Ministry of Children and Family Development

## Temporary Emergency Funding Guidelines

June 15, 2020



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#### 1. Overview

In order to assist with alleviating the challenges presented to child care providers and families as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Temporary Emergency Funding (TEF) is available from April 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020 to licensed child care providers who have a 2020/21 funding agreement through the Child Care Operating Funding Program (CCOF) under the *Child Care BC Act*. Licensed child care facilities not currently enrolled in CCOF are welcome to apply for CCOF and TEF at any time; please visit the CCOF webpage for more information on how to apply.

#### The intention of the TEF is to:

- Support child care facilities to remain safely open to provide child care to any children whose families require it, including currently enrolled children and children of essential service workers, while following public health guidance from the Provincial Health Officer;
- Support essential service workers to have access to child care services during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Support child care facilities that close temporarily to help cover fixed facility costs, so they can continue to provide child care services once they reopen.

The Ministry is offering eligible facilities the opportunity to opt-in to temporary changes through a modification to the 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreement. Child care facilities that opt-in to the TEF and agree to these interim changes will have their CCOF Base Funding Payments under its 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreement suspended and replaced with TEF. TEF is discretionary and is subject to change or cancellation depending on how the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve. Effective September 1, 2020, TEF will be discontinued, and all eligible facilities will revert to their regular 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreements.

Further details and requirements regarding these temporary measures are set out in the remainder of this document and the modification agreements.

## 2. Eligibility

To be eligible to opt-in to receive TEF, facilities must adhere to the following requirements while in receipt of TEF:

- Be approved by the Ministry to receive CCOF Base Funding under the 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreement (the "CCOF Funding Agreement") and maintain eligibility for the duration of the TEF funding period;
- Agree to the temporarily modified terms and conditions of the CCOF Funding Agreement set out in the Ministry's Modification Agreement, which include but are not limited to:
  - Not charging fees to families if those families are not accessing child care services
     at the facility, including in situations where families of enrolled children have chosen
     to withdraw the child(ren) temporarily due to concerns related to COVID-19;
  - Not charging fees to families with enrolled or drop-in space children if the facility temporarily closes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;

- Offer families that temporarily withdrew their child due to concerns related to COVID-19 the ability to return to the original space that they occupied<sup>1</sup> immediately prior to the COVID-19 pandemic once TEF is discontinued or once the facility is no longer participating in TEF;
- Making every reasonable effort to continue to provide child care services at the
  maximum available capacity, subject to the availability of sufficient staffing and
  subject to the facility being able to implement such measures as may be required to
  ensure the health and safety of children and staff in accordance with advice from
  the Provincial Health Officer;
- Making every reasonable effort to provide care to all families that need care, including children with support needs;
- Prioritizing access to spaces (as able and as needed) for <u>essential service workers</u>, as defined by Emergency Management BC in consultation with other government ministries and the Provincial Health Officer, while following the <u>advice of the Provincial Health Officer</u> related to the health and safety of staff and the children and families they serve. See section 4 below for more detail;
- Making every reasonable effort to provide care in response to community need.
   This may include adjusting days/hours of operations to provide care during non-standard hours to accommodate shift workers, accommodating the child care needs of temporary essential service workers, and/or relocating to an alternate location if necessary and reasonably possible; and
- Applying any surplus TEF<sup>2</sup> remaining from the facility's July and/or August 2020<sup>3</sup>
   TEF Base CCOF payment as follows:
  - Facilities with front-line Early Childhood Educators (ECE) are required to use these funds towards providing temporary wage enhancements and/or other non-monetary compensation such as paid professional development to those ECEs. Note:
    - Professional development opportunities funded through TEF surplus must contribute towards the ECE's re-certification with the ECE Registry.
    - Facilities are encouraged to consult with ECE employees to determine which type of support best fits their ECE needs and is possible with the amount of TEF Base Funding surplus available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> With the following exceptions: 1) children who have subsequently aged out of their original space during the period of temporary withdrawal and for which the program has no available space at the appropriate age category; and 2) if the program is unable to offer the space due to staffing/capacity or to comply with the guidance of the Provincial Health Officer or other public health officials, so long as the program makes every effort to make the space available once regular staffing/capacity at the facility resumes.

