Here to help.

Ici Pour Aider

Sault Ste. Marie Central Child Care Application Site

# **Parent Manual**



April 2025

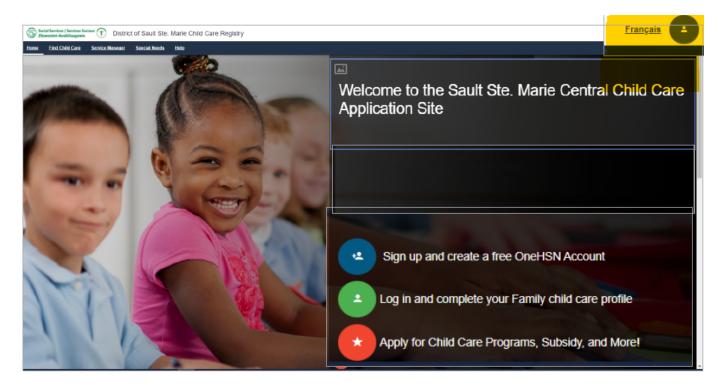
ww.saultchildcare.ca

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# **Accessing the Child Care Waitlist**

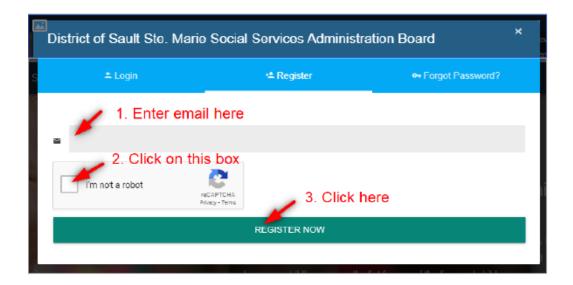
In order to access the Sault Ste Marie Child Care Application Site, please visit <a href="www.saultchildcare.ca">www.saultchildcare.ca</a> You can access the website on any web-enabled device with a browser. If you would like to access the French page, click 'Français' in the top right corner.



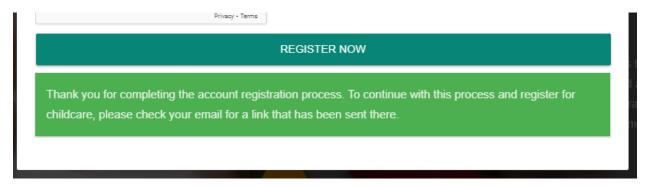
## **Creating a New Account**

If this is your first time accessing the waitlist, please create a new account by clicking the 'Sign Up' button (Blue). If you have created an account in the past, but do not remember your sign in information, please do not create another account as it could lead to duplicate applications. Contact <a href="mailto:c.childcare@socialservices-ssmd.ca">c.childcare@socialservices-ssmd.ca</a> for help with retrieving your username/email and resetting your passphrase.

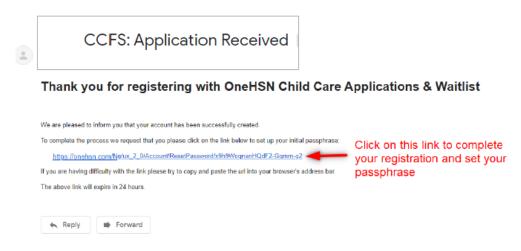
To create a new account, enter your email address (1), click in the box to indicate you are not a robot (2) and then press 'Register Now'.



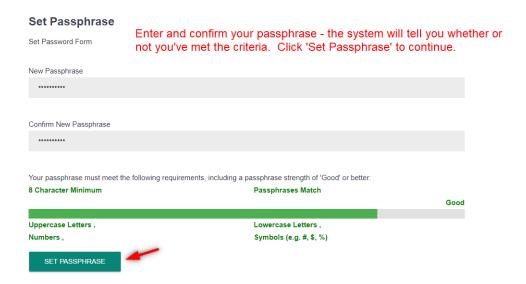
Once you register, you will see the following message, directing you to check you email and use the link sent to you to complete your registration.



