

# Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative Funding Guidelines 2024-25

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Ministry of  
Education and  
Child Care

ChildCareBC

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The Ministry of Education and Child Care acknowledges the territories of First Nations around B.C. and is grateful to carry out our work on these lands.

As the ministry is committed to reconciliation, we acknowledge the rights, interests, priorities, and concerns of all Indigenous Peoples – First Nations, Métis, and Inuit – respecting and acknowledging their distinct cultures, histories, and rights. We are committed to building child care as a core service where all First Nations, Métis and Inuit children have access to culturally safe care.

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## 1. Introduction

Through the [Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative](#) (CCFRI), the governments of British Columbia and Canada are partnering with child care providers to reduce fees for families.

**To be eligible**, a facility needs to receive [Child Care Operating Funding](#) (CCOF Base Funding).

**To be approved**, a facility's fees and closures must align with the policies in these Funding Guidelines. As the purpose of the CCFRI is to make child care more affordable, these policies are intended to ensure that parents see the greatest possible benefit of reduced fees. The ministry may revise these policies from time to time.

To help offset the costs associated with participating in the CCFRI, such as agreeing to limit fees upon joining the program and limiting fee increases while participating in the program, child care providers receive CCFRI Provider Payments, which can be put toward operating costs. The Provider Payment is in addition to CCOF Base Funding, CCFRI fee reductions for families, and the Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Wage Enhancement.

Child care providers who participate in the Child Care Operating Funding, Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative and ECE Wage Enhancement programs may receive up to the following funding amounts in 2024-25, based on a 20-day month:

Program	Funding Amount	Purpose
CCOF Base Funding	Up to \$240 per month per child	Operational costs
CCFRI Provider Payment	Up to \$96 per month per child	Operational costs
CCFRI Parent Fee Reduction	Up to \$900 per month per child	Reduce fees for families
Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Wage Enhancement	Up to \$6 per hour for eligible ECEs	Increase ECE wages
	OR	
	\$960 per month for each eligible ECE, based on eight hours each day	

Child care providers must apply each year to participate in the CCFRI. Providers approved for the CCFRI have specific obligations under their Funding Agreement with the ministry, including a requirement to notify families in writing that the facility is participating in the CCFRI, the amount of fee reduction for their child and any approved Fee Increase.

For information about the CCFRI, please call the CCOF program Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 1-888-338-6622 (option 2) or visit the program [web page](#).

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## 2. What's New for 2024-25

- As of **April 1, 2024**, the regions used to determine fee increase limits and affordability benchmarks will change from the former Ministry of Children and Family Development Service Delivery Areas to the Ministry of Education and Child Care's education-based regions. This change will help the CCFRI remain regionally responsive and help further integrate early learning and child care into the Ministry of Education of Child Care.
  - Providers can confirm their region by referring to [Appendix A](#), by viewing the regional map [online](#), or by entering their Facility's postal code in the Ministry's online [lookup tool](#).
  - To support providers who are significantly impacted by this change, the ministry will consider limited exceptions to the policies in these guidelines (see [Section 4](#) and [Section 6](#)).
- Starting **April 1, 2024**, Providers receiving CCOF Base Funding may no longer charge Waitlist Fees. This change will ensure that Waitlist Fees are not a financial barrier for families seeking equitable access to licensed child care in B.C.
- As of **April 1, 2024**, Providers may be eligible to receive CCOF Base Funding if required to temporarily close for emergency health and safety reasons that are outside their control. Providers are required to report emergency closures to the ministry. Further details are available [online](#).
- Daily Fee Increase Limits and Affordability Benchmarks have been added to [Appendix B](#) and [Appendix C](#) to assist Providers who report daily fees.

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### 3. Parent Fee Reduction Amounts

Providers in the CCFRI receive funding to reduce Parent Fees by **up to** the following amounts:

**Table 1. Maximum Monthly Parent Fee Reduction Amounts for Full-time Enrolment**

Care Category	Group Child Care	Family/In-Home Child Care
Infant (0-18 months)	\$900	\$600
Toddler (18-36 months)	\$900	\$600
3 Years to Kindergarten	\$545	\$500
Kindergarten	\$320	\$320
Grade 1 to Age 12 <sup>1</sup>	\$115	\$145
Preschool	\$95	N/A

Full-time fees will not be reduced below \$10/day (up to \$200/month); part-time fees receive [pro-rated reduction](#) amounts. Limited exceptions to the monthly minimum Parent Fee may be approved at the ministry's discretion.