A TEF surplus is any remaining amount from the TEF Base CCOF received under the facility's Modification Agreement after the facility has covered its operational expenses associated with providing licensed care including costs associated with adherence with the guidance of public health officials and the Provincial Health Officer.
 Any TEF surplus resulting from the facility's April through June 2020 TEF Base CCOF payments is required to be directed in such manner as set out in the Modification Agreement for TEF that was in place April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

- Facilities with no front-line ECEs (e.g. school aged care providers, etc.), are
  required to use these funds for relief measures for families, such as reducing
  child care fees or extending the hours/days of business in order to meet local
  demand; expanding ongoing operations, such as hiring additional temporary
  staff; supporting professional development opportunities for staff; or enhancing
  health and safety in the facility, such as purchasing cleaning supplies for the
  facility.
- TEF is not to be used for profit purposes or to pay off debts incurred prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4</sup>

For clarity, the temporarily modified terms and conditions of the CCOF Funding Agreement set out in the Modification Agreement for TEF do not apply to any period prior to the introduction of TEF, (e.g. March 2020).

## 3. Definition of Open versus Temporarily Closed Facilities for TEF

The decision to temporarily close a facility, or to remain open is at the sole discretion of the child care provider. When making this decision, facilities must adhere to current <u>advice from the</u>

Provincial Health Officer and the local Health Authority.

For the purposes of receiving TEF, a facility is defined as 'open' if there is at least one staff/educator employed at the facility who is available to provide child care services, as per the conditions in section 2.

A facility is considered 'closed' if there are no staff employed by the facility and/or the facility is not available to provide licensed child care. TEF for closed facilities will only be made available to those facilities that have closed temporarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic with a good faith intention to re-open the facility when able.

#### 4. Essential Service Workers

Open facilities that opt to receive TEF are required to prioritize access to spaces (as able and as needed) for <u>essential service workers</u> while in receipt of TEF, subject to measures supporting the health and safety of children and staff, including the <u>advice of the Provincial Health Officer</u>. Child care providers are to prioritize placements for children of essential service workers based on the following priority:

• Tier 1 (highest priority): employed in Health and Health Services, Social Services, Law Enforcement, First Responders, and Emergency Response. For child care, Tier 1 also includes children approved to access care at a designated Young Parent Program, referred to child care by MCFD or a Delegated Aboriginal Agency, and/or children of teachers/child care

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For clarity, this does not include reasonable expenses that your facility incurs while participating in TEF that are essential for the direct provision of licensed child care.

providers and support workers providing care to children of essential service workers or students who would benefit from additional supports.

- **Tier 2 (second priority):** all other occupations not included in Tier 1 that are listed in the Essential Service Workers list.
- Tier 3 (third priority): all other families not employed in an occupation listed in the Essential Service Workers list.

If an open facility has an available space that may be used by an essential service worker, it is recommended that they contact their local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) program and Health Authority Licensing Officer to inform them of this available space. The Province may publicly advertise and proactively notify any third parties of facilities receiving TEF.

#### a. Prioritizing Access for Children of Essential Service Workers

If an essential service worker requires care for their child and a facility in receipt of TEF can provide the care while following the health and safety advice of the Provincial Health Officer, the facility must provide access to their licensed spaces for the child of the essential service worker. When accepting new families, the provider must prioritize requests for care where the parent is an essential service worker.

If the facility has no available spaces, the facility is required to prioritize access for children of essential service workers over access by an existing family, provided the existing family does not fall within the category of essential service worker, in accordance with the essential service worker priority tiers outlined above.

**Example 1:** a facility with seven licensed spaces is caring for four families in Tier 1, two families in Tier 2, and one family in Tier 3. A family in Tier 2 requests care from the provider and the provider can provide the care while continuing to follow the advice of the Provincial Health Officer related to the health and safety of staff and the children and families they serve. The provider may temporarily revoke care from the family in Tier 3 to accommodate the new family in Tier 2 but may not revoke care from any families in Tier 2 or 1.

**Example 2:** a facility with seven licensed spaces is caring for one family in Tier 1, three families in Tier 2, and three families in Tier 3. A family in Tier 1 requests care from the provider and the provider can provide the care while continuing to follow the advice of the Provincial Health Officer related to the health and safety of staff and the children and families they serve. The provider may temporarily revoke care from one of the families in Tier 3 to accommodate the new family in Tier 1. Which family in Tier 3 has their care revoked is at the discretion of the provider and should include consideration of the needs and circumstances of each family and child, including whether the child or family is experiencing vulnerability or whether the child has support needs.

