Recreation Fee Assistance Program FAQ

1. What is the Recreation Fee Assistance Program?

The Recreation Fee Assistance Program helps eligible County of Grande Prairie No.1 residents access recreation and fitness facilities by providing financial support for membership.

2. Who qualifies for the program?

To qualify, applicants **must** meet the following criteria:

1. **Residency**: Must be a resident of the County of Grande Prairie No.1.
2. **Age**: Must be 18 years of age or older.
3. **Income**: Must meet the program's income threshold requirements (see details below).
4. **LICO Table,** Income Threshold: Low Income Cut-Off + 30%. Household income is equal to or less than the amounts listed below. The 30% is already included in the income listed.
5. **These are reviewed annually and are available** LICO 2025 Table

1 Person	2 People	3 People	4 People	5 People	6 People	7+ People
$33,965	$42,283	$51,982	$63,115	$71,583	$80,734	$89,886

6. **Special Provisions**:
    - **New Immigrants and Refugees**: Eligible during their first year of residency in Canada.
    - **Exclusions**: Temporary work visa holders do not qualify.

3. What benefits are provided?

Eligible participants receive a **75% subsidy** on their recreation and/or fitness membership to one of the following facilities:

- **Eastlink Centre**: Available for either **annual membership** or **punch passes**.
- **Crosslink County Sportsplex**: Only available for **punch passes**.
- **Beaverlodge Recreation Centre**: Available for either annual **memberships** or **punch passes**.

Participants must specify their choice of pass type at the time of application. Based on usage assessment, the County reserves the right to adjust or downgrade the type of membership provided.

Punch passes can be renewed **up to five times per year** for eligible participants.

4. What is considered a family household income?

Family household income refers to the total combined income of all adults (18+) family members living at the same residence, including income from wages, self-employment, pensions, and government benefits.

For independent adults (e.g., adults living in their parents' home but paying rent), only their individual income will be assessed. To qualify, they must provide documentation of their independent income (such as tax returns or pay stubs) and proof of rental arrangements. If the individual is a student attending post-secondary education, they will be considered dependent, and the entire household income will be assessed.

5. What documents are required to apply?

Applicants must provide the following:

a. **Proof of Residency**
   Acceptable documents include:
   - Utility bill showing the applicant's name and address.
   - Lease or rental agreement or property tax notice.

b. **Proof of Identification**
   Acceptable forms of ID include:
   - Driver's license
   - Alberta identification card
   - Valid Passport

Applicants will be required to verify their identity by matching their ID either in person or through a virtual meeting.

c. **Income Assessment Documents**
   Acceptable proof of income includes:

   - Notice of Assessment (NOA) from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for the most recent tax year.
   - Proof of government assistance programs (e.g., Alberta Works, AISH).

d. **Additional Documents for New Immigrants or Refugees**
    - Proof of immigration or refugee status (e.g., Permanent Resident card, landing documents, permits).
    - Confirmation of arrival date in Canada to verify first-year eligibility

6. How do I apply?

1. Collect all required documentation.
2. Complete the online Recreation Fee Assistance Program Application form.
3. If assistance or a paper copy of the application is needed, please contact County of Grande Prairie FCSS office at 780-567-5586.

7. What Happens After I Submit My Application?

Your application will be reviewed for completeness, and missing information. Once processed, details are sent to the chosen facility for membership finalization. You will need to sign a consent form and confirm identification with a county representative. The entire process typically takes **5–10 business days**.

8. What happens if I'm reapplying for the program?

- **Facility Usage Review**: When applying for renewal, the County will review your **facility usage history** to determine the appropriate type of pass for the upcoming year.
- **Adjustments for Underutilization**: If your membership has been underutilized, the County reserves the right to adjust or downgrade the type of membership provided.

9. Are memberships reviewed during the year?

Yes, the County conducts a **biannual review** of all active memberships to ensure proper usage.

- **Underutilized Memberships**: If a membership is found to be underutilized, the County may adjust or cancel the membership type.
- **Reapplying with Underutilized Pass**: If your membership or punch pass has been underutilized, your **new membership or pass may be adjusted accordingly** to reflect more appropriate usage. This could involve providing a different type of pass, based on usage history.

10. Do I need to inform the County of any changes?

Yes, participants must notify the County of any changes to their circumstances, including:

- **Residency**: If you move out of the County of Grande Prairie or change your address.
- **Income**: If your household income changes, potentially affecting eligibility.

- **Household Composition**: If there are changes to your family or living situation (e.g., new dependents or no longer living independently).

Failure to inform the County of these changes may result in adjustments, suspension, or cancellation of your membership.

11. What other support options are available?

If you do not qualify for this program or need additional assistance, consider:

- KidSport Grande Prairie

For more information, visit the Recreation Fee Assistance Program webpage or contact the County of Grande Prairie FCSS office at 780-532-9727 Ext.2400.