Please note that the link provided will only be active for 24 hours. If you do not see an email within a few minutes, please check your junk mail as it may have been redirected there. If you do not follow the link within 24 hours, you will need to follow the steps to reset your passphrase.



Your passphrase must be a minimum of eight characters and must include at least two of the following character types: upper case letter, lower case letter, numbers or symbols.



You will receive a confirmation that your account has been created, and you will then be prompted to begin entering your details in the 'My Details' section.

Your account creation is complete and you have successfully signed in. Please keep your username and passphrase in a safe place, as these will be needed in the future to review and make changes to your applications.

The application process includes three distinct parts.

1. We gather information about you, the parent/guardian.

2. We gather information about your child(ren).

3. We help find child care providers with programs which fit your needs, and create applications to them.

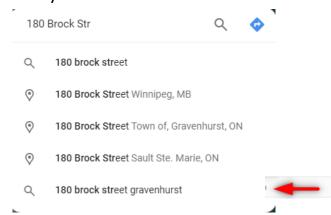
#### **My Details**

The first section of the application will require you to input your contact information; fields that are required are marked with an asterisk and must be completed to move to the next step.

#### My Details



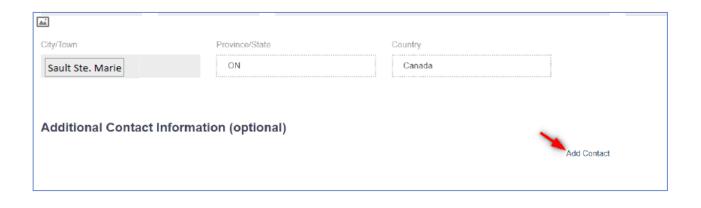
Enter your address in the address box marked with the map symbol. The website will generate a list of possible locations; ensure that you are choosing the correct municipality for the address you enter. This should be your home address. You can still choose child care located in a different municipality to where you live.



Once you make your choice, it will populate the information below. If the autofill does not find your address, you can just manually input it into the boxes below.

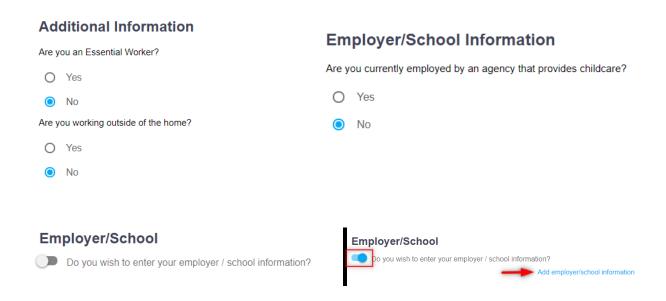


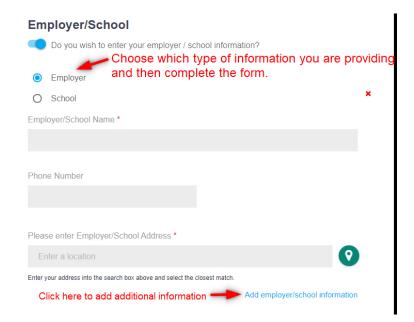
If you would like to add an additional contact person/number, click 'Add Contact' and follow the prompts to enter the required information.



# Additional Contact Information (optional) Phone Number \* Contact Method Type \* Contact Name -- SELECT -- Add Contact Add Contact

Next, you will see questions regarding your employment and school information. You have the option whether or not you want to share the details of that information by click on the toggle for Employer/School.



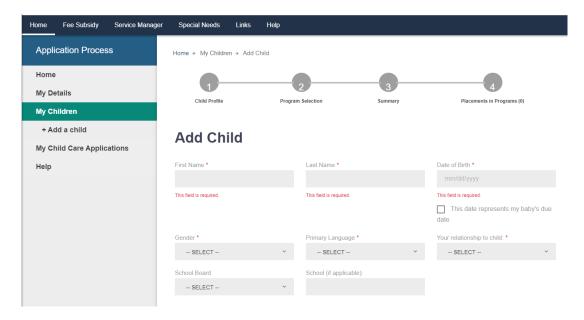


Once you have completed entering your details, click on 'Save & Add Child'.