If an essential service worker's child is temporarily absent but the essential service worker anticipates they will require the space again while the facility is participating in TEF, the facility may

reserve that spot for the essential service worker and either charge a pro-rated fee for enrolment or offer the family a drop-in space rate. While the essential service worker is not accessing that space, the space may be accessed by another family. However, the facility must provide access to the essential service worker's child when they return to care. This may require the facility to revoke care for an existing family (not on the same or higher priority tier of the essential service worker list) to accommodate the request of the essential service worker.

Facilities participating in TEF are only required to ensure a space is available to a family following a temporary absence or withdrawal if the parent is an essential service worker, so long as this doesn't result in revoking care for another essential service worker (at the same or higher tier). If a facility is unable to accommodate a request to care for an essential service worker's child, the facility should, upon getting permission from that essential service worker, contact their local Child Care Resource and Referral program and local Licensing Officer to advise there is an essential service worker who requires child care.

### 5. Child Care Fee Policy

Facilities that are open and in receipt of TEF may charge their regular child care fees for any family that is accessing child care at their facility. If the facility is also in receipt of CCFRI, the facility may only charge up to a maximum of the child care fee(s) previously approved by the Ministry under the terms of their Funding Agreement, including pro-rated fees for part-time care and/or drop-in spaces. Any requests for mid-term fee increases will be assessed under the terms of the <a href="https://www.eccentricalcommons.org/lines/by-nc-rated/">2020/21 CCFRI Funding Guidelines</a>.

While receiving TEF, facilities must not charge families child care fees under the following circumstances:

- If the family withdraws the child(ren) from childcare at the facility temporarily due to COVID-19;
- If the family's care is revoked by the facility to accommodate care for an essential service worker; or
- If the facility temporarily closes due to COVID-19.

#### a. Temporary Withdrawals by the Family

The Provincial Health Officer has advised families to keep their children at home if they can do so. Facilities in receipt of TEF must not charge families child care fees if those families temporarily withdraw their child(ren) due to concerns related to COVID-19. To comply with this requirement, facilities may need to either refund monthly fees that were already paid or provide a future credit to families.

For clarity – if a family notifies a facility that they are withdrawing their child temporarily due to COVID-19, the facility:

- must not charge any fee<sup>5</sup> for the following calendar month or any future months in which the child is withdrawn due to COVID-19; and
- must offer this family the ability to access the same space(s) if they still require it when
  the facility is no longer participating in TEF, subject to the facility's capacity to provide
  safe care to the child following public health guidance from the PHO and subject to the
  child remaining in the applicable age care category.

If a family has already paid fees for that month, the following Temporary Withdrawal Policy applies:

- If the family notifies the facility and temporarily withdraws their child(ren) on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month), the facility is required to provide the family with either a partial refund which must be at least 50% of their regular monthly fee or, if viable and acceptable to impacted families, an equivalent credit towards future fee payments. The Ministry expects any such refund or credit to be provided to families within 30 days, subject to any alternative arrangements that providers may have made with impacted families.
- If the family notifies the facility and temporarily withdraws their child(ren) after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, the Ministry does not expressly require a facility to provide the family with a refund or an equivalent credit for that month. However, depending on the specific care arrangement in place between facilities and impacted families, a pro-rated refund or credit in this instance may be appropriate or even necessary.
- Please note that if a child is temporarily withdrawn prior to the 1st of the month, the facility cannot charge the family fees for that month. If a family has already paid fees for that month, the facility is required to provide the family with either a full (100%) refund for that month or an equivalent credit towards future fee payments.

In each of the above cases, the facility must not charge the family any fee for the following month if the child(ren) remains withdrawn. If a child ages out of the applicable care category while the facility is participating in TEF, or is otherwise not returning to the facility, the Ministry expects that a refund, rather than a credit, be provided to impacted families.

