

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.
- As of January 1, 2025, fees at CWELCC participating programs were capped at \$22 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 (1,068 centres have a capacity to serve 82,340 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	346	550	920	0	0	1,816
Non-profit	Yes	607	2,142	5,455	11,811	13,496	20,976	53,880
Non-profit	No	97	161	1,126	2,844	671	520	5,322
Commercial	Yes	70	444	1,059	2,280	518	1,264	5,565
Commercial	No	255	1,096	4,386	8,520	960	795	15,757
Total		1,068	4,189	12,576	26,375	15,645	23,555	82,340

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%)	346	550	920	0	0	1816
Non-profit	Yes	600 (99%)	2,142	5,455	11,811	13,470	0	32,878
Non-profit	No	60 (61%)	135	928	2,179	522	0	3,764
Commercial	Yes	68 (93%)	444	1,059	2,280	518	0	4,301
Commercial	No	164 (65%)	936	3,289	5,532	449	0	10,206
Total		931 (87%)	4,003	11,281	22,722	14,959	0	52,965

Licensed Home Child Care Agencies

- 25 licensed agencies operate in Toronto one (1) of which is City operated; 22 agencies are enrolled into CWELCC.
- 9 agencies have a City of Toronto Fee Subsidy Agreement, including the City operated agency.

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

- 559 licensed child care centres operate before & after school programs.
- 24 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.
- As of June 30, 2025, there are 16,592 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.