#### **My Children**

Next, you will be prompted to answer some questions about your child. As in the previous section, fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory and must be completed in order to move on to the next step.



For those parents that would like to register their child prior to their birth, you must click on the checkbox that indicates the date provided is the baby's due date. In addition, a child who is not born can be registered as a 'nickname' (such as 'baby', 'unsure', etc.), until the child is named. For those parents, it will be important to remember to log back into the system and update the child's details after the child is born.

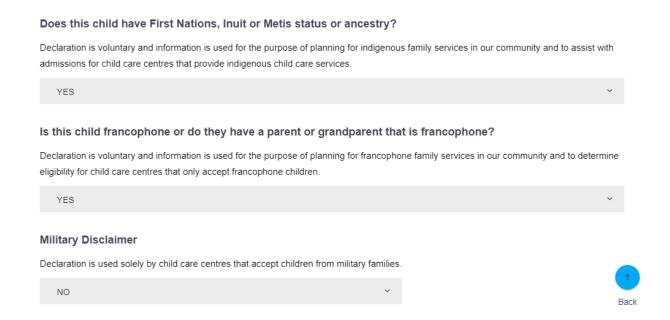
#### Add Child



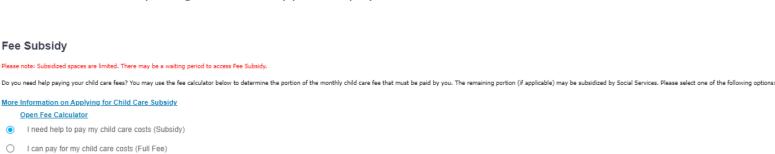
You can select school board and identify the school your child attends. After selecting the appropriate school board, start typing the school name and select the correct school from the options available.

You will also see the option to add disclaimers to your application to indicate whether you, your partner, or child, identify with the First Nations/Inuit & Métis population, the Francophone population, or whether you are a military family. This information is used for the purposes of planning services in the community, and/or

to provide information to those child care providers that may prioritize children from Indigenous, Francophone or military families.

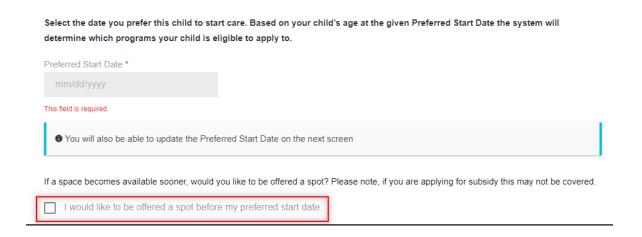


The next question asks whether or not you will be requiring Child Care Fee Subsidy to help pay for the cost of child care services. **Please note: this is not an application for child care fee subsidy.** This helps us monitor how many families will be requiring financial support to pay for child care costs.

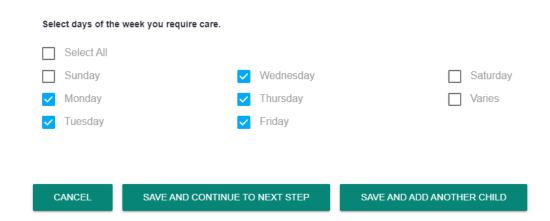


If you select the first option (Subsidy), Click on 'More Information' to visit the DSSMSSAB website and find out more about our Fee Subsidy program. Once the selected child care program has an available spot for your child, you will be contacted to complete an application for Fee Subsidy.

Next, you will be asked to input your preferred start date for child care. Please note that the system will only who you programs that match based on your child's age at the given preferred start date. In this section, you can also indicated whether you would like to be contacted should a space become available prior to your preferred date.