Additionally, the facility must allow the family to return to the space, if they still require it when the facility is no longer participating in TEF subject to the facility's capacity to provide safe care to the child following public health guidance from the PHO and subject to the child remaining in the applicable age care category. Note that the facility may temporarily fill a vacant space and charge a fee to the family accessing the space temporarily while participating in TEF. For facilities receiving CCFRI funding, any such fees must be in line with fees that were previously approved by the Ministry.

If a family that has withdrawn a child(ren) due to COVID-19 seeks to return its child(ren) to their original space while the facility is participating in TEF, the facility is encouraged to make every reasonable effort to accommodate the family. However, the facility is not required to ensure that space is available to the original family until the facility is no longer participating in TEF,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> If a fee has been pre-paid by the family, the facility must offer a refund, or a future credit. See Temporary Withdrawal Policy for details.

unless the parent who temporarily withdrew is an essential service worker. For families that are not essential service workers, facilities are encouraged to communicate to families who temporarily withdraw due to COVID-19 the potential of not being able to re-access a space while the facility is participating in TEF.

#### b. Revoking Care to Accommodate Essential Service Workers

Facilities accommodating an essential service worker's child may charge a pro-rated or drop-in space fee once the child begins receiving care for the remainder of that month, depending on how frequently care is required. The TEF for open facilities is intended to account for revenue shortfalls resulting from revoking care to accommodate an essential service worker.

If a provider is required to temporarily revoke care from an existing family to provide care to an essential service worker's child, the provider may only charge fees up to the date that the existing family's care was revoked. The facility must not charge the existing family any fees for the remainder of the time the care is revoked. If the space is no longer required by the essential service worker, the facility must invite the original family to access the space again. However, if the original family does not wish to access the space again while the facility is participating in TEF, the family will be considered to have temporarily withdrawn their child as of the date that care was originally revoked, and the facility will not be permitted to charge the family fees for subsequent months while the child is temporarily withdrawn.

**Example:** an enrolled child of a parent who is not an essential service worker was scheduled to receive care for 20 days this month. The child has already received care for three days this month, but the space is required by an essential service worker for the fourth day of the month and onward. The provider must provide either a refund or an equivalent credit towards future fee payments for the remaining 17 days in the month. The facility may then charge the essential service worker fees for the remainder of the month and apply any CCFRI fee reductions to that fee if the facility is in receipt of CCFRI for that care type.

#### c. Temporary Closure of the Child Care Facility

If the child care provider temporarily closes the facility due to COVID-19 and wants to receive the TEF for the period of closure, the facility must not charge any fees to families for the duration of the closure.

Additionally, a temporarily closed facility may not charge any families that are in receipt of the Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) at the time that the facility closes the portion of their fee that would have been covered by the ACCB were the facility open and the child accessing care.

Subject to the statement immediately below, if a facility has already charged fees to families for the month that it temporarily closes due to COVID-19, the following **Temporary Withdrawal Policy** applies:

• If the facility closes on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, the facility is required to provide the family with either a partial refund which must be at least 50% of their regular monthly

fee or, if viable and acceptable to families, an equivalent credit towards future fee payments. The Ministry expects any such refund or credit to be provided to families within 30 days, subject to any alternative arrangements that providers may have made with impacted families.

- If the facility closes after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, the Ministry does not expressly require the facility to provide the family with a refund or an equivalent credit for that month. However, depending on the specific care arrangement in place between facilities and impacted families, a pro-rated refund or credit in this instance may be appropriate or even necessary.
- Please note that if the facility temporarily closes prior to the 1st of the month (e.g. prior to April 1, 2020), the facility cannot charge any affected families fees for that month. If a family has already paid fees for that month (e.g. April 2020), the facility is required to provide the family with either a full (100%) refund for that month or an equivalent credit towards future fee payments.

If a child ages out of the applicable care category while the facility is no longer participating in TEF, or is otherwise not returning to the facility, the Ministry expects that a refund, rather than a credit, be provided to impacted families.

In both of the above scenarios, if a facility is in receipt of TEF for open facilities, but the facility then temporarily closes (and notifies the Ministry and impacted families), the facility will begin receiving TEF for closed facilities (2 x CCOF Base Funding) as of the  $1^{st}$  day of the following month.

