

Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority
FRIENDS AND FAMILY TRAVEL PROGRAM
PAYMENT GUIDELINES

1. Purpose

The Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority Friends and Family Travel Program (FFT Program) is a taxable incentive program available to indeterminate, term, and casual front-line nurse practitioners, and registered nurses providing direct patient care who are scheduled for a minimum of five full, regular shifts between December 19, 2026, and January 03, 2027, inclusive. It is also available to permanent and locum physicians providing direct patient care who are scheduled for a minimum of five full, regular shifts (including scheduled calls shifts, but excluding travel days) between December 18, 2026, and January 05, 2027, inclusive.

Eligible individuals have the opportunity for financial support to bring up to two family members and/or friends or vehicles, to their community of employment.

The objective of the FFT Program is to address staffing shortages over the holiday season by incentivizing staff with an opportunity to work, while still celebrating the holidays with family and friends. This program will:

- Help address staffing shortages in hard-to-fill positions within the NTHSSA over the holiday season.
- Help in supporting a healthy work/life balance for employees working over the holiday season.
- Build and enhance employee engagement, by offering employees incentives to work and visit the NWT.

2. Eligibility and Criteria for Approval

To be eligible for the FFT Program, the employee must be:

- An indeterminate (full-time, part-time, relief), term, or casual front-line nurse practitioner or registered nurse providing direct patient care within the NTHSSA, scheduled to work a minimum of five full, regular shifts between December 19, 2026, and January 03, 2027, inclusive.; **or**



- A permanent or locum physician providing on-site patient care within the NTHSSA, scheduled to work a minimum of five full, regular shifts (including scheduled call shifts, but excluding travel days) between December 18, 2026, and January 05, 2027, inclusive. A shift is calculated as 8 or more hours of scheduled medical services.

Travel must be completed between December 01, 2026, and January 31, 2027. Travel costs incurred for travel beginning prior to December 01, 2026, or concluding after January 31, 2027, will be not eligible for reimbursement.

3. Review, Approval and Appeal

Eligibility will be determined by the employee's direct supervisor and Chief Operating Officer, Area Medical Director, or Executive Director. Approval is completed using the FFT Application Form, denials will be communicated to the employee.

There will be no appeal process.

The deadline to submit completed applications is Thursday December 17, 2026, at 11:59pm MST. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

The deadline to submit claims is March 15, 2027, at 11:59pm MST.

4. Supporting Data

Employees will be required to provide the approved FFT Application Form and the completed FFT Claim Form, see NTHSSA FFT Program Guidelines for forms.

Employees will also be required to provide documentation to their claim:

- Travel by Air – attach a copy of the travel invoice showing dates of travel, flights, and total costs.
- Travel by private vehicle – employee to provide a printout of google maps or other map software showing starting and ending destination and total kilometers.



5. Amount and Funding

The program will cover the costs of flights and/or travel by privately owned vehicle, to a maximum of \$2,000 per employee. Total costs per employee will be reported to Chief Operating Officers, Area Medical Directors, and Executive Directors on a regular basis by the NTHSSA Finance division.

6. Revenue and Expenditure Codes

Expenditures for this program will be charged to the following codes:

Organization Code - 48-12025 Talent Acquisition

Account – 52501

Fund - 01

Area - 1A

Program - 10020

Approved By:

Kimberly Riles
Chief Executive Officer
Northwest Territories and Health and Social Services

Date