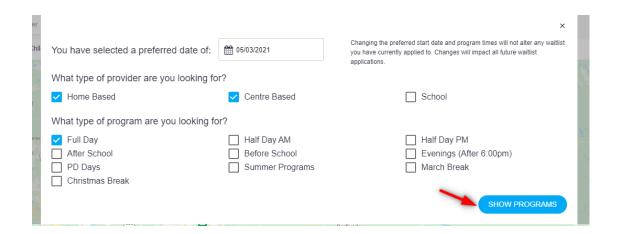


Finally, select the days of the week that you require care. Then, click 'Save and Continue to Next Step', or you can 'Save and Add Another Child'. If you continue, you can always add another child later from your home page.

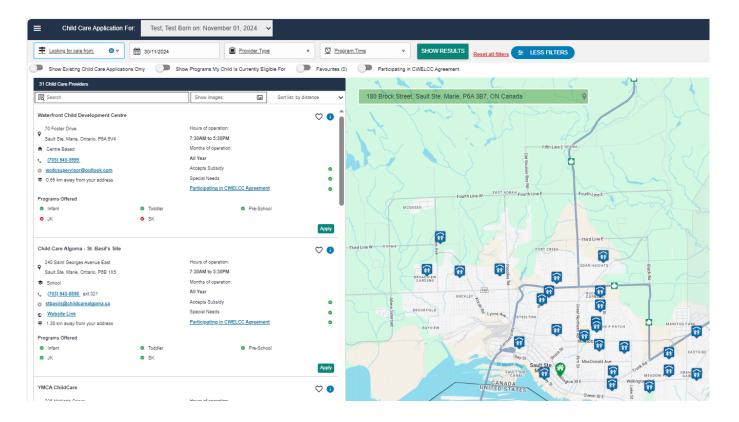


#### **Applying to Child Care Programs**

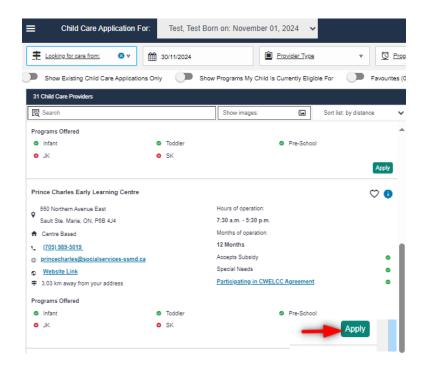
The next step requires you to select the types of providers and programs that you are looking for. Based on your selections, the system will show you the programs to which you can apply. Please note: although there are programs located within schools, they are considered 'centre-based' programs, as they are not run by the schools. Make your selections and then click 'Show Programs'.



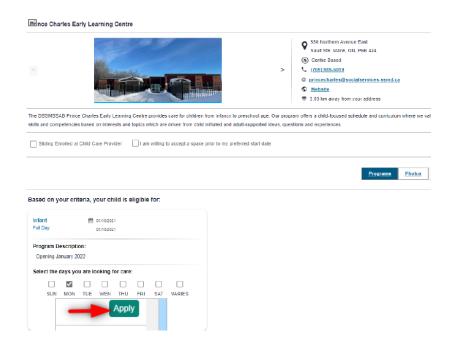
You will then see the following screen, in which you will have multiple ways to explore and apply to the different child care programs.



1. On the left hand side, you will see a list of the available programs to which you can apply. You can use the scroll bar to scroll to the bottom, and then move through the different pages to see all of the options. From here, you can click on the 'Apply' button to add an application.



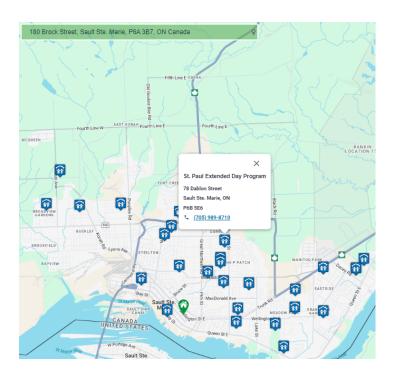
You will be directed to another screen, which will provide you with all of the details of the child care program. If you would like to continue to apply to the program listed, click on 'Apply'.

