

Toronto's Early Learning and Child Care System has a variety of programs to meet the diverse needs of families with children from newborn to 12 years.

System Transformation: Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement

- The Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system was initiated in March 2022 and funded by the Government of Canada with a five-year plan to reduce the cost of child care for children under the age of six to an average of \$10 per day by 2026 in licensed child care.
- In 2024, CWELCC participating programs continued to reduce their child care fees from March 2022 by 52.75% to a minimum of \$12 per day.
- The average daily fee information will no longer be included in the fact sheets due to the implementation of a new funding model aimed at standardizing public child care fees.

Licensed Child Care Centres (1,059 centres have a capacity to serve 80,698 full-time children)

Type of operator	Fee subsidy contract	Total Number of centres	Infant spaces	Toddler spaces	Preschool spaces	Before / After Kindergarten spaces	School Age	Total spaces
City	Yes	39	362	555	864	0	0	1,781
Non-profit	Yes	601	2,094	5,284	11,560	13,279	20,295	52,512
Non-profit	No	96	135	1,114	2,741	544	509	5,043
Commercial	Yes	75	464	1,209	2,496	502	1,357	6,028
Commercial	No	248	1,126	4,310	8,214	931	753	15,334
Total	N/A	1,059	4,181	12,472	25,875	15,256	22,914	80,698

CWELCC Participating Centres

Type of operator	Fee subsidy contract	Number of centres that opted into CWELCC	Infant spaces	Toddler spaces	Preschool spaces	Before / After Kindergarten spaces	School Age	Total spaces
City	Yes	39 (100%)	362	555	864	0	0	1,781
Non-profit	Yes	594 (99%)	2,091	5,279	11,555	13,071	0	31,996
Non-profit	No	60 (63%)	125	844	1,933	483	0	3,385
Commercial	Yes	69 (92%)	444	1,074	2,256	458	0	4,232
Commercial	No	164 (66%)	996	3,357	5,395	458	0	10,206
Total	N/A	926 (87%)	4,018	11,109	22,003	14,470	0	51,600

Licensed Home Child Care Agencies

- 24 licensed agencies operate in Toronto, 1 is City-operated; 22 of which are enrolled into CWELCC.
- 10 agencies have a City of Toronto Fee Subsidy Agreement, including City operated.

Before & After School Programs for Kindergarten and School-Age Children

- 558 licensed child care centres operate before & after school programs.
- 23 schools offer an Extended Day Program (EDP) operated by a school board and have a fee subsidy agreement.

Child Care Fee Subsidy helps eligible families with all or part of the cost of licensed child care

- Based on current funding levels, 30,700 Child Care Fee Subsidies are available for eligible families.
- Currently, there are 18,434 children on the waiting list for a Child Care Fee Subsidy.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

There are 52 organizations that have a City of Toronto Service Agreement to offer free programs for families with children (six years and younger). In total, they operate 255 locations across the city.

Every Child Belongs

The City provides funding to 18 organizations to provide Every Child Belongs services in licensed child care and EarlyON Child and Family Centres for children with extra support needs and their families.