### 4. Parent Fee Assessment: Established Facilities

Established Facilities include any Facility approved for the CCFRI for the 2023-24 funding term. Facilities not approved to participate in the CCFRI (including after temporary approval) or whose 2023-24 Funding Agreement was terminated (except due to extended closure) are not considered established Facilities.

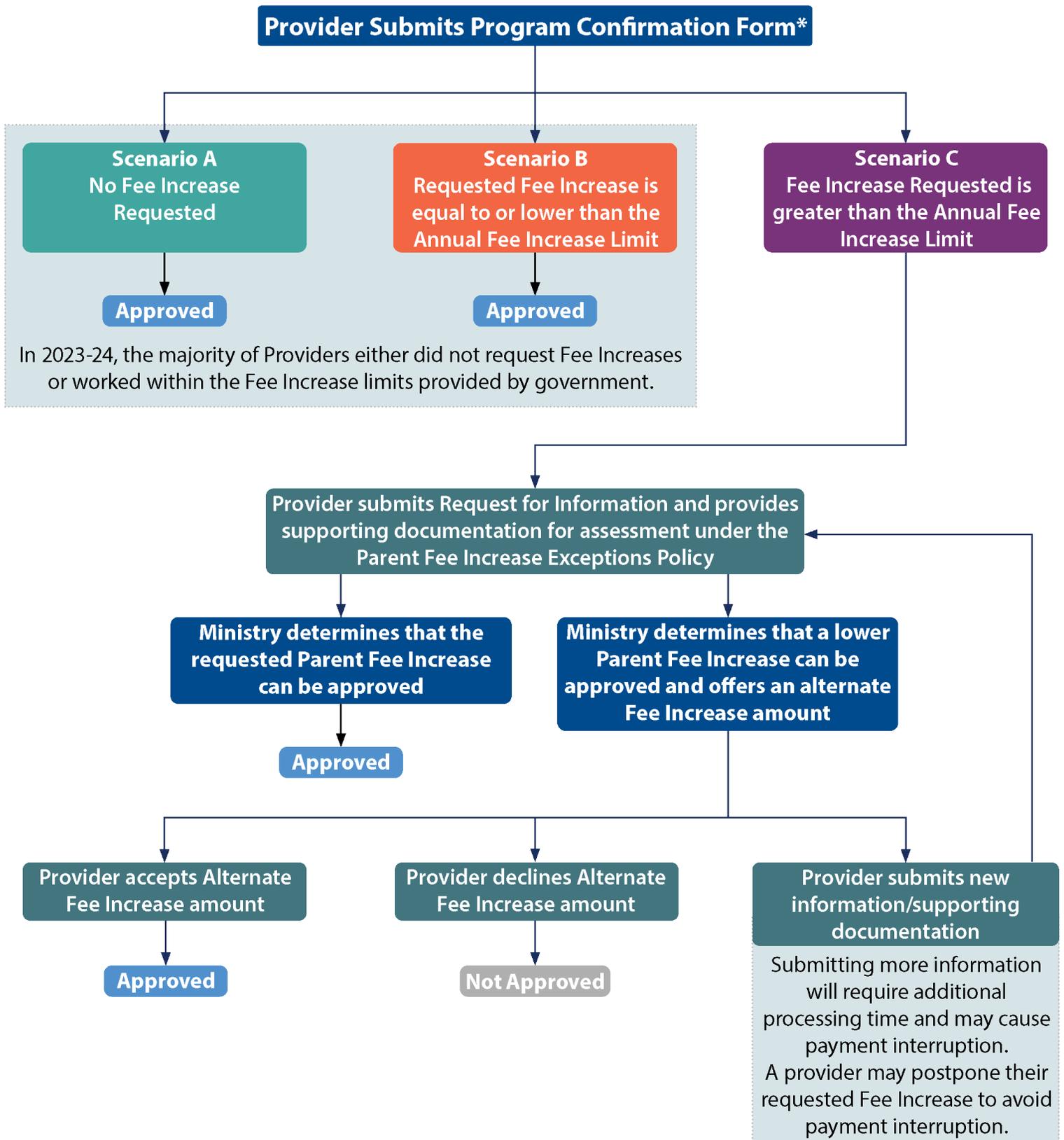
The ministry will assess the planned Parent Fees for April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025, based on which scenario (A through C below) best applies.