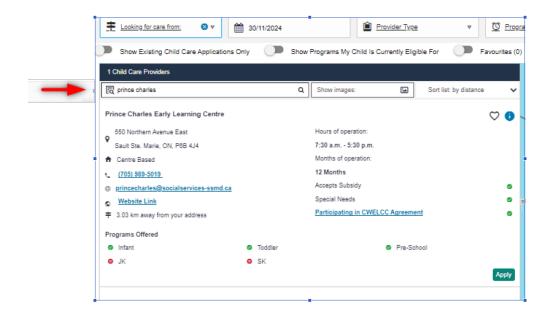


The button now changes to 'Remove', which confirms that you have an application in for that program. If you would like to remove the application, you can simply click on the button to delete that application.

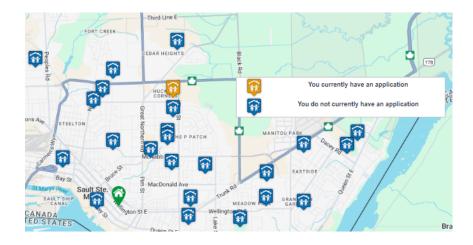
Click on 'Back to map' in the top left corner to return to the previous screen and look for additional programs.

2. You can also use the map to Zoom into a specific location to view child care programs near you. If you hover over a listing, it will give you the details of the program. You can click on the program to go to the application page and confirm your application.

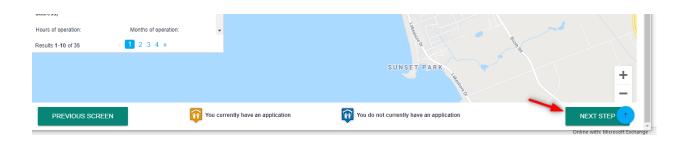




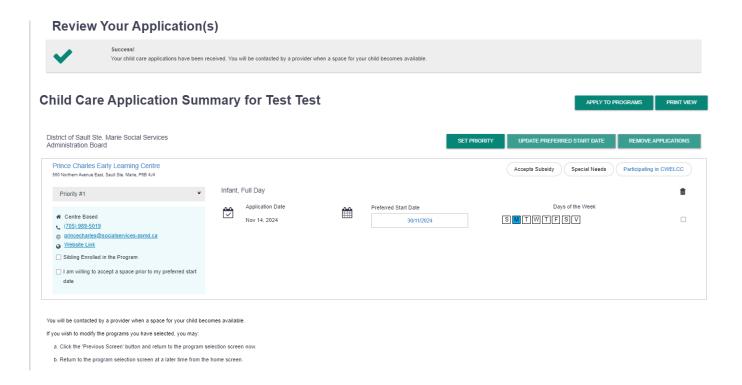
You will noticed that the icon for the child care centres you have applied to will change from blue to gold, to give you a quick view of those you have applied to.



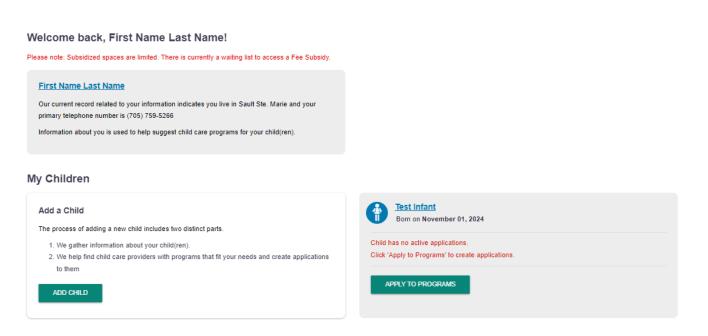
You can apply for as many programs as you would like to. Once you are done with your applications, click 'Next Step'.



