

2020/2021

# Affordable Access Guide

RECREATION AND CULTURE



OAKVILLE

The Town of Oakville works to ensure that all residents have the opportunity to access programs and services offered by the Recreation and Culture department. This guide outlines a variety of services designed to increase access to recreation and culture services.

## Fee Assistance Options

There are a variety of programs available in Oakville to ensure that all residents have access to fun, recreational activities. Oakville residents of all ages should be able to access the benefits of physical activity and play. To ensure this is possible, there are several opportunities for individuals requiring financial assistance. Below is a list of fee subsidy opportunities designed to keep you and your family moving!

### 1. Halton Region – Recreation Referral

Families receiving Ontario Works (OW) or the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) are automatically eligible for this funding. Families with one (1) child who earn less than \$35,000 and families with two (2) or more children who earn less than \$45,000, may also be eligible providing they are in active receipt of Child Care Fee Subsidy from Halton Region. For more information visit [halton.ca](http://halton.ca), call 905-825-6000 or 3-1-1.

### 2. Canadian Tire – Jumpstart

Jumpstart's core purpose is to enrich the lives of kids (ages 4 to 18) in need through sports and physical activity. They assist with the costs associated with registration, equipment, and/or transportation. Families living below Revenue Canada's Low-Income Cut-Off (LICO) are eligible for Jumpstart funding. To register or learn more, please visit [jumpstart.canadiantire.ca](http://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca).

### 3. Town of Oakville – Recreation Connection Subsidy

Assistance is based on total net income of all family members and the number of people in your household. Eligibility criteria listed below. The Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) is a statistical number that defines where financial assistance is required. Once your application is received and approved, you will receive an information letter. Each eligible family member on your application will receive a \$300 subsidy credit, which is valid for one year.



# Recreation Connection Subsidy

## How do I qualify?

1. Must be a resident of Oakville\*;
2. Have a total net individual or combined family\*\* income within the parameters outlined;
3. Provide recent documentation that validates total family net income eligibility, some options include:
  - Notice of Assessment;
  - Canada Child Tax Benefit Notice;
  - Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax Credit Notice;
  - Ontario Child Care Supplement for Working Families Notice;
  - Ontario Works (OW) Statement of Assistance;
  - Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) Statement of Assistance;
  - Community Organization Referral (from approved partners)

*\*Refugees are eligible to apply for Recreation Connection within the first year of receiving the following documents. Income verification is not required.*

## Acceptable items for this include:

- Confirmation of Permanent Residency, OR, if available, the Government of Canada Permanent Resident Card, OR;
- Refugee Protection Claimant Document, AND;
- Proof of residency in Oakville (recent utility bill, lease agreement, driver's license, etc.)

*\*\*Provided eligibility requirements are met, dependents over the age of 18 and living at home must apply separately as an individual.*

## Eligibility Criteria

Family Size	Household Income
1 person	\$22,759
2 persons	\$28,332
3 persons	\$34,831
4 persons	\$42,290
5 persons	\$47,963
6 persons	\$54,096
7 persons or more	\$60,227
Subsidy Available	\$300 (per person)



## **How do I apply?**

Residents interested in applying for Recreation Connection Fee Assistance can request a virtual review meeting by emailing [affordableaccess@oakville.ca](mailto:affordableaccess@oakville.ca). Requests for a virtual review will be responded to within two (2) business days. Virtual review meetings take approximately 15 minutes. Applicants will need to attend the virtual review meeting with copies of their eligibility documentation.

Under no circumstance should residents be sending confidential documentation via email. Accommodations for in-person meetings may be considered, as required.

## **Use of Credit**

Once the credit has been applied to your account, you will be able to register in program of your choice. Programs and services that are ineligible include: library programs, facility rentals, Community Connection programs, single admission passes, Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts show tickets, and materials fees and concession items.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Can I use my credit towards my child's activities?**

Your individual credit cannot be transferred to other family members or individuals.

### **Can I carry over my credit to the next year?**

Any unused credits used credits remaining at the end of your enrolment periods cannot be carried over to another individual or family member or redeemed for cash.

