

# Prince Edward Island



## OVERVIEW

Early childhood education and care (ECEC)—both kindergarten and child care centres—is the responsibility of the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, previously called the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture. The Early Child Development Division is responsible for regulated child care programs including Early Years Centres while kindergarten is part of the Department’s K-12 programs.

A number of new developments followed a review of PEI’s ECEC provision outlined in [Securing The Future For Our Children: Preschool Excellence Initiative \(2010\)](#). Until 2010, kindergarten was delivered by child care centres under child care legislation but it then became part of the public education system as a compulsory full school day program for all five year olds.

Since 2010, regulated child care centres have included Early Years Centres, which are governed by additional provincial policies including provincially set parent fees, formula based unit funding and a provincial salary scale. Early Years Centres are required to have spaces for infants and toddlers, include children with special needs, have parent advisory committees, use a mandated early learning curriculum framework and have revised certification and training requirements. PEI also has a small sector of regulated home child care providers.

The appointed Early Learning and Child Care Board reviews all applications for licensed child care programs and issues or denies licenses based on whether there is a need for spaces in the geographic area, while the provincial government determines the number of Early Years Centres based on demonstrated community need.

Child care centres are predominantly delivered by for-profit operators with some non-profits. There are no publicly delivered centres.

Changes were made to the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP) in 2017 and 2018. Rates for before and after-school child care and private sitters increased in both 2017 and 2018, with families with income below the Market Basket Measure (MBM) receiving full subsidy in 2018. The program was also administratively streamlined to require yearly, rather than monthly, income verification. An online [subsidy calculator](#) was initiated in 2019.

In August 2017, Prince Edward Island entered into an agreement with the Government of Canada to receive funds of almost \$11 million over the next three fiscal years, to be spent under the terms set out in the [Canada-Prince Edward Island Agreement on Early Learning and Child Care](#). The PEI Action Plan identified seasonal child care as a focus for new initiatives.

A provincial election in early 2019 included a commitment to developing an Island wide community-based half day preschool program for all four year olds. The estimated start up cost of the half day program was \$5 million. As of October 2019, it was anticipated that the program would be ready for fall 2020 but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was announced in June 2020 that the planned implementation of the program in fall 2020 was delayed.

## ■ PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

*Please note that some of the following figures are rounded, while totals are based on exact figures and may therefore not equal the sum of the rounded figures shown here.*

---

### Number of children 0 – 12 (2019 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	1,200
1	1,500
2	1,700
3	1,600
4	1,500
5	1,500
6	1,700
7	1,900
8	1,700
9	1,900
10	1,500
11	1,800
12	1,900
Total	21,400

---

### Number of children 0 – 12 years (aggregated) (2019 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0 - 2	4,400
3 - 5	4,600
6 - 12	12,400
Total	21,400

---

---

**Number of children 0 – 12 years with employed mothers (2019 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0	800
1	1,000
2	1,300
3	1,000
4	1,000
5	1,000
6	1,300
7	1,200
8	1,200
9	1,400
10	1,100
11	1,300
12	1,400
Total	15,000

---

**Number of children 0 – 12 with employed mothers (aggregated) (2019 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0 - 2	3,100
3 - 5	3,000
6 - 12	8,900
Total	15,000

---

**Number of children 0 – 14 identifying with an Indigenous group (2016)**

Age	First Nations	Métis	Inuk (Inuit)	Multiple	Other
0 - 4	95	50	10	0	15
5 - 9	65	70	10	0	0
10 - 14	80	40	15	0	0
Total	530	170	25	0	15

---

**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2019 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0 - 2	3,100	83.8
3 - 5	2,100	80.8
0 - 5	5,200	81.3
6 - 15	6,800	87.2

---

**Living arrangements by age of child by number of parents (2016)**

Age	Living with two parents	Living with one parent	Lone mother	Lone father
0 - 4	5,580	1,345	1,155	190
5 - 9	6,050	1,750	1,420	335
10 - 14	5,735	1,900	1,480	425

---

---

**Language most often spoken in the home by age of child (2016)**

Age	English	French	Non-official	Multiple
0 - 4	6,535	110	250	105
5 - 9	7,335	120	300	150
10 - 14	7,210	115	315	135
Total	21,075	350	865	380

---

**Median after tax income among families with children aged 0 – 5 years (2015) (\$)**

Two parent families	Lone parent families	Male lone parent families	Female lone parent families
71,190	28,507	31,680	27,942

---

## PARENTAL LEAVE AND BENEFITS

### Maternity leave

17 weeks.