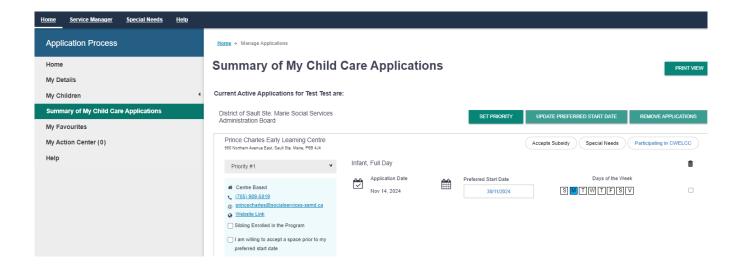
The next screen will show you a summary of your applications. From here, you can continue to apply to other programs, print your summary, or return to the Home page.



You now will see a summary of your account, children and applications on your Home page.



To see the full details of your applications, click on 'My Child Care Applications' from the menu on the left, and you will see the overall summary of your applications.

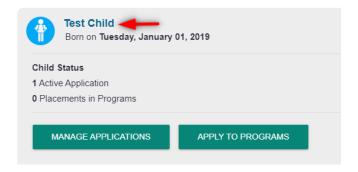


# **Updating Your Account and Applications**

You can return to your account at any time to update your information or your child's information and applications. It is important to keep your contact information up to date to ensure that the child care providers are able to reach you when a spot becomes available. If child care providers are unable to reach you, the timeliness of your child's placement will be delayed or your applications may be removed.

#### **Updating You Child's Birthdate**

If you have applied for child care prior to the birth of your child, it is important to update your child's information with their actual birthdate and name, once the baby is born. From the Home Screen when logged into the registry, click on the child's name and it will bring you to the details page where you can edit the information.



#### Test's details



From here, you can change any of the information for your child and then scroll down and click 'Save'. A confirmation will appear to inform you that your changes were saved.



#### Test's details

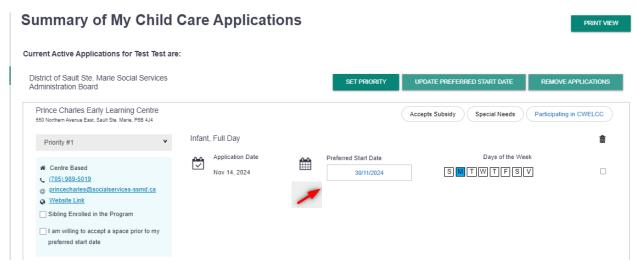


#### **Updating the Preferred Start Date**

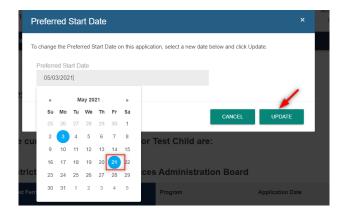
From the Home screen, click on 'Manage Applications' for the child that you wish to change the preferred start date.



Click on the preferred start date for the program that you would like to change.



Select a new date, then click 'Update'.

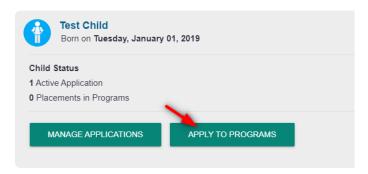


You will now see the new preferred start date. Please note that changing the preferred start date will not alter your rank in any waitlist application you currently have open.



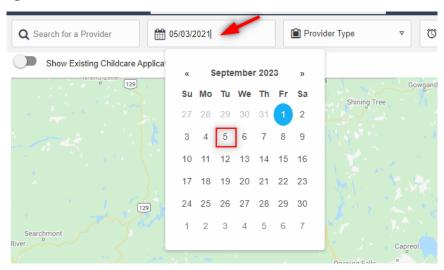
#### **Adding New Applications**

You can come back to the registry at any time to add applications for your child. From the Home screen, click on 'Apply to Programs' for the child in question.