**Note:** Any increase to existing, or introduction of new mandatory fees is considered a Parent Fee Increase and must be reported on the CCFRI application ([Program Confirmation Form](#)) for ministry review under these guidelines. The introduction of added fees for hours or services previously included in the Parent Fee is also considered a Parent Fee Increase.

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<sup>1</sup> Children over age 12 who are enrolled at a participating child care Facility (e.g., with an exemption granted by a Licensing Officer) are also eligible and included in the "Grade 1 to Age 12" category.

# Parent Fee Assessment Overview: Established Facilities



\*Approvals are subject to all other criteria being met

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### Scenario A: No Parent Fee Increase Requested

Established facilities that have no planned Fee Increase for April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 will be approved to enrol in the CCFRI and receive an automatic approval notification within a few business days, subject to all other criteria being met.

### Scenario B: Requested Parent Fee Increase is At or Below the Annual Fee Increase Limit

Established facilities that have a planned Fee Increase for April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025 that is at or below the 2024-25 Annual Fee Increase Limit for the Facility's region (tables 2 and 3) will be approved to enrol in the CCFRI and receive an automatic approval notification within a few business days, subject to all other criteria being met.

For 2024-25, the Annual Fee Increase Limit is based on 3% of the regional median fee. A list of regions can be found in [Appendix A](#). Regional median fees can be found in [Appendix D](#). Limits on Fee Increases are updated annually based on information collected from Providers. For the 2023-24 term, the vast majority of Providers were approved with a Fee Increase at or below the Annual Fee Increase Limit, or with no Fee Increase at all.

The ministry has identified a small number of child care Facilities where Annual Fee Increase Limits will be significantly less (i.e., over \$10 per month) than in 2023-24 as a result of the transition to education-based regions. To help ease this transition for 2024-25, the ministry will apply discretion when assessing Fee Increases requested by these Providers to minimize the impacts of the change.

Annual Fee Increase Limits are provided as daily amounts in tables 9 and 10 in [Appendix B](#).

**Table 2. Annual Fee Increase Limits for Group Child Care (Per Month)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Fraser Valley	\$43	\$42	\$30	\$16	\$17	\$12
Kootenay-Boundary	\$36	\$35	\$29	\$14	\$14	\$13
Metro	\$49	\$48	\$35	\$16	\$16	\$15
Northern	\$35	\$33	\$27	\$14	\$14	\$9
Thompson-Okanagan	\$40	\$39	\$29	\$14	\$14	\$13
Vancouver Island	\$45	\$44	\$30	\$14	\$14	\$14

**Table 3. Annual Fee Increase Limits for Family Child Care (Per Month)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12
Fraser Valley	\$30	\$30	\$27	\$18	\$18
Kootenay-Boundary	\$28	\$30	\$27	\$15	\$15
Metro	\$36	\$35	\$30	\$17	\$17
Northern	\$27	\$27	\$26	\$15	\$15
Thompson-Okanagan	\$28	\$28	\$26	\$15	\$15
Vancouver Island	\$29	\$29	\$28	\$15	\$15

### **Scenario C: Exceptional Parent Fee Increase Requested**

An exceptional Fee Increase is any increase that exceeds the 3% Fee Increase Limit. Established Facilities that have a planned Fee Increase for April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 that is more than the 2024-25 Annual Fee Increase Limit for the Facility's region will need to submit more information/documentation to be assessed under the Parent Fee Increase Exceptions Policy ([Section 5](#)). Subject to all other criteria being met, the Provider may receive temporary approval up to the month that the Fee Increase takes effect, unless the Fee Increase is for April 2024.

If the ministry determines the requested Fee Increase meets the criteria set out in these guidelines, the Facility will be approved to enrol in the CCFRI, subject to all other criteria being met.

If the ministry rejects the requested Fee Increase but determines that a lower Fee Increase amount would meet the criteria set out in these guidelines and would be approved by the ministry, the Facility will be offered an alternate fee schedule. If the Provider accepts the alternate fee schedule, the Facility will be approved to enrol in the CCFRI, subject to all other criteria being met. If the Provider declines the alternate fee schedule, the Facility will not be approved for the CCFRI. Alternatively, a Provider may submit additional information to support their request, and the Facility's circumstances will be reassessed. This will require additional processing time and may cause payment interruption. To avoid payment interruption while the ministry completes its assessment, providers who receive temporary approval may postpone their requested Fee Increase and receive continuous funding up to the month of the requested Fee Increase.