Eligibility: Pregnant employees who have been in the employment of the employer for a total of at least 20 weeks of the 52 weeks immediately preceding the commencement date for the maternity leave specified in the application is eligible for maternity leave.

### Parental leave

Two parental leave options are available: Extended parental leave period of 62 weeks and Standard parental leave of 35 weeks. Adoptive parents are eligible for parental leave only.

Total maternity and parental leave cannot exceed 78 weeks.

Eligibility: An employee who has been in the employment of the employer for a total of at least 20 weeks of the 52 weeks immediately preceding the day on which the requested leave is to commence and who is the parent of a child is eligible for parental leave.

### Benefits

Maternity and parental leave provisions in Canada outside Quebec are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. Benefits are paid by the federal government under the Employment Insurance program (EI), while provincial /territorial provisions for job-protected leave are established in each jurisdiction's employment standards legislation. The federal benefit covers 15 weeks of maternity leave for eligible employees who are birth mothers, up to 12 weeks prior to the expected date of birth, and up to 17 weeks following the date of birth.

There are two federal benefit options for parental leave: the Standard Parental Benefit and the Extended Parental Benefit. The Standard Parental Benefit covers 35 weeks of paid leave taken over a 12 month period, paid at 55% of average weekly insurable earnings, up to \$573/week (2020) for either eligible parent, including adoptive parents. The Extended Parental Benefit allows 61 weeks of parental leave benefits taken over an 18 month period paid at 33% of average weekly earnings up to \$344/week (2020) for either eligible parent including adoptive parents.

The Parental Sharing Benefit is available to non-birth (second) parents. It covers an additional five weeks of benefits if both parents have shared the Standard benefit option (40 weeks total) or an additional eight weeks of benefits under the Extended option if both parents have shared the Extended Benefit option (69 weeks total). It is paid at either the Standard or the Extended rate.

*Note: For further details about the EI federal benefit, Quebec benefit and leave provisions, and all provincial/territorial provisions for job-protected leave, see the PARENTAL LEAVES AND BENEFITS section of this publication.*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education and Lifelong Learning  
Holman Centre, 250 Water Street - Suite 101  
Summerside, PE, C1N 1B6  
Phone: (902) 438-4130  
Website: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/education-and-lifelong-learning>

Kindergarten is part of the public school system. The Department of Education and Lifelong Learning is responsible for teacher/staff certification, supports for children with special needs, policy development, funding, curriculum development, program support and in-service training.

Kindergarten was, until 2010, delivered by child care centres under child care legislation but since has been moved into the public education system.

### LEGISLATION

[\*The Education Act, 2016. R.S.P.E.I. Cap. E-.02\*](#)

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Children who are four years old are eligible to start kindergarten if they are to turn five years old by December 31 of the school year.

### COMPULSORY

Kindergarten is a compulsory grade level for children at age six by December 31 of the school year.

### HOURS

A full school day program; five hours of instructional time per day.

### ENROLLMENT (2018-2019)

1,523 children  
(1,487 in public schools; 36 in private schools)

### CLASS SIZE

Class sizes are based on 15 children. If there are 18 or more children in a class, an additional teacher is required.

## TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Kindergarten teachers are required to have a Bachelor of Education degree with a specialization in Early Years.

## CURRICULUM

[Kindergarten Integrated Curriculum](#)

## SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

K-12 per pupil spending	\$11,800 (2018-2019)
Total K-12 spending	\$18 million (2018-2019)

## CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, Early Childhood Development Division  
Holman Centre  
250 Water St., Suite 101  
Summerside, PE, C1N 1B6  
Telephone: (902) 438-4854  
Website: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/education-and-lifelong-learning>

### LEGISLATION

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Early Learning and Child Care Act. 2017* (Current to: June 28, 2019).

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Early Learning and Child Care Act Regulations 2017* (Current to: January 27, 2018).