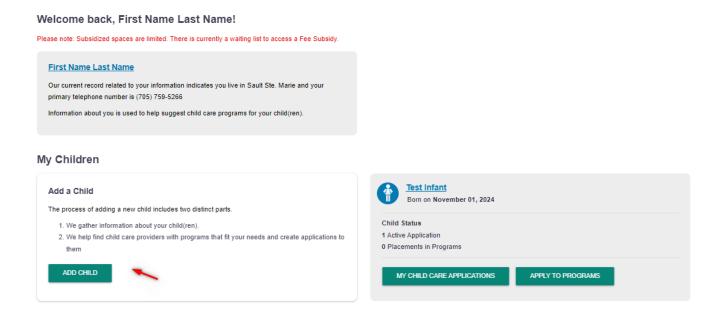
From here, you can follow the same process as noted above for searching and applying to programs. Remember, you will only see programs for the age of the child at the preferred start date. You can update the preferred start date by clicking on the calendar icon at the top of your screen. This will only change the preferred start date for any future applications; it will not change the date for previous applications.

For example, if you would like to apply for JK/SK before and after school programs, you will need to change the preferred start date to when your child will be starting school.

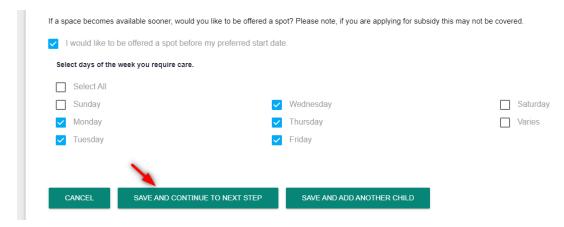


#### **Adding a Child**

If you would like to add a child, you can do so from the Home screen by clicking 'Add Child'.

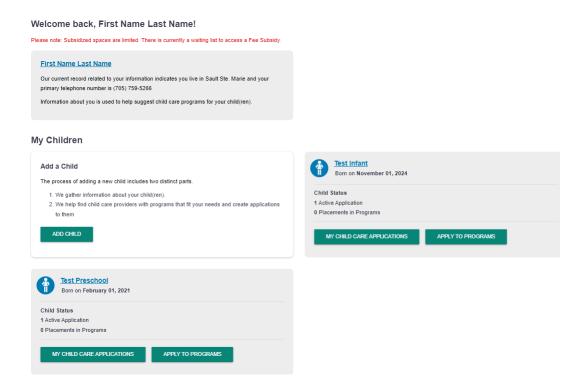


Once you have entered all of your child's information, click on 'Save and Continue to Next Step' to add applications for the new child.



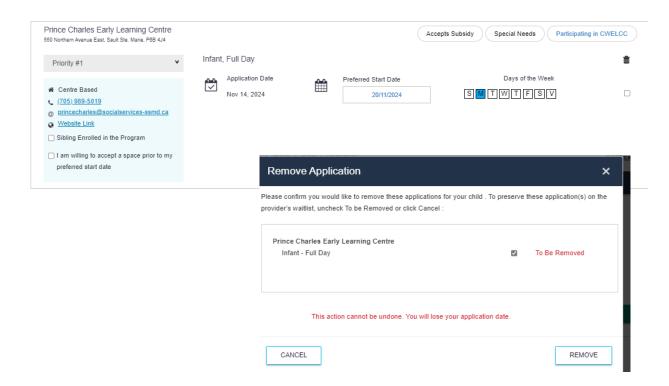
From here, follow the steps noted earlier for applying to programs.

On the Home screen, you will now see both of your children and a summary of their applications.



#### **Removing Applications**

Once you have received a space in a child care setting, you may wish to remove applications to other child care providers. To do so, from the Home screen you can click on 'My Child Care Applications' and the next screen will show you a list of programs you have applied to for your children. If you are satisfied with your child care arrangements and wish to be removed from other lists, you can simply click on the picture of the garbage can to delete your application for that provider. You will then be asked to confirm that you wish to remove your application. Click on 'Remove' to continue.



