Who can apply for COVID-19 meal support funding?

- Meal support is available for status First Nations who are required to self-isolate between Jan. 12 and Dec. 31, 2021 due to COVID-19, as advised by their health care provider.
- There are two application pathways:
  - Communities can apply on behalf of their members using the Community Meal Support Calculator (Excel file).
  - Individuals can apply for themselves and their households using the Individual Meal Support Calculator (Excel file).

Can I apply through the individual pathway if my community has applied for me through the community pathway?

- If your community has already applied for meal support for your self-isolation dates on your behalf, you will not be eligible for support through the individual pathway for the same dates.

What if I need immediate support to coordinate access to no-contact meal and grocery delivery while in isolation?

- It is recommended that you connect with your community to see if they can support by advancing funds or providing meals. Alternatively, please contact your regional FNHA Isolation Lead COVID19needs@fnha.ca if you need support to make arrangements.

Can my partner and I both apply for meal support for our family?

- Any status First Nation individual who is required to self-isolate due to COVID-19 as advised by a health care provider is eligible to apply for meal support. This may include multiple members of one household/family.

What is the application deadline?

- Submissions for meal support will be accepted until Dec. 31, 2021.
- Meal support is currently only available for self-isolation dates between Jan. 12 – Dec. 31, 2021.

What information is needed to apply?

- Status number, last name, first name, date of birth, start date of isolation, end date of isolation, mailing address and a contact phone number/email are required to process your application.
What happens after the meal support application is submitted?
- The meal support team will review your application and will reach out if any additional information is needed
- Community requests will be sent through to the FNHA Regional team for review
- It may take up to 30 days to process a meal support application, if you have any questions about the status of your application please email HB.Eligibility@fnha.ca or contact 1-888-305-1505 (press 2 for the ‘other’ option, and then 1 for enrolment)

What is the application process for COVID-19 meal supports?
- Here are the steps to request meal support for status First Nations individuals in BC:
  • Complete the Individual Meal Support Funding Calculator or the Community Meal Support Funding Calculator
  • Email your completed calendar to HB.Eligibility@fnha.ca

Or, call Health Benefits at 1-888-305-1505 (press 2 for the ‘other’ option, and then 1 for enrolment). The number is supported Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on weekends and statutory holidays. If you are unable to open the funding calculator, email COVID19needs@fnha.ca

If my community asks me to self-isolate, but I am not required to self-isolate by a health care provider, am I still eligible for meal support?
- Meal support is available to status First Nations who have been advised to self-isolate by a health care provider due to being positive for COVID-19 or identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19
- The FNHA is unable to support requests where self-isolation has not been advised by a health care provider

I am not able to safely isolate at home. Are there other supports available to me?
- If you are unable to safely isolate at home, please contact the Health Benefits medical transportation team for assistance with alternative accommodation, meals and transportation. Call Health Benefits at 1-888-305-1505 (press 2 for the ‘other’ option, then 3 for patient travel, and 3 for benefit exceptions). This number is supported Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on weekends and statutory holidays

More information on self-isolation:
A Guide to COVID-19: Caring for Yourself and Loved Ones (FNHA guide)
How to isolate: For those who have COVID-19 or respiratory symptoms (BCCDC fact sheet)
Self-isolation after a COVID-19 test (BC Centre for Disease fact sheet)
Mental Health and Wellness Support (FNHA web page)

For more information on what items the FNHA is able to support, please see the COVID-19 Community Support Guide

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