



**Big Brothers  
Big Sisters**  
OF GREATER MONCTON

## Hello from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Moncton!

Thank you so much for your interest in programming at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Moncton. We are excited to begin to get to know your family. This package was designed to help give you important information about enrolling your family in our programs.

If you have questions or concerns, our staff will be more than happy to discuss and elaborate about the process with you at the interview. Our staff can schedule a virtual enrollment, we can arrange for a meeting in your home, or we can schedule an appointment at the office location.

### Mentoring and Developmental Relationships

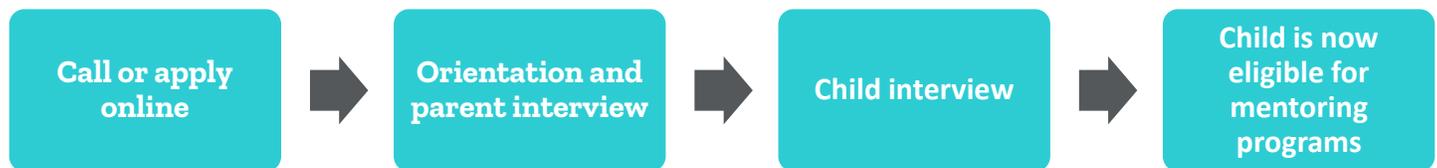
BBBS mentoring programs are grounded in intentional, purposeful, relationship building with youth. BBBS has recently adopted an evidence-based relationship building framework called the Developmental Relationships Framework. Developmental relationships are close connections through which young people discover who they are, cultivate abilities to shape their own lives, and learn how to engage with and contribute to the world around them. Five key elements shape a developmental relationship into impactful, powerful experiences for youth. BBBS has adopted this framework to train, evaluate and support mentors while they build and sustain personalized, intentional and critical relationships with youth by Expressing Care, Challenging Growth, Providing Support, Sharing Power and Expanding Possibilities.





## Our Enrollment Process

The enrollment process is a four-step process.



**Prefer applying through mail or over the phone? Want to learn more before applying?** If you would like to speak more about our programs before beginning enrollment, would like to request a paper copy of the application be mailed to your home, or would like to submit the application over the phone, please feel free to connect with our Mentoring Coordinators:

## Mentoring Coordinators

**Allyson Caldwell**  
506-978-1343  
Allyson.caldwell@  
bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

**Jessica Munn**  
506-499-0163  
Jessica.munn@  
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**Joline LeBlanc**  
506-502-4613  
Joline.leblanc@  
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## Step One: Application

Families first fill out an application to enroll their child. Each child in the family must have an application filled out. You may access the application online or request a paper application be filled-out during the first interview. You can do so by calling the Mentoring Coordinators listed above.

<https://moncton.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/enrol-a-young-person/>

## **Step Two: Parent Interview**

After submitting your application, a mentoring coordinator will connect with you and set up a Parent Interview, either virtually, or in person. The Parent Interview consists of forms and a questionnaire for the parent(s) and the Mentoring Coordinator to complete together. During this interview, we want to get to know your family! We are always excited to hear about what amazing things your child can do and what you would like to achieve through a mentoring relationship.

Details on our Pre-Match Training will also be explained to the parent during the interview. This training will be delivered once the match is scheduled, ensuring maximum impact. Topics such as safety and security will be discussed along with expectations for match support. The training is focused on creating strong, healthy friendships, ensuring that each child /youth is ready for a successful mentoring experience.

## **Step Three: Child Interview!**

The Child Interview consists of questions for the child/youth. These questions are designed to explore each child's interests and personalities, as well as their willingness to participate in the mentoring relationship. This step is crucial in helping staff create an accurate matching profile, strengthening connectedness and compatibility.

## **Step Four: Child or Youth is now ready to receive mentoring services!**

Now your child/youth is enrolled! What happens next? Your child or youth is now eligible to sign up for our group mentoring programs and agency events (when available) while they wait for their community match to start. The waiting period can vary in every situation.

## **What Happens When a Mentor is Found for my Child?**

When a compatible mentor has been selected for a child, parents are contacted by the staff and receive information about the potential mentor. A "Pre-Match Meeting" will be scheduled and will include the mentor, mentoring coordinator, and the parent. This space allows for the parents and mentor to get to know each other on a deeper level before each party is asked, separately and in private, if they would like to move forward with a match. If all parties are in agreement, a "Match Meeting" is scheduled where the child/youth will be introduced to his/her mentor in a controlled setting.

## **What Happens When My Child Is In A Match?**

When your child starts a match with a mentor, there will be lots of fun, lots of new activities to try, a new friendship to create! It's important to be patient and supportive, and above all else, being attentive to your child's cues. Relationships can take time to form. Both the Big and the Little need to build trust and communication. Soon, their confidence in their connection will grow but feedback is always helpful!

