

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## SAJE Navigators and Guides

Pre- and Post-19 Planning Supports

### 1. What types of support can SAJE Navigators and Guides provide?

SAJE Navigators and SAJE Guides are ministry workers who provide support to youth and young adults connected to or interested in enrolling in the SAJE Program.

SAJE Navigators are responsible for transition planning activities for youth starting as early as age 14 and until age 19 ½. They work collaboratively with youth and young adults and support circles to identify needs, develop a SAJE Plan, and provide young people with guidance and support with planning.

SAJE Guides are responsible for assisting SAJE Navigators and the support circle with transition planning activities starting at age 18 ½ and then become the main contact for young adults up until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. They help the young person by:

- Assisting with access to adult services including SAJE agreements and benefits, educational support and other cross-government and community supports and services.
- Providing support with SAJE planning.
- Assisting young adults in strengthening relationships and connecting with their culture and community.

### 2. How do pre- and post-19 planning supports work for Indigenous youth and young adults who are supported by an Indigenous Child and Family Service Agency (ICFSA)?

ICFSA's may have workers with different titles but similar responsibilities as SAJE Navigators and Guides that provide dedicated transition planning support to youth and young adults.

Each individual ICFSA determines how services and supports are provided to Indigenous young people in line with their values and service delivery model.

ICFSAs may choose to collaborate with SAJE Navigators and Guides to support Indigenous young people with their transition to adulthood. Regardless of ICFSA involvement with SAJE workers, ICFSAs and eligible young adults can access the full suite of SAJE agreements and benefits.

If you are seeking transition planning support from an ICFSA please visit [Indigenous Child and Family Service Agencies/Delegated Aboriginal Agencies in BC - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/indigenous/indigenous_child_family_service_agencies_delegated_aboriginal_agencies_in_bc_province_of_british_columbia)

### 3. Am I eligible to be connected to a SAJE Navigator?

If you're a youth between age 14 to 19 being supported by MCFD or an ICFSA in any legal status, you are eligible for SAJE planning support from a SAJE Navigator or an ICFSA.

### 4. Am I eligible to be connected to a SAJE Guide?

If you are a young adult, between the ages of 19-25, you are eligible for support from a SAJE Guide or an ICFSA if you:

- Reached your 19th birthday on a Youth Agreement or Continuing Custody Agreement or under the personal guardianship of a director,

**OR**

- Achieved permanency (i.e., adoption after being in care, or under section 54.1 or 54.01) between the ages of 12-19,

**OR**

- Had 24 months of cumulative time in care between the ages of 12-19, in any care status excluding 54.1, 54.01 or adoption,

**OR**

- Were in a comparable arrangement under Indigenous law.

### 5. How can I connect to a SAJE Guide or Navigator?

Young people under age 19 who are already connected to a MCFD worker will be introduced to a SAJE Navigator through their current worker.

Youth and young adults aged 14-25 not connected to an MCFD worker can call or email SAJE Provincial Support Services (SPSS) who will refer eligible young people to a SAJE Navigator or Guide for support.

Phone: 1-866-623-3001

Email: [MCF.SAJE@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MCF.SAJE@gov.bc.ca)



## 6. Are there SAJE Workers in every MCFD office?

Not every MCFD office will have a SAJE Worker, however youth and young adults may receive support from SAJE workers via a hybrid model that combines both in person and virtual support. SAJE is a provincial program with SAJE Navigators and SAJE Guides located throughout the province who can support youth and young adults regardless of where they're located.

## 7. How long will the SAJE Navigator be in my life?

The SAJE Navigator may become involved with you as early as age 14. A SAJE Navigator works in collaboration with your MCFD Worker and your Circle/Care Team to help you plan for your transition to adulthood.

At 18 ½, a SAJE Guide will join you and your SAJE Navigator. They work together with you for one year (between age 18 ½ and 19 ½) to make sure you have a SAJE Plan in place to support you. Your SAJE Guide can continue supporting your journey up to age 25.

## 8. How does a SAJE Navigator differ from the MCFD Worker overseeing a Youth Agreement? Would they be the same worker?

Youth on Youth Agreements will be supported by two different MCFD Workers; a specific MCFD Worker responsible for Youth Agreements and a SAJE Navigator. The SAJE Navigator works in partnership with the MCFD Worker, youth and their support circle to support transition planning and develop and implement a specific SAJE Plan to prepare for their transition into adulthood.

## 9. Can I choose not to work with a SAJE Guide?

At minimum, you will be required to review your agreement with a SAJE Guide every 6 months. You can then choose the level of involvement you have with a SAJE Guide depending on your needs.

## 10. Were additional ministry staff hired to support youth and young adults?

Yes. MCFD hired new staff across the province who are dedicated to support youth and young adults as they transition into adulthood (SAJE Navigators and SAJE Guides).

ICFSAs may have hired dedicated workers like SAJE Navigators and Guides to assist youth and young adults as they transition to adulthood.