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Social Assistance Act. 2015* (Department of Family and Human Services)

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

A person may operate a centre without a license where the person does not provide services at the centre to more than: five children, including those of the operator, where the group includes an infant or infants, provided that the group does not contain more than two infants; six children, including those of the operator, where the group consists solely of preschool children or a combination of preschool children and school-age children; or seven children, including those of the operator, where the group consists solely of school-age children.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### Early Childhood Centres

Early Childhood Centres are early learning and child care programs authorized to provide services to infants, preschool-aged and school-aged children for full days. There are two types of Early Childhood Centres: Private centres (both for-profit and non-profit) and centres with Early Years Centre (EYC) designation both fall under this category. These centres operate less than 24 hours/day.

All Early Childhood Centres are licensed under the *Early Learning and Child Care Act* and would have been in good standing with the Early Learning and Child Care Board for a minimum of six months.

### Early Years Centres

Early Years Centres receive operating funding to help bridge the difference between regulated parent fees and operating costs. In return for this investment, centres with Early Years Centre designation are governed by additional provincial policies including provincially-set parent fees, formula-based unit funding and a provincial salary scale.

Early Years Centres are also required to have spaces for infants and toddlers, include children with special needs, have parent advisory committees, set staff wages and benefits according to a provincial salary scale (See “Hourly wage grid”, under the FUNDING section of this report), use a mandated early learning curriculum framework and have all certified staff.

The provincial government determines the number of Early Years Centres based on demonstrated community need. The Early Learning and Child Care Board reviews all applications for licensed child care programs and issues or denies licenses based on whether there is a need for spaces in the geographic area.

Following the introduction of the [Securing The Future for Our Children: Preschool Excellence Initiative](#) in 2010, existing child care centres were given the option to apply for designation as an Early Years Centre (EYC), remain a regulated private/non-EYC centre or retire their license.

Note that The Early Learning and Child Care Board determines licenses and the government determines EYC designation.

### Preschool Centres

Preschool centres are early learning and child care services operating for less than four consecutive hours per day for children who are at least three years of age but not yet attending school (equivalent to nursery schools or preschools in other provinces/territories).

### School-age Centres

School-age Centres provide child care to children currently attending school on weekdays during one or more of the following time periods: before or after school, school lunch period or during regular school hours when schools are closed (e.g. PD days or summer break). The children are usually aged 5 – 12 years.

### Family Home Centre

A licensed Family Home Centre operator can provide care for up to eight children, aged infant to school age, at one time. The following ratios must be maintained:

One staff person for three infants (under 22 months); one staff for every five toddlers (22 months to three years of age); one staff for every ten preschoolers (three to five years old); and one staff person for every 15 school-aged children.

Up to eight infants, preschool-aged children or school-aged children may be cared for as long as the staff member to child ratios are met.

A licensed Family Home Centre may have more than one caregiver to meet ratios.

*Note: This number changed from six children in 2018. More information on [Family Home Child Care](#) is available.*

## SPACE STATISTICS

### Number of regulated child care spaces (2019)

#### Centre based programs

Age group	Full day	Part day	Total
Infants (0 – 24 months)	377	-	377
Preschool-age (2 – 4 years)	3,099	169	3,268
School-age (5 – 12 years)	-	2,029	2,029

Note: there may be some school-age child care associated with Early Years Centres included here.

#### Total number of centre based spaces

(Designated Early Years spaces and non EYC spaces)

3,476	2,198	5,674
-------	-------	-------

Family child care spaces	19
--------------------------	----

### Total number of regulated child care spaces

(Designated Early Years spaces and non EYC spaces)

5,693

Note: Kindergarten was part of child care under child care legislation but is now part of public education system, making pre-2010 space data not comparable.

### Early Years Centre spaces

Age group	Full day
Infants (0 – 24 months)	308
Preschool-age (2 – 4 years)	2,021

Total number of regulated spaces in EYCs	2,329
--	-------

Note: The number of spaces in EYCs is included in the total number of regulated spaces.

