

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS
How to Get Ready to Make Your Claim for the Early
Advance Payment
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If you turned 65 on or before May 30th, 2005, you are eligible to receive the Advance Payment of \$8,000. This advance payment will then be deducted from the total Common Experience Payment which may be awarded to you later on.

However, the advance payment option will only be available until December 31, 2006.

In order to receive your payment you must provide the government with:

1. Your completed **application form** - You can obtain it through the web at <http://www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca> or contact NAN Legal Services for a copy.
2. **Proof of age document** - Either a photocopy of your birth certificate or any two of the following: Driver's license, Health Card, Passport or Certificate of Indian Status., is needed to establish your age.
3. **Certification for the above copies** - The copies must include the following statement written in all capital letters: *I CERTIFY THAT THIS PHOTOCOPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT WHICH, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, HAS NOT BEEN ALTERED IN ANY WAY.* It must also be dated, signed and include the name, address, occupation and contact number of the person who certified your copies.

The copies must be certified by a lawyer, chief or a council member, medical doctor, or police officer, among others. A list is provided with the application.

So get your document copies certified as soon as possible. That way you will be ready when a lawyer or CLW comes into your community. They can help you fill out your form.

Do I need a Lawyer?

Even though you do not necessarily need a lawyer to apply for most of the payments, you will most likely need one if you are involved in the ADR or Independent Assessment Process (IAP).

If you already have a lawyer for the above processes, or are planning on getting one, you should know that the IAP payment will include an extra 15% portion to compensate the lawyers for his work. However, you will be responsible for any fees that extend beyond that amount.

In addition, if you are planning on getting a lawyer to help you with your common experience pay, you should ask them if they will do it free of charge.

The Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada website at <http://www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca> has a list of lawyers that can help you with your claims, and who will be compensated by the government for their work.

Can I Object to the Settlement?

If you have any objection to the settlement, or part thereof, you can make your objection known. You can write to the Residential School Settlement, Suite 3-505, 133 Weber St. North, Waterloo, Ontario N2J 3G9, call toll free at 1-866-879-4913 or send an e-mail at: objections@residentialschoolsettlement.ca.

The deadline for objections is August 25, 2006.

You have to explain why you are against the settlement and include your name, school attended, address and phone number. Also provide your lawyer's information, if you have one, and if you are planning to go and speak at the Ontario hearing.

The Ontario hearing will take place August 29-31, 2006 at the Ontario Superior Court of Justice Court House at 361 University Avenue in Toronto. You can go to any hearing in Canada. However, you will only be allowed to speak at the hearing that takes place in your province of residence

Even after the settlement is approved, you will have the opportunity to exclude yourself from the settlement agreement. A follow up notice detailing the process of exclusion will be available to you once the settlement is approved.