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## 5. Parent Fee Increase Exceptions Policy

The ministry understands that there may be reasons Providers need to increase fees by more than the Annual Fee Increase Limit. Exceptional Fee Increases are considered on a case-by-case basis. In the 2023-24 term, only a minority of Providers applied for or were approved under the Parent Fee Increase exceptions policies.

To be approved for an exceptional Parent Fee Increase<sup>2</sup>:

- At least one eligible exception must apply (Table 4);
- The Provider must submit evidence of the relevant expenses (e.g., receipts, quotes, financial statements);
- The Provider must have exhausted all other ChildCareBC funding available for the expense (e.g., BC Maintenance Funding);
- The Fee Increase must be proportional to the related expense, amortized over at least 12 months; and
- The Fee Increase must be within the Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amount<sup>3</sup> (Tables 5 and 6).

The ministry will not consider an exceptional Parent Fee Increase requested for:

- Regular increases or temporary fluctuations in operating costs (e.g., rent, vehicle fuel, food);
- Expenses occurring from an individual not at arm's length from the Provider (e.g., a family member raises the rent beyond a reasonable amount);
- Expenses occurring due to an expansion in the number/type of licensed spaces;
- Program materials (e.g., consumable art/office supplies, toys/indoor play equipment, books);
- Facility costs such as small appliances/housewares, office equipment, textiles, security systems, gardening supplies, and electronics; and
- Lost revenue related to the removal of Waitlist Fees.

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<sup>2</sup> The ministry will assess the reason(s) for any Parent Fee Increase request on a case-by-case basis. The ministry has sole discretion to determine whether a Parent Fee Increase will be approved and in what amount.

<sup>3</sup> These maximums do not apply to Fee Increases to support affordable child care for underserved populations. Additionally, in rare, extraordinary circumstances, the ministry may, at its sole discretion, approve a necessary Fee Increase over these maximums.

**Table 4. Eligible Parent Fee Increase Exceptions**

1. Exceptional Circumstances
<p>This exception applies to sudden and unexpected expenses that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Are outside of the Organization’s control and/or outside of the scope of regular cost increases;</li><li>2) Address an immediate health or safety concern or are needed for the Facility to operate; and</li><li>3) Occur within six months of the requested Fee Increase.</li></ol> <p><b>Eligible Expenses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Items named on the <a href="#">eligible expenses list for BC Maintenance Fund</a> (if any portion is not funded)</li><li>• Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washing machine and dryer</li><li>• Replacement of damaged outdoor play equipment</li><li>• Free-standing or window-mounted air conditioners</li><li>• Vehicles used for routinely transporting children</li><li>• Exceptional increases to ongoing expenses (e.g., rent, lease/mortgage, utilities) imposed by an arm’s length 3<sup>rd</sup> party</li><li>• Expenses related to staying open/re-opening after an unusual incident (e.g., exposure to serious infectious illness requiring enhanced cleaning protocols, floods, fires, earthquakes and other natural disasters)</li></ul> <p>Additionally, for 2024-25, if a Facility’s fees were limited in 2023-24 due to being considered new, new-to-CCFRI or modified, and the Provider cannot cover necessary ongoing expenses, a Fee Increase may be approved up to the 2024-25 Affordability Benchmark or 10% of the regional median fee, whichever is less.</p>

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## 2. Direct Care Staff Wage Increases

This exception applies to wage increases for staff who spend at least 50% of their working time providing Direct Care, if the wage increase is needed because:

- a) The wage increase is part of a collective bargaining agreement at the Facility; or
- b) The Facility has been unable to hire and/or retain Direct Care staff, creating challenges in maintaining staff-to-child ratios required under the Facility licence. In this scenario, the ministry will consider the Facility's current wages, the amount of the wage increase and how the Facility's fees compare to the region.

The ministry will assess the strength of the business case based on the documents provided (e.g., expiring non-renewable staffing exemptions, unfilled spaces or unplanned closures due to insufficient staffing levels, multiple unfilled staff position postings). If the wage increase is for ECEs eligible for the [ECE Wage Enhancement](#) (ECE-WE), the Provider must also apply for the ECE-WE to be considered under this exception. The ministry may also consider expenses resulting from the wage increase (e.g., statutory benefits).

## 3. Priority Service Expansion

This exception includes expenses related to the following service expansions:

- a) Expanding or extending the hours of child care service available for all Enrolled Children; or
- b) Increasing connection to Indigenous community, culture or language for all Enrolled Children in a Facility owned, managed, or governed by at least 51% Indigenous people (e.g., a First Nations government, a Friendship Centre, a Métis organization). Related expenses may include:
  - Participation of an Elder, culture/language teacher and/or family members in the child care program;
  - Children's participation in community, language and/or cultural events or activities; and
  - Language or culture resources for use in the child care program.