### Children with special needs in regulated care (2019)

Number of children	229
--------------------	-----

### Children receiving fee subsidies in regulated child care

(as of March 31st, 2019)

Total children receiving a fee subsidy	1,485
--	-------

### Number of child care programs (2019)

#### Centre based

Full day (Early Years Centres – EYCs)	49
Full day (Other centres)	29
Part day preschool centres	10
Stand alone school-age	56
<b>Total centre based programs</b>	<b>144</b>

#### School based child care centres

(These are included in centre based programs)

For preschool-age children	6
For school-age children	20
<b>Total school based programs</b>	<b>26</b>

#### Family child care

Individual family child care providers	3
--	---

### Sponsorship of full and part day regulated centre based programs (2019)

	Non-profit	For-profit
Full day (EYCs, other licensed centres)	24	54
Part day (preschools, school-age)	31	34

### Total number of centre based programs by sponsorship

55	88
----	----

### Sponsorship of centre based regulated child care spaces (2019)

	Non-profit	For-profit	Total
Full day	1,063	2,413	3,476
Part day	904	1,269	2,173
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,967</b>	<b>3,682</b>	<b>5,649</b>

## PARENT FEES

### Early Years Centre (provincially set daily parent fees) (2019)

1 – 22 months	\$34/day
22 months – three years	\$28/day
Three years – school entry	\$27/day
School-age	Fee not regulated

### Other regulated centres (daily mean fee)

Infant	\$36/day
Two years	\$29/day
Three years - school entry	\$28/day
School-age	*\$11/day **\$18/day

\*before/after school care; \*\*full day

Note: These averages are calculated based on data collected from non-EYC programs.

**In 2019, a national survey of child care fees in Canada's large cities included Charlottetown:**

*Median monthly fees for full-time child care*

Infants (\$)	Toddlers (\$)	Preschoolers (\$)
\$738	\$608	\$586

*Note: These median monthly figures include fees from full day centre-based and family child care.*

*Source: Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2020). In Progress: Child care fees in Canada 2019. Ottawa: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.*

### CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

Early Years Centres are required to use the PEI Early learning framework 2011: Relationships, environments, experiences (ELF).

All other licensed programs are permitted to use alternative approaches to the PEI Early Learning Framework, as long as they meet the requirements set out by regulation.

### CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Early Years Centres are not permitted to turn away a child with special needs for service.

There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs.

Centres may apply for a special needs grant on behalf of a child that may cover staff to support the child plus mandatory employment-related costs. The role of these grants is to lower ratios to allow for successful inclusion in early childhood settings.

### INDIGENOUS CHILD CARE

Prince Edward Island currently has two licensed early childhood centres in Indigenous communities on-reserve. Both licensed programs hold Early Years Centre designation and are funded by the province. As well, the Mi'kmaq Family Resource Centre operates a federally-funded Aboriginal Head Start (AHSUNC) program in Charlottetown for children aged 3 – 5 years old and is regulated under the Early Learning and Child Care legislation. There are no First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI) programs in Prince Edward Island.

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

<b>Maximum centre size</b>	80 spaces
<b>Maximum room size</b>	Not specified

### Staff:child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0 – under 22 months	1:3	6
22 months – three years	1:5	Not specified
Three years – school entry	1:10	Not specified
School-age (1st day of school until the end of elementary)	1:15	Not specified

### STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

#### Certification of early childhood staff

The Minister of Education and Lifelong Learning designates a person employed in the public service of the province in the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning as the Registrar and Resource to the Early Learning and Child Care Board (called “the Board” below). The Board delegates to the Registrar its responsibilities to review applications for certificates and renewal of certificates.

45 hours of approved ongoing training every three years is required for all certified staff other than a family home child care provider or a school-age child care provider.

#### Staff certification categories

*ECE Level I:* An applicant for an Early Childhood Educator Level I certificate shall have successfully completed a 30 hour course, approved by the Board, in each of the following subject areas: (a) child growth and development; (b) child guidance; (c) early childhood pedagogy.

*ECE Level II:* An applicant for an Early Childhood Educator Level II certificate shall have successfully completed a one year certificate program in early childhood care and education, approved by the Board.

*ECE Level III:* An applicant for an Early Childhood Educator Level III certificate shall have successfully completed a two year diploma program, or a degree program, in early childhood care and education, approved by the Board.



