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Department of Community Services

Community Based Option Program Approval

Who Needs this Approval?

Anyone who wants to operate homes accommodating 3 or fewer persons who are publicly supported providing accommodations to adults or children placed by the Department.

Note: The program has two sections, one for adults and one for children. Both programs are under the jurisdiction of the Family and Children's Services/Community Supports for Adults Division.

Note: There is currently a moratorium in place on the development of new Community Based Options homes for adults.

Issuing Department/Agency

[N.S. Department of Community Services](#)

Where can you get this Approval and / or further information?

Website: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/coms/>

E-mail enquiries: webcoms@gov.ns.ca

Homes for Adults:

Community Supports for Adults Division
N.S. Department of Community Services
Nelson Place
5675 Spring Garden Road, 4th Floor
Halifax, NS B3J 1H1

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 696
Halifax, NS B3J 2T7

Tel: (902) 424-0932
Fax: (902) 424-0502

Homes for Children:

Community Outreach Services
[Family and Children's Services Division](#)
N.S. Department of Community Services
Nelson Place
5675 Spring Garden Road, 5th Floor
Halifax, NS B3J 1H1

Mailing Address :

P.O. Box 696
Halifax, NS B3J 2T7

Tel: (902) 424-3205
Fax: (902) 424-0708

Application Forms & Process:

Note: There is currently a moratorium in place on the development of new Community Based Options homes for adults.

Ordinary application requirements include: A letter of application (no standardized form is presently available); a pre-approval inspection by department staff; and any requirements which arise out of that inspection.

Waiting Period:

(See above)

Expiry & Renewal:

Existing approvals are renewed annually by the department. Homes providing care to adults must comply with the Interim Standards for the Community Based Options Program established November, 1996.

The Department does not send out a renewal notice; it is the responsibility of the operator to notify the division prior to the expiry of the Approval.

Price:

Free

Related Requirements:

(Contact the Department of Community Services at the addresses given above)

Additional Information:

1. Existing licences for homes providing care to children can be renewed on an annual basis by the Department. For further information, contact the Community Outreach Section of the Family and Children's Services Division (see address above).
2. Homes under this Program must also be approved by the Office of the Fire Marshal, Nova Scotia Environment and Labour.

Legislative Authority:

Children and Family Services Act, Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 1989, Chapter 5.

Last Updated: April 12, 2004

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