Follow the same process for applications that are no longer necessary. Removing unnecessary applications helps the DSSMSSAB to monitor child care needs and trends. However, if you would like to remain on a list for a preferred program, you can leave some applications open even if you have a placement in another program.

#### **Contact Us**

This document is meant to be a guide to help you complete your child care application. Please see the next page for responses to frequently asked questions. Should you require additional technical assistance in completing your application, you can contact Children's Services through email at <a href="mailto:c.childcare@socialservices-ssmd.ca">c.childcare@socialservices-ssmd.ca</a> or by calling the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board at (705) 759-5266.

If you have specific questions regarding Child Care Fee Subsidy, please visit our website at <a href="https://socialservices-ssmd.ca">https://socialservices-ssmd.ca</a> for more information, or you can call locally at (705) 759-5266.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### I didn't get a link in my email to set my passphrase?

First, check your junk mail folder to ensure the email isn't there. If not, go to the homepage (www.saultchildcare.ca) and click 'Log in'. On the next screen, click the 'Forgot my passphrase' link and you and will be directed to input your email address and they will send you a new link. If after resetting it you still cannot access the system, you must contact OneHSN (the developers) to assist you. They are available at support@OneHSN.com or 1-888-722-1540.

#### I received a link in my email, but it's not working?

Please remember that these links are only active for 24 hours. If you have not activated the link within 24 hours, you will be required to follow the same steps above to be sent a new link. If after resetting it you still cannot access the system, you must contact OneHSN (the developers) to assist you. They are available at support@OneHSN.com or 1-888-722-1540.

# I can't remember my passphrase; how can I log in?

Go to the homepage (www.saultchildcare.ca) 'Log in'. At the top rightof the popup box, click on 'Forgot Password' and you and will be directed to input your email address and they will send you a new link. If after resetting it you still cannot access the system, you must contact OneHSN (the developers) to assist you. They are available at support@OneHSN.com or 1-888-722-1540.

## I cannot find my preferred programs for my child.

There may be a number of reasons you are unable to see your preferred programs.

The application will only show programs that are relevant to the child for the date care is needed (preferred start date). For example, an application for a child that is 17 months old when care is required will only show infant programs.

A child that is 18 months old will only show toddler programs. If you are unable to see a program you want, ensure that the child's age corresponds to the licensing programming requirements for the child care. For example, to see toddler programs the date care is required must be on or after the child turns 18 months.

In general, licensed child care age groups are as follows:

Infant: under 18 months

• Toddler: 18 months to 30 months

• Preschool: 30 months to 6 years

• JK/SK: 44 months to 7 years

School-aged: 7-13 years

When applying to providers, it is possible to limit the results due to choices made for programs days, times, locations etc. In order to see all providers, you can either leave all options blank or select all options, and then click "Show Programs". (See p.10)

The date I need care to start has changed? How can I update it?

From the Home Screen, click on 'Manage Applications' for your child and follow the instructions to change the date and save the new information. (See p. 18)

I received a placement; how do I remove my other applications?

From the Home Screen, click on 'Manage Applications' for the child and you will see a list of programs that you applied for. To remove your applications, simply select the garbage can icon and confirm removal. You would do this for each application you want to remove. (See p. 22)

I received a placement, but I want to stay on the list for my preferred site; what should I do?

If you have accepted a placement but you would like to stay on the waitlist for a preferred site, you can simply keep that application open and wait for a space at that site.

CHILD CARE WAITLIST - PARENT MANUAL

#### How can I apply for Child Care Fee Subsidy?

By choosing 'subsidy' (pictured on page 8), the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board will automatically be notified that a fee subsidy application is required **once** the child care program offers a placement.

For families who live in First Nations communities, please contact your local band office administrator.

How can I determine how long my child will be waiting for a child care placement?

The Child Care Waitlist does not provide wait times for child care placement. In order to receive this information, you must contact each child care provider separately to determine where your child is on their list.