#### *Early Childhood Supervisor*

An applicant for an Early Childhood Supervisor certificate shall: (a) have successfully completed either (i) a two year diploma program or a degree program in early childhood care and education, approved by the Board, or (ii) a degree program in child and family studies, which includes credit for a two year diploma program in early childhood care and education, approved by the Board; and (b) obtained at least 3,900 hours of experience providing services to children while holding a certificate or an equivalent authorization issued in the jurisdiction where the services were provided.

#### *Early Childhood Director (not yet required in Early Years Centres)*

An applicant for an Early Childhood Director certificate shall: (a) have successfully completed (i) a degree program in early childhood care and education approved by the Board, (ii) a degree program in child and family studies, which includes credit for a two year diploma program in early childhood care and education, approved by the Board, or (iii) a one year certificate program in early childhood care and education approved by the Board, and a degree program that, in the opinion of the Board, is related to early childhood care and education; and (b) obtained at least 9,750 hours of experience providing services to children at an early childhood centre or preschool centre, a Type I facility under the former Act or an equivalent type of centre licensed under the laws of another jurisdiction, while holding a certificate or an equivalent authorization issued in the jurisdiction where the services were provided.

#### *Inclusion Support Assistant*

An applicant for an Inclusion Support Assistant certificate shall have successfully completed a one year certificate program or two year diploma program in early years studies, early childhood care and education, or human services, approved by the Board.

#### *Family Home Child Care Provider*

An applicant for a Family Home Child Care Provider certificate shall have successfully completed a 30 hour course related to the care and education of infants and preschoolers approved by the Board.

#### *School-Age Child Care Provider*

An applicant for a School-Age Child Care Provider Certificate shall have successfully completed a 30 hour course related to the care and education of school-age children, approved by the Board.

### **Qualifications required in child care centres**

#### *Early childhood centres and preschool centres*

Early childhood supervisor/early childhood director and at least one full time staff member in each licensed centre must have at least a one year certificate from an approved early childhood care and education program or a two year diploma or degree from an approved early childhood care and education program.

#### *School-age child care centres*

At least one staff person has, at minimum, successfully completed a 30 hour course related to the care and education of school-age children which has been approved by the Early Learning and Child Care Board. If more than one staff person is required, at least one more staff must meet the minimum certification requirements.

#### *Programs with an Early Years Centre designation*

Must meet the requirements of an early childhood centre. In addition, all program staff are required to be certified at minimum as an early childhood educator Level I (successful completion of 30 hour courses in each of the following areas: growth and development; child guidance; early childhood pedagogy).

### **STAFF WAGES**

---

#### **Median annual employment income (\$) and median hourly wage (\$) for Early Childhood Educators and Assistants working in day care services full time, full year.**

<i>Median annual employment income</i>	\$30,065
<i>Median hourly employment income</i>	\$14.45 - 16.52/hr
(calculated using 2080 hrs/year (40 hrs week) and 1280 hrs/year (35 hrs/week))	

*Source: Canadian Census, 2016*

*Note: These data include Early Childhood Educators and Assistants, as defined in NOC 4214, working in the day care services industry in centre based environments with children aged 0 – 12 years, as defined in NAICS 6244. Included as individuals who worked full-time (30+ hours/week) and full-year (48+ weeks/year), did not work at home, and were not self-employed. Included are supervisors but not managers. Employment income refers to income from all jobs if the Early Childhood Educator or Assistant holds a second job providing a wage, salary or commissions.*

---

## REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

### Model of organization

Providers are individually licensed and operate independently of any other licensed program.

### Maximum capacity

Up to eight children, including the provider's own children, while maintaining ratios set out in the *Early Learning and Child Care Act* and Regulations (see above).  
*Note: The number of children allowed (eight) was increased from six in 2018.*

### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Annual inspections are made by staff of the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, who observe the administration and programming in the home, by an inspector for the Fire Marshall's office and by an environmental health officer.

### Family child care provider requirements

Providers must be at least 18 years of age, provide results of a criminal record check and vulnerable sector search and have completed a 30 hour course related to the care and education of infants and preschoolers. They must also provide written confirmation that the applicant is entitled to work in Canada and a current emergency first aid certificate.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING

Early Years Centres are operationally (base) funded and receive quarterly payments. The base funding is calculated based on staff wages, benefits (20%) and base operating costs minus 90% of parent fees (including child care subsidy). Early Years Centres may be non-profit or for-profit. The province sets a province wide salary grid required to be used by all Early Years Centres and regulates the parent fees.