## 4. Affordable Child Care for Underserved Populations

Fee increases may be considered under this exception if:

- The Facility has historically provided care to underserved populations—including Indigenous or low-income families—at significantly below the regional median fees for their area or at no fee;
- The Fee Increase will contribute to the operational sustainability of the Organization; and
- The Fee Increase will not greatly increase the out-of-pocket cost of care for families.

For 2024-25, the Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amounts are based on 10% of the regional median fee. Limits on Fee Increases are updated annually based on information collected from Providers. A list of the regions can be found in [Appendix A](#). Regional median fees can be found in [Appendix D](#).

Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amounts per month are provided in tables 5 and 6 below. Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amounts per day are provided in tables 11 and 12 in [Appendix B](#).

**Table 5. Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amounts for Group Child Care (Per Month)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Fraser Valley	\$143	\$141	\$100	\$55	\$56	\$42
Kootenay-Boundary	\$120	\$117	\$95	\$48	\$45	\$42
Metro	\$163	\$160	\$115	\$53	\$53	\$49
Northern	\$115	\$110	\$90	\$48	\$48	\$31
Thompson-Okanagan	\$134	\$130	\$95	\$48	\$45	\$43
Vancouver Island	\$150	\$146	\$100	\$45	\$45	\$45

**Table 6. Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amounts for Family Child Care (Per Month)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12
Fraser Valley	\$100	\$99	\$90	\$60	\$60
Kootenay-Boundary	\$95	\$100	\$90	\$50	\$50
Metro	\$120	\$117	\$99	\$57	\$57
Northern	\$90	\$90	\$88	\$50	\$50
Thompson-Okanagan	\$94	\$94	\$88	\$50	\$50
Vancouver Island	\$98	\$98	\$93	\$50	\$50

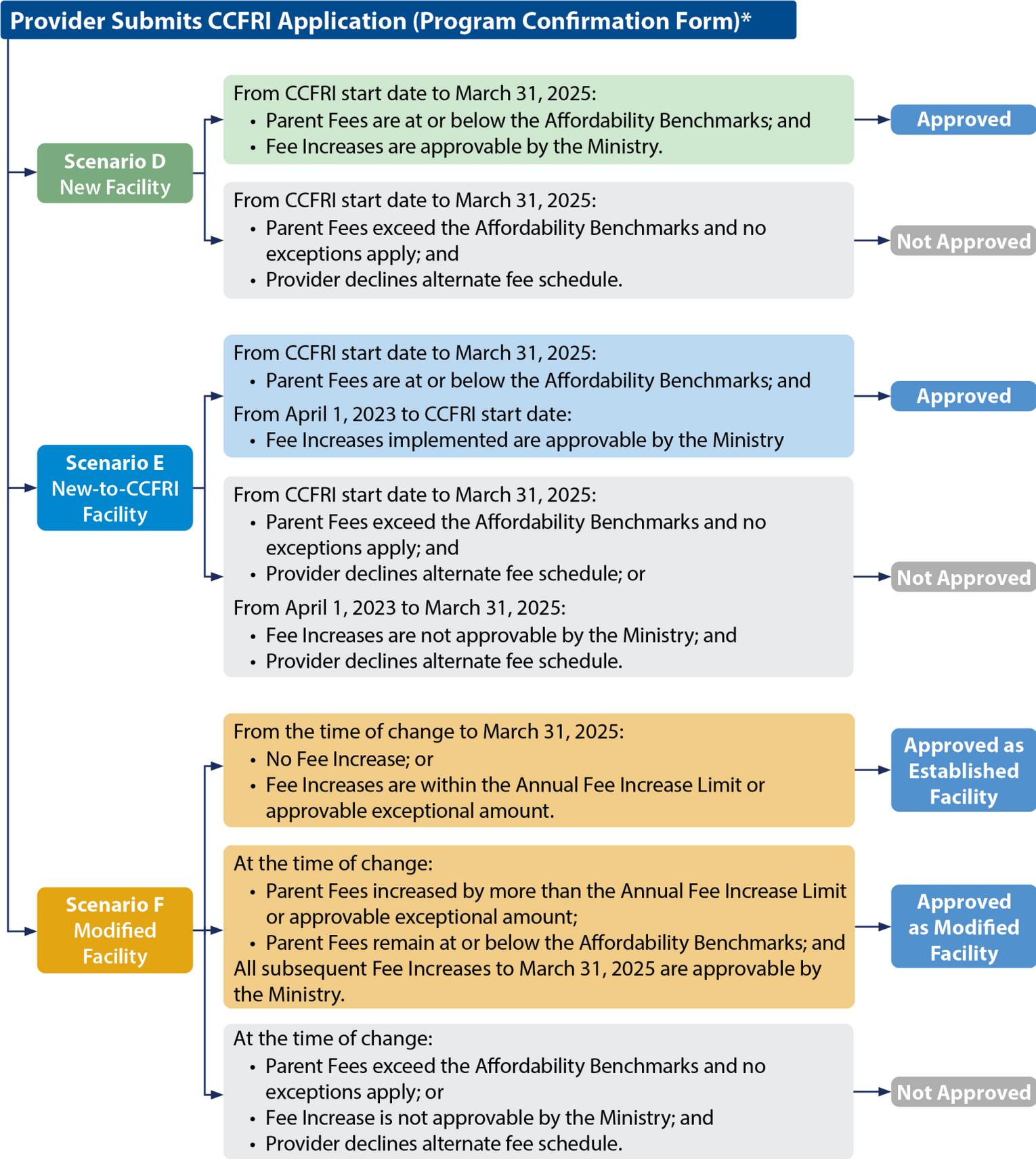
## 6. Parent Fee Assessment: New, New-to-CCFRI and Modified Facilities

