

Requesting Services

There are two ways to obtain FJS services:

1. Request for Service Form (RFS)

If you would like an individual information session, you can complete a RFS and forward it to your nearest FJS office. If two or more people want to try mediation, they must complete an individual RFS and forward it to the FJS office nearest to where the child resides. The RFS form may be downloaded at:

<https://www.court.nl.ca/supreme/family-division/family-justice-services/>

2. Court Application

When a court application is made for parenting or child support, the court will send the application to FJS before setting a hearing date. FJS will contact the parties to determine if the issues can be resolved through mediation outside of court.

Contact Information

Family Justice Services may not be suitable for all families. Please contact your nearest FJS office to discuss your particular situation.

Avalon Region
709-729-1183

Central Region
709-256-1205

Western Region
709-634-4174

Labrador Region
709-896-7941

Family Justice Services staff are not lawyers and are not able to provide legal advice. We strongly recommend you seek independent legal advice.

Family Justice Services

*Information
for
Families*

Les services sont disponibles en français

About Us

Family Justice Services (FJS) is a Division of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador. We provide information and mediation to help resolve parenting time and child support outside of Court, while keeping the focus on the best interest of the child.

Parent Information

FJS provides information about parenting and child support through a course called, *Living Apart...Parenting Together*.

It covers how a child-focused parenting plan can lessen the impact conflict has on children and explains how child support is determined.

The course can be completed online in English or French at:

<https://www.supreme.courtcourses.ca>

or it may be provided in a group or individual setting.

Mediation

FJS staff are trained as family mediators to provide a safe environment to discuss parenting and child support.

The mediator will lead the discussion by keeping the focus on the best interests of the child and making sure each person gets an equal chance to speak and be heard.

Mediation allows people to reach an agreement that meets the particular needs of their family.

No one is required to accept a proposal or an arrangement that doesn't work for them.

If an agreement is reached, FJS can prepare an enforceable court order.

Benefits of Mediation

Family mediation offers benefits over going to court. Some of these include:

It allows everyone to have input into an agreement that is more likely to last longer and be followed.

It is less stressful and quicker than going through the traditional court process. Many issues are resolved at FJS within 90 days.

It promotes better communication that can decrease conflict and prevent further disputes.

Even if an agreement is not reached, the issues can be refined saving court time and legal costs.

Confidentiality

Discussions during the FJS process are confidential and cannot be used in court proceedings, unless permitted or required by law.