Otherwise, all licensed child care centres are eligible for all other funding programs including child care fee subsidy, special needs funding and IBI funding (Intensive Behavioral Intervention is a service offered to preschool children with autism spectrum disorder.)

### Provincially set salary scale required for Early Years Centres

#### Hourly wage grid - Effective April 1, 2019

Position/ Certification Level	Experience after certification				
	1yr <	2 yrs	3 yrs	4 yrs	5 yrs +
Director: Post diploma/degree	\$24.85	-	-	-	-
ECE Level III: 2 year diploma	\$18.61	\$19.08	\$19.55	\$20.04	\$20.56
ECE Level II: 1 year certificate	\$16.05	\$16.47	\$16.91	\$17.35	\$17.78
ECE Level II: 1 year certificate	\$14.48	\$14.86	\$15.24	\$15.64	\$16.05
Uncertified	\$13.25				
Support staff	Minimum wage				

*Note: Staff must have completed the education level required and have become certified by the Early Learning and Child Care Board in order to start the associated pay band.*

*Note: Support staff are funded at the minimum wage rate and the rate is subject to change.*

### TYPES OF FUNDING

#### Fee subsidies

##### Eligibility for families

##### *Financial eligibility (2019) (based on net income)*

Eligibility and calculation based on a formula that considers the family's monthly net income, family size, as well as the Market Basket Measure (MBM) thresholds for different family sizes.

- All eligible families with incomes at or below MBM receive full subsidy;
- The cut-off point for eligibility is set at MBM + 50%.

*Note: MBM is a measure of low income based on the cost of a specific basket of goods and services representing a modest, basic standard of living. MBM is determined by Statistics Canada and is updated periodically.*

---

**Which service providers are eligible to deliver subsidized child care?**

All licensed non-profit and for-profit early learning and child care centres are eligible to enroll children receiving child care subsidies including early childhood centres, those with Early Years Centre designation, preschool centres, family home centres and school-age centres.

---

**Surcharges above the fee subsidy**

Parent fees in Early Years Centres are regulated by the province based on the age of the child. Child care subsidies maximum per diem rates match the fees charged by Early Years Centres. Therefore, subsidy eligible families in Early Years Centres may be subsidized to cover the full fee.

In non-Early Years Centres where fees are not set (capped), the subsidy may not fully cover the full parent fee. In these instances, the family would be responsible for paying a share of the fee.

---

**Subsidy rates**

The subsidy rate is the maximum amount paid by the provincial/territorial government to the service to cover all or part of the parent fee.

*Maximum daily subsidy rates for licensed child care*

Infants	\$34
Two year olds	\$28
Three and four year olds	\$27
School-age: full day	\$30
School-age: before and after school	\$15

*Maximum daily subsidy rates for unregulated care/private sitters*

Infants	\$30
Two year olds	\$25
Three and four year olds	\$25
School-age: full day	\$25
School-age: before and after school	\$13

---

**Are all eligible families entitled to a fee subsidy?**

All eligible families receive child care subsidy and there are no wait lists for subsidy.

---

---

**Are there other programs that subsidize the individual family or child?**

In 2018, the Enhanced Early Learning and Child Care Subsidy was introduced. The Enhanced Early Learning and Child Care Subsidy is one component of the Canada-Prince Edward Island Agreement on Early Learning and Child Care. The enhanced component of the program increased access for children from families who are more vulnerable and who previously did not meet requirements to qualify under the Child Care Subsidy Program.

A [PEI subsidy calculator](#) is available online.

