A: Any relevant policies that answer Q5 C-H should be submitted for review by the panel.

**Question 10:**

Q: How does the agency cover the costs to provide the required hours of programming?

A: This program assessment process is intended to develop a ministry-approved list of life skills providers that have **existing programs** in place. This process is meant to identify life skills programs for Young Adults from care to participate in to gain the necessary skills needed as they transition to adulthood. AYA funding will be provided directly to the Young Adult for basic living expenses while attending life skills program. There will be no funds as part of this program assessment given to agencies for the operating costs of their programs.

**Question 11:**

Q: Is there the expectation that the Life Skills program is offered year round and that participants can enter the program at any time?

A: No. We understand that enrollment processes will differ from program to program.

**Question 12:**

Q: When can a program start? e.g. January 1, 2017 to December 2017? April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018? Or beforehand? And is there an end date for this funding?

A: Enrollment processes will differ from program to program.

**Question 13:**

Q: How do we apply if we have more than one Life Skills Program that could be assessed in this assessment?

A: Please submit a separate application for each program.

**Question 14:**

Q: We are under a Delegated Enabling Agreement with the Provincial and Federal Government to provide statutory social work services on-reserve for children and families. Our legislative mandate comes from MCFD and we provide services under C4 delegation.

Based on this classification, please confirm whether or not we are required to complete additional information as per Section 3, Question 5 of the Application Template.

A: No, you are not required to submit additional information for Question 5.

**Question 15:**

Q: Are Young Adults required to participate throughout the entire program cycle or would participants be able to take individual workshops?

A: Participants are required to meet all domains of learning within a 3 month time frame with an optional 3 month extension. Participants must participate in 12 hours of programming (one-on-one or in a workshop setting) per week.

**Question 16:**

Q: Would financial assistance be given to clients that are completing high school via distance education?

A: This application assessment process is for Life Skills programming. Education, including the completion of high school, is already funded and supported through a separate process under the AYA program.

**Question 17:**

Q: Can we select both classroom and mentorship methods of delivery if we are offering a blended program?

A: Yes, you can select both.