The ministry will assess a new, new-to-CCFRI, or modified Facility's fees based on which scenario, D through F (below), best applies.

**Note:** New, new-to-CCFRI and modified Facilities may not charge recurring Administrative Fees over-and-above the Parent Fee and must declare all recurring mandatory charges as part of the Parent Fee on the CCFRI application ([Program Confirmation Form](#)). This requirement does not apply to:

- Administrative Fees charged on an occasional basis (e.g., annual, one-time);
- Organizationally aligned Administrative Fees at a new Facility added to an existing Organization; or
- Modified Facilities charging the same Administrative Fee as immediately before their change of location, licensee, or CCOF eligibility.

# Parent Fee Assessment Overview: New, New-to-CCFRI and Modified Facilities



\*Approvals are subject to all other criteria being met

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## Scenario D: New Facility

New Facilities include any Facility with a licence start date on or after April 1, 2024, that joins the CCFRI in their first month of operation. To be approved to enrol in the CCFRI, a new Facility must:

- Set Parent Fees at or below the Affordability Benchmarks (tables 7 and 8) from the time CCFRI participation begins to March 31, 2025; and
- Be approved by the ministry for any Fee Increases implemented from the time CCFRI participation begins to March 31, 2025.

## Scenario E: New-to-CCFRI Facility

New-to-CCFRI facilities include any Facility with a licence start date before April 1, 2024, that has not participated in the CCFRI for either 2023-24 or 2024-25, and Facilities licensed on or after April 1, 2024 that join the CCFRI after their first month of operation. To be approved to enrol in the CCFRI, a new-to-CCFRI Facility must:

- Be approved by the ministry for any Fee Increases implemented between April 1, 2023 (or first month of operation, if later) and March 31, 2025; and
- Set parent fees at or below the Affordability Benchmarks (tables 7 and 8) from the time CCFRI participation begins to March 31, 2025.

## Scenario F: Modified Facility

Modified Facilities include any Facility that:

- Was continuously enrolled in the CCFRI from 2023-24;
- Changed location, licensee, or eligibility for Group or Family rates in 2024-25; and
- Increased Parent Fees at the time of that change by more than the Annual Fee Increase Limit (or approvable exceptional Fee Increase amount).

To be approved to enrol in the CCFRI, modified facilities must set Parent Fees for 2024-25 at or below the Affordability Benchmarks for their region (tables 7 and 8). Facilities are exempt from this policy if, at the time of the location, licensee, or eligibility change:

- a) There is no increase in fees; or
- b) Fees increase by no more than the Fee Increase Limit (or approvable exceptional amount).

## The Affordability Benchmarks

For 2024-25, the Affordability Benchmarks are set at the regional 80th percentile for children under 36 months, and at the 75th percentile for all other care categories. Affordability Benchmarks reflect fees charged at the majority of facilities in each region (e.g., the 80th percentile means 80% of facilities in the region charge this amount, or lower, and 20% of facilities charge a higher amount). These benchmarks are reviewed annually based on information collected from Providers.