### **Once my credit is used up, can I receive more?**

You are eligible to reapply for the program once per year. Applications can be made 30 days prior to the end of your current enrollment period.



## Recreation and Culture Opportunities

The town offers a wide range of programs and opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities at no cost. Here are just a few examples of some on-going, low or no-fee options!

**Drop-in Programs** – Each day the town is proud to offer a large variety of drop-in play opportunities, available for a one-time, low fee. For the most up-to-date schedule of offering, visit [active.oakville.ca](http://active.oakville.ca).

**Parks and Amenities** – The Town of Oakville is home to over 190 municipal parks, over 200 kilometres of recreational trails, and a large variety of outdoor play surfaces. From baseball diamonds and soccer fields, to outdoor ice surfaces, and Moccasin Trails, there are so many free ways to play! Visit [oakville.ca](http://oakville.ca) to find the nearest locations to you.

**Special Events** – Each year, the town delivers and assists our partners to bring free public events to the Town of Oakville. These events include Family Day, Canada Day, Oakville Children's Festival, Santa Clause Parade, Culture Days, and Midnight Madness to name a few. For the latest offerings, visit [oakville.ca/events](http://oakville.ca/events).

**Youth Centres** – Oakville offers a youth centre, open regularly to youth ages 12 to 18. There is no cost to participate during regular drop-in hours.

- QEPCCC Youth Centre, 2302 Bridge Road

**Seniors Services** – The town offers a variety of programs, classes and volunteer opportunities for adults 50+. Visit [oakville.ca](http://oakville.ca) for more information.



**Oakville Museum and Galleries** – Enjoy free admission to these unique cultural destinations.

- Oakville Museum, 8 Navy Street
  - Gallery and Corridor Exhibitions @ QEPCCC, 2302 Bridge Road
  - Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square, 120 Navy Street
  - Oakville Galleries at Gairloch Gardens, 1306 Lakeshore Road East
  - Oakville's First Post Office, 144 Front Street
  - Oakville Museum @ QEPCCC, 2302 Bridge Road
  - Oakville community centres also feature impressive public art.
- Be sure to enjoy the art around you when visiting these spaces.

**Oakville Public Library** – Since 1895, the Oakville Public Library (OPL) has served and connected the community. They offer a wide variety of low or no fee options. With eight branches and growing, explore how the OPL can best serve you by visiting [opl.on.ca](http://opl.on.ca).

**Free Programs** – As part of an on-going effort to increase access to recreation and culture for residents, the town's community development team is continuously seeking grant funding to provide new opportunities. For a complete listing of low cost and free services, please visit [oakville.ca/affordable-access](http://oakville.ca/affordable-access).

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Support your community and earn volunteer hours by helping the Town of Oakville with supervision and programming activities, facility maintenance, and more! Volunteering is a great way to gain valuable work experience as well as complete your high school community service hours. There are so many ways to get involved:

- Check out our Pool Pals aquatic volunteer program where you provide support to swimming instructors on deck and in the water.
- Join our Youth Services Crew! Have a voice about our youth centres and events within Youth Services while collecting volunteer hours.
- Meet new people and have fun volunteering at our seniors centres!
- Volunteers are needed for various special events throughout the year.

For more information, visit [oakville.ca/townhall/volunteer-opportunities](http://oakville.ca/townhall/volunteer-opportunities)

## **Employment Opportunities**

The Town of Oakville is always looking for ways to provide part-time opportunities to residents with the required qualifications to join our programming team. Intentional employment opportunities can take place in our community-based programs. For details please visit [oakville.ca](http://oakville.ca).



# Our Oakville.

The Town of Oakville is committed to increasing resident access to recreation and culture programs and services.

To learn more, visit [oakville.ca/affordable-access](http://oakville.ca/affordable-access)  
or email [affordableaccess@oakville.ca](mailto:affordableaccess@oakville.ca).



## OAKVILLE

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Canada's Best Place to Live (MoneySense 2018)