A facility in receipt of the open facility TEF rate that closes during the month due to COVID-19 will not be required to repay the higher TEF rate for the month in which the facility closes. A facility in receipt of the closed facility TEF rate that opens before or on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month will be eligible for the entire month at the higher TEF rate. A facility that opens after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month will receive the open facility TEF rate for half of the month.

d. Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) Eligibility During Temporary Vacancies versus Temporary Closures

Under the Child Care Subsidy Regulation, ACCB is available to eligible families so long as they are:

- Receiving care by an eligible care provider; and
- Paying a child care fee to access that care.

Families who have previously applied or established eligibility for ACCB may continue to receive their ACCB for as long as either the public health emergency or the provincial emergency is in effect in the following circumstances:

- a. If the child is temporarily absent from child care due to COVID-19 on or after March 17, 2020; and/or
- b. If the child's parent becomes ineligible because they no longer have a valid reason for care (e.g. due to job lay-off, inability to continue studies or search for employment) as a result of COVID-19 on or after March 17, 2020.

The amount of ACCB provided under these two COVID-19-related circumstances would be calculated based upon the number of days of child care the child had been receiving before the circumstance arose. In addition, ACCB would only be available under the two above circumstances if the family's child care provider remains operational during the pandemic and is charging the family a fee to hold their space. For more information on ACCB, please visit the Ministry website.

Families who have experienced a change in household income, (e.g. due to temporary lay-off), may submit an Income Declaration Form to have their ACCB re-assessed based on their current household income.

If a child(ren) is temporarily withdrawn due to general concerns related to COVID-19, and their provider is in receipt of TEF, the provider will not be allowed to charge this family a fee while the child is temporarily withdrawn and may be required under the Temporary Withdrawal Policy (outlined in Section 5) to issue the family a refund or future credit for any fees paid . However, if the space is filled temporarily during this time, the facility may charge a fee to the new family using the space.

If the facility closes and no child care is available to families, ACCB will not be available. The facility may not charge any families that are in receipt of ACCB at the time that the facility closes the portion of their fee that would have been covered by the ACCB were the facility open and the child accessing care.

## 6. Calculation of TEF Amounts for Temporarily Closed and Open Facilities

TEF will be provided on a monthly basis, beginning on the date the facility is approved and no earlier than April 1, 2020, and will be calculated by the Ministry for each eligible facility that agrees to and abides by the TEF terms and conditions set out in the Modification Agreement. **TEF will cease to be provided after August 31, 2020 for all facilities**. Effective September 1, 2020, TEF will be discontinued, and all eligible facilities will revert to their regular 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreements.

For the purposes of existing facilities, averages are calculated based on the facility's CCOF Base Funding monthly payments over 6 months. If the facility has 3 or fewer months of CCOF Base Funding, the Ministry will estimate the facility's average CCOF based on the facility's space capacity.

#### a. Open Facilities:

- Existing Facility: Facility's Average Monthly CCOF Base Funding x 7 = Facility's TEF Monthly Funding
- **New Facility:** Average CCOF Base Funding per Space per Care Type x 7 = Facility's TEF Monthly Funding

#### b. Temporarily Closed Facilities

- Existing Facility: Facility's Average Monthly CCOF Base Funding x 2 = Facility's TEF Monthly Funding
- **New Facility:** Average CCOF Base Funding per Space per Care Type x 2 = Facility's TEF Monthly Funding.

For open facilities receiving TEF, the Ministry's reporting requirements under the CCOF Funding Agreement will be temporarily changed. As part of these modified reporting requirements, the Ministry will require open facilities to confirm the number of children attending child care at the facility for each month.

### 7. CCOF Base Funding

Facilities that opt-in to the TEF will have their CCOF Base Funding payments that are normally paid under the CCOF Funding Agreement suspended and replaced with TEF payments.

#### 8. Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI)

CCFRI funding remains available to eligible, open facilities that opt to receive TEF, for the purpose of reducing fees for families who are accessing child care at the facility. This includes the Parent Fee Reduction Payment and the Administrative Top-up Payment, as defined in the CCOF Funding Agreement. The Administrative Top-Up Funding will be calculated based on what would otherwise be a facility's standard CCOF Base Funding Payment rates and not the rates provided under the TEF.

If an open facility opts-in to receive TEF, both the Parent Fee Reduction Payment and the Administrative Top-up Payment will be based on the facility's reported enrolled and drop-in space children. For clarity, this does not include enrolled children who have been temporarily withdrawn due to COVID-19 before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. If an enrolled child is withdrawn on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, the facility must report their enrollment for the first half of the month. If an enrolled child is withdrawn after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, the facility must report their enrollment for the entire month.

