

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 (1,078 centres have a capacity to serve 85,054 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	570	952	0	0	1,884
Non-profit	Yes	613	2,184	5,570	12,031	14,090	21,826	55,701
Non-profit	No	97	182	1,161	2,964	726	648	5,681
Commercial	Yes	71	454	1,089	2,288	518	1,288	5,637
Commercial	No	258	1,125	4,464	8,715	1,002	845	16,151
Total		1,078	4,307	12,854	26,950	16,336	24,607	85,054

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	570	952	0	0	1,884
Non-profit	Yes	604 (99%)	2,184	5,570	12,031	14,090	0	33,875
Non-profit	No	65 (67%)	156	968	2,290	574	0	3,988
Commercial	Yes	71 (100%)	454	1,089	2,288	518	0	4,349
Commercial	No	168 (65%)	946	3,242	5,517	423	0	10,128
Total		974 (88%)	4,102	11,439	23,078	15,605	0	54,224

Licensed Home Child Care Agencies

- 26 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

- 565 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.
- As of December 31, 2025, there are 16,367 children on the waiting list for a Child Care Fee Subsidy.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

There are 50 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 232 locations across the city.

Every Child Belongs

The City provides funding to 18 agencies 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.