---

**One time funding**

---

**Capital Improvement Grant**

This grant was used to assist licensed centres with capital improvements that reduced barriers and other challenges for children with special needs. (Inclusion Support)

---

**Resource Grant**

This grant was used to assist licensed centres to purchase resources to strengthen inclusion in their centres. (Inclusion Support)

---

**Physical Environment Grant**

This grant was used to support investments in capital infrastructure and equipment to improve the quality of indoor and or outdoor learning environments for children. (Canada-PEI Bilateral Agreement)

---

**Program Improvement Grants**

This grant was used to support investments in equipment, materials, resources and staff development. (Canada-PEI Bilateral Agreement)

---

**Children's Resource Grant**

Specialized block sets were purchased for all licensed centres on PEI. (Canada-PEI Bilateral Agreement)

---

**Total Smarts Program**

In partnership with First Nations, newcomer, and local musicians, instruments were created, purchased and assembled as kits to deliver a music education program for children enrolled in Early Years Centre Programs. (Canada-PEI Bilateral Agreement)

---

---

## Operational (previously Recurring) funding

---

### Early Years Centre Funding

Early Years Centres receive funding on a quarterly basis. EYCs submit invoices to the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning detailing enrolment and staffing. The funding formula is based in part on staff wages determined by the province-wide salary scale, benefits and operational costs to determine the amount of funding per EYC.

---

### Quality Enhancement Grant

Provides all licensed, non EYC designated early childhood centres, preschool centres and family home centres with additional financial support in order to enhance the quality of their programs. Freestanding school-age centres receive the Quality Enhancement if they were receiving the grant as of March 31, 2013, and continue to apply and provide accountability documentation.

---

### Special Needs Grant

Provides licensed early learning and child care centres with extra financial support to include children with diagnosed special needs up to the age of 12 years in their program.

---

### Preschool Autism funding

Provides financial support to parents and licensed early childhood centres to hire an Autism Assistant for children receiving Intensive Behavioural Intervention (I.B.I.) Support.

---

### School-Age Autism funding

Provides financial support to parents and designated community-based organizations to help offset the costs of hiring one-on-one tutors and aides in home and group settings outside of school hours.

---

### Alternate Hours Demonstration Site Grant

As of September 2018, eligible providers (licensed early childhood centres, Early Years Centres, preschool centres and family home centres) were able to apply for funding to extend their licensed hours of operation to any times between 5:00 am – 9:00 pm, Sunday to Saturday weekly. This grant covers wages and wage related costs, as well as payment for additional meals provided by the centre to extend hours of operation.

---

---

## Other funding

---

### Training Grant

Funding was available for employees of licensed early learning and child care centres to pay for course fees and required text books to work towards becoming certified ECEs. (Canada-PEI Bilateral Agreement)

---

## PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2018-2019)

---

<b>Fee subsidies</b>	<b>\$3,906,000</b>
----------------------	--------------------

---

### Operational (previously Recurring) funding

---

Operating grants	\$410,000
Special needs funding	\$1,405,000
Early Years Centres	\$12,729,000
Autism Services (Preschool and school-age)	\$1,313,400

---

<b>Total Operational funding</b>	<b>\$15,857,400</b>
----------------------------------	---------------------

---

<b>One time funding</b>	<b>\$0</b>
-------------------------	------------

---

*Note: Federal funding of \$3,517,820 (plus carry over from 2017-2018) through the Canada-PEI Early Learning and Child Care Agreement budget for 2018-2019 is included in the provincial allocations.*

*Note: Canada-PEI Early Learning and Child Care Bilateral Agreement Budget: \$3,543,850 which is imbedded in the above figures. (\$700,000 of this transferred to the Department of Social Development and Housing for enhanced Early Learning and Child Care Subsidy.) An additional \$1,635,151 was carried over from the 2017-18 budget allotment. The province requested approval to proceed with a number of one-time only projects intended to invest directly in children's learning and development as well as strengthen overall capacity of the early learning and child care sector. This included: Physical Environment Grant; Program Improvement Grant; Children's Resource Grant; Total Smarts Project, Capital Improvement (Inclusion Support) and a Resource Grant (Inclusion support.) The figure for Total Operational Funding was adjusted by PEI officials so as not to double count \$700,000.*

---

---

<b>TOTAL ALLOCATION</b>	<b>\$19,063,400</b>
-------------------------	---------------------

---

*Total provincial allocation for regulated child care + \$3,543,850 federal funding + adjustments through the Canada-PEI Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (2018-2019)*

---

**Other funding**

---

Home visiting program	\$1,281,000
Early Childhood Development Association	\$160,000
Childcare Education Grant	\$135,000

---

<b>Total Other funding</b>	<b>\$1,576,000</b>
----------------------------	--------------------

---