If care for an enrolled child is revoked to accommodate an essential service worker, the facility must report the enrolment of the family whose care was revoked only up to the last day they accessed care and must report the actual days of enrolment for the family of the essential service worker.

CCFRI funding is NOT available if a facility is temporarily closed for the entire month and receiving TEF. As a condition of receiving TEF, temporarily closed facilities are not permitted to charge child care fees to families while the facility is closed and may be required under the **Temporary**Withdrawal Policy to issue the family a refund or future credit for any fees paid during the month of closure (see section 5c).

If the facility closes on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, facilities must report enrolled and drop-in space children for the first half of the month. If the facility closes after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, facilities must report their enrolled and drop-in space children for the entire month.

For more information on the CCFRI, please refer to the CCFRI 2020/21 Funding Guidelines.

### 9. Early Childhood Educator Wage Enhancement (ECE-WE)

ECE-WE remains available to eligible, **open** facilities that opt to receive TEF. Please refer to the <a href="ECE-WE 2020/21 Funding Guidelines">ECE-WE funding is not</a> available if a facility is closed, as the facility will not have eligible ECE hours worked to report for the period of closure. Child care providers have sole discretion regarding staffing decisions, such as lay-offs, recall, or seniority, subject to licensing requirements. Depending on the individual circumstances of the facility, child care providers will need to make decisions regarding the appropriate level of staffing required to meet demand. This may include temporarily hiring additional staff, or temporarily laying off some or all staff due to reduced demand and/or revenue, or due to the provider's decision to close the facility.

ECE Employees of facilities that choose to remain open and employ ECE Employees during the time in which TEF funding is received, and who meet the requirements as laid out in the ECE-WE 2020/21 Funding Guidelines are still eligible for the ECE-WE. As facility enrollment may not meet normal levels, ECEs who would meet the definition of a Front-Line ECE in the ECE-WE 2020/21 Funding Guidelines if the child care facility was operating at full enrolment will still be eligible for the ECE-WE during the period that the child care facility is receiving TEF funding. For clarity, this is a temporary change, that applies until August 31, 2020. Effective September 1, 2020, the provisions of the facility's 20/21 Funding Agreement will apply and ECEs must meet the definition of a Front-Line ECE in the ECE-WE 2020/21 Funding Guidelines in order to be eligible to receive ECE-WE.

Facilities must continue to adhere to the prescribed staffing requirements in the *Community Care* and Assisted Living Act and the Child Care Licensing Regulation. Staffing exemptions (e.g. due to lack of available staff/educators), requests to change group size/composition, or licence type/capacity, etc. should be discussed with the local Health Authority.

## 10. Notification of Licence Changes

To better support community need during the COVID-19 pandemic, a facility may wish to change/modify their *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* facility licence. Facilities must continue to work with their local Health Authority Licensing Officer to confirm whether a licence change is necessary or permitted.

If a facility licence change is approved by the facility's Licensing Officer, the facility must notify MCFD of this change within 2 business days, as outlined in the facility's 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreement. To streamline the licence change notification process, providers will be able to submit new or updated licences on the same form they use to sign up for TEF, provided the change is minor and directly related to COVID-19. Program staff will work with providers on a case-by-case basis.

It is important to report licence changes in a timely manner as these may impact the facility's funding level, including under ACCB.

#### 11. Duration of TEF

For facilities that opt-in to receive TEF, including both open facilities and temporarily closed facilities, the arrangements outlined in these guidelines, as applicable, will remain in place until August 31, 2020. The Modification Agreement for TEF is being updated as of July 1, 2020. In order for facilities already participating in TEF to be able to continue to receive TEF payments through to August 31, 2020, they must accept the updated Modification Agreement for TEF. Facilities that do not accept the updated Modification Agreement terms as required will revert to their regular 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreement effective July 1, 2020. Effective September 1, 2020, TEF will be discontinued, and all eligible facilities will revert to their regular 2020/21 CCOF Funding Agreements.

The TEF is in an interim measure during the COVID-19 pandemic, subject to notice of change or cancellation (as described in the Modification Agreement for TEF).