Affordability Benchmarks per month are provided in tables 7 and 8 below. A list of the regions can be found in [Appendix A](#). Affordability Benchmarks as daily amounts are provided in tables 13 and 14 in [Appendix C](#). Regional median fees can be found in [Appendix D](#).

**Table 7. Affordability Benchmarks for Group Child Care (Per Month, before CCFRI)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Fraser Valley	\$1,675	\$1,670	\$1,148	\$600	\$600	\$515
Kootenay-Boundary	\$1,518	\$1,512	\$1,154	\$550	\$550	\$500
Metro	\$2,000	\$1,920	\$1,395	\$615	\$615	\$592
Northern	\$1,336	\$1,300	\$1,045	\$520	\$520	\$399
Thompson-Okanagan	\$1,550	\$1,550	\$1,066	\$550	\$550	\$500
Vancouver Island	\$1,750	\$1,700	\$1,105	\$497	\$499	\$575

**Table 8. Affordability Benchmarks for Family Child Care (Per Month, before CCFRI)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12
Fraser Valley	\$1,150	\$1,100	\$960	\$700	\$654
Kootenay-Boundary	\$1,100	\$1,120	\$1,000	\$600	\$556
Metro	\$1,400	\$1,426	\$1,200	\$618	\$640
Northern	\$1,000	\$970	\$930	\$550	\$600
Thompson-Okanagan	\$1,100	\$1,054	\$945	\$550	\$550
Vancouver Island	\$1,150	\$1,130	\$1,000	\$640	\$600

A new, new-to-CCFRI or modified Facility may be approved to set fees above the Affordability Benchmarks if<sup>4</sup>:

- The Provider applied for provincial funding to create the new licensed spaces before April 1, 2021, and was approved for that funding.
- An established Facility adds a new care category at the same physical address.
- The fees are for Young Parent Program (YPP) spaces.
- The Provider can demonstrate to the ministry's satisfaction that they took significant steps to create the new Facility (e.g., signing a lease) prior to December 6, 2023, and those business plans/financial commitments were based on the 2023-24 Affordability Benchmarks.

<sup>4</sup> The ministry may consider other exceptions to this policy on a case-by-case basis, at its sole discretion (e.g., where needed to support inclusivity, cultural safety, or wraparound services at facilities primarily serving families experiencing vulnerability or other underserved populations, including low-income or Indigenous families).

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## 7. Maximum Closure Period

To be approved for the CCFRI, Facilities must not charge Parent Fees for Closure Periods greater than two consecutive weeks per month, up to a maximum of four weeks per Funding Agreement term.

The ministry may approve a Provider to charge Parent Fees during additional Closure Periods that align with a history of past closures or are due to circumstances outside of the Provider's control if the Facility needs to charge Parent Fees during the Closure Period to maintain operational viability. Facilities may not charge Parent Fees for any Closure Periods beyond those approved by the ministry in writing.

**Closure Periods:** Days when a Facility is not open and providing licensed child care, not including provincial statutory holidays.

**Provincial Statutory Holidays:** New Year's Day, Family Day, Good Friday, Victoria Day, Canada Day, B.C. Day, Labour Day, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Thanksgiving Day, Remembrance Day and Christmas Day.

## 8. Mid-Term Fee Increase Requests

Requests to increase Parent Fees after a Facility is approved for the CCFRI will be assessed under the policies outlined in [Section 4](#). Requests by new, new-to-CCFRI and modified Facilities will be assessed only under the Parent Fee Increase Exceptions Policy (see [Section 5](#)). The ministry will not consider whether the requested Fee Increase is within the Annual Fee Increase Limit for 2024-25.

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## 9. Glossary

**Administrative Fee:** Any mandatory fee over and above the Parent Fee that the Provider imposes or seeks to impose in respect to administrative costs associated with the Enrolment of a child at the Facility including, any fee for registration. For clarity, Administrative Fees do not include Waitlist Fees.

**CCFRI Provider Payment:** A payment provided to offset costs associated with participating in the CCFRI, as described in Schedule C of the Provider's Funding Agreement.

**Direct Care:** Being directly responsible for and engaged in the care and supervision of Enrolled Children or drop-in space children at the Facility.

**Enrolled Children:** Children registered full-time or part-time in any given month, for a specific category of child care services and on specific days at the Facility within the maximum capacity allowed under the Facility licence.