During the match, your Mentoring Coordinators will have a strong presence, giving you support and monitoring your match. This process ensures that you and your child are happy with how the match is progressing. These "supervisions" are mandatory component of the match. We will ask about how you feel about the match, what you want to happen next in your child's match and your impression of how things are going. If you have a questions or concerns, let us know! We are here to ensure that your family has a positive mentoring experience. Our job is to support you.

## **More Programs**

**Go Girls! And Game On! :** Go Girls! And Game On! are our two national in school mentoring group programs for girls and boys in grades 6 through 8. Each of these groups teaches youth about healthy eating, staying active, being aware of positive body image and increasing self-esteem. The groups are run as after-school programs, eight weeks in length, in select middle schools.



**In-School Mentoring Program (ISM) :** ISM is an "In School Mentoring" program for children in primary grades (grades 1-6) in the Greater Moncton Area schools. In this program, children are matched with a mentor who they meet with on a weekly basis for one hour in the school year. Together the match spends time in the school playing games, sports, doing arts activities and getting to know one another.

### Confidentiality

All programs are completely confidential. Unless there is a safety concern or a legal proceeding, your information is kept protected and stays within our agency. Our Enrollment Team will share more information and details throughout the enrollment process.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Where is Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Moncton?

Our agency is located on 135 Kendra Street Moncton, NB, E1 C 9V9



### 2. Who are the children and youth that come to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Moncton for services?

BBS mentoring programs provide children who are facing adversity with a trusting, developmental relationship. Through mentorship, we are contributing to positive development and the prevention of negative health complications in adulthood. Our agency celebrates the diversity of the families that we serve. No two families look alike but one commonality is that they are all focusing on giving their children support through mentoring.

### 3. Who are the volunteers that come to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Moncton?

To enroll as a volunteer you must be at least 18 years old, live in Greater Moncton, be able to commit to bi-weekly activities with a mentee for one year and successfully complete the enrollment process (outlined below). Our volunteers are people that support a family and make sure that their mentee has a safe and fun experience with them!

### 4. Why do families sign their children up for a mentor?

There are many different reasons for enrolling a family. Some families come to us to give their child some focused one on one time. Some families come to us because of a specific issue, like their child is struggling with being bullied, making friends, low self-esteem or confidence.

## 5. How do you screen your volunteers?

Our volunteers are thoroughly screened before they are able to volunteer with us in any capacity. This process includes: Application, in-person interview, training, covering child safety, healthy relationship, developmental stages, among other topics, three successful references from family members, colleagues, friends, and employers, successful vulnerable sector police screening, a Social Development Check, and a final review by the team.

## 6. How long do the kids wait for a Big Brother or Big Sisters?

Wait time depend on a variety of different factors and is different for every family. We focus on the best fit for a child and making quality matches.

## 7. Is there a cost for this program?

No, all programming offered by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Moncton is free.

## 8. What are my responsibilities as a parent/guardian in the program?

- Keeping us updated! Did you move? Change your phone number? Is your child doing really well or struggling with something that we should know about? Tell us! The better we know your child, the better we will be able to match them.
- Coming out to agency events! We host events for the whole family! We love to see our families out and about and having fun with us. Getting to know you is part of the fun. [L] [SEP]
- Once the match begins, supporting a match. You are important in your child's match!
- Getting to know your child's mentor. [L] [SEP]
- Match Monitoring – your Mentoring Coordinator will call you on a regular basis to ask questions and find out how everyone (including you) is feeling. It is your responsibility to do your best to answer calls, emails and texts in a timely (24 hours) fashion. [L] [SEP]

## 9. What are the BBBSGM agency staff's responsibilities?

- Getting children/youth ready for a match by getting updated information
- Encouraging families to sign up for child/youth and family events [L] [SEP]
- Creating matches with your support [L] [SEP]
- Monitoring matches and talking to everyone (including parents) on a regular basis [L] [SEP]
- Having fun with matches! Our Mentoring Coordinators love to go bowling, play sports and games with their matches! [L] [SEP]
- Getting to know you! Mentoring Coordinators will spend time learning about your family and understanding the amazing things about you and your child/youth. [L] [SEP]

## 10. What are the volunteer's responsibilities?

- Connecting with you and planning bi-weekly activities. [L] [SEP]
- Updating you if there is a change in a weekly outing. [L] [SEP]
- Advising you of the outing activity (for children ages 11 and under). [L] [SEP]
- Creating a safe, supportive environment for the match to take place. [L] [SEP]
- Connecting with the agency on a regular basis. [L] [SEP]
- Attending agency events (like bowling, sports, arts) with their mentee. [L] [SEP]
- Spending 2-4 hours with your child every second week (first year); fun and positive activities.
- Updating you on how outings went, and seeking your support and guidance if they have a question about how to support your child. [L] [SEP]