**Facility:** The location of child care services, operated by the Provider, for which a valid child care Facility licence has been issued under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, which is identified in Schedule A of the Provider's Funding Agreement.

**Optional Fee:** Any fee that the Provider charges or seeks to charge a Parent for optional services which a Parent may opt not to pay and still receive the usual, continuous care at the Facility for which the Parent Fee applies. Optional Fees do not include any fees for hours of child care that could reasonably be expected to be included in the Parent Fee. The ministry has the sole discretion to determine whether a fee is an Optional Fee.

**Organization or Provider:** The funding recipient under an existing CCOF Funding Agreement.

**Parent:** A parent or a person standing in the place of a parent with respect to an Enrolled Child or a child in a drop-in space at the Facility.

**Parent Fee:** The fee that the Provider charges a Parent or other party for the Parent's child to occupy an enrolled space at the Facility, exclusive of any Optional Fee.

**Parent Fee Increase or Fee Increase:** Any increase to the Parent Fee and includes without limitation any of the following:

- i. a reduction of hours of operation or services that were previously included in the Parent Fee and the introduction of the option to purchase such hours or services for an Optional Fee; and
- ii. a new Administrative Fee or an increase to the Administrative Fee for some or all Enrolled Children in a care category;

For certainty, the introduction of an Optional Fee for a service that was not previously included in the Parent Fee, including an extension of your hours of operation, will not be considered a Parent Fee Increase.

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**Waitlist Fee:** A refundable or non-refundable fee for a child or a Parent to be added to or removed from a waitlist for enrolment or for access to a drop-in space at the Facility or to maintain or alter such child or Parent's position on such waitlist, as determined by the Ministry in its sole discretion. For clarity, Administrative Fees are not Waitlist Fees.

## Appendix A: CCFRI Regions effective April 1, 2024

The CCFRI’s education-based regions are aligned with the British Columbia School Superintendents Association (BCSSA) grouping of school districts (SD) into six regional chapters.<sup>5</sup> Providers can confirm their region using the tables below, or by entering their Facility’s postal code in the ministry’s online [lookup tool](#). A map of the regional boundaries and included school districts can also be found [online](#).

<b>Fraser Valley</b>
SD33 Chilliwack
SD34 Abbotsford
SD35 Langley
SD42 Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows
SD75 Mission
SD78 Fraser-Cascade
<b>Northern</b>
SD27 Cariboo-Chilcotin
SD28 Quesnel
SD49 Central Coast
SD50 Haida Gwaii
SD52 Prince Rupert
SD54 Bulkley Valley
SD57 Prince George
SD59 Peace River South
SD60 Peace River North
SD81 Fort Nelson
SD82 Coast Mountains
SD87 Stikine
SD91 Nechako Lakes
SD92 Nisga’a
<b>Thompson-Okanagan</b>
SD19 Revelstoke
SD22 Vernon
SD23 Central Okanagan
SD53 Okanagan Similkameen
SD58 Nicola-Similkameen
SD67 Okanagan Skaha
SD73 Kamloops-Thompson
SD74 Gold Trail
SD83 North Okanagan-Shuswap

<b>Kootenay-Boundary</b>
SD05 Southeast Kootenay
SD06 Rocky Mountain
SD08 Kootenay Lake
SD10 Arrow Lakes
SD20 Kootenay-Columbia
SD51 Boundary
<b>Vancouver Island</b>
SD47 qathet
SD61 Greater Victoria
SD62 Sooke
SD63 Saanich
SD64 Gulf Islands
SD68 Nanaimo-Ladysmith
SD69 Qualicum
SD70 Pacific Rim
SD71 Comox Valley
SD72 Campbell River
SD79 Cowichan Valley
SD84 Vancouver Island West
SD85 Vancouver Island North
<b>Metro</b>
SD36 Surrey
SD37 Delta
SD38 Richmond
SD39 Vancouver
SD40 New Westminster
SD41 Burnaby
SD43 Coquitlam
SD44 North Vancouver
SD45 West Vancouver
SD46 Sunshine Coast
SD48 Sea to Sky

<sup>5</sup> School District 93, Conseil scolaire francophone (SD93), is not limited to one geographic region. Facilities in SD93 schools can locate their region by entering their Facility’s postal code in the ministry’s online [lookup tool](#).

## Appendix B: Daily Fee Increase Limits

A list of the regions can be found in [Appendix A](#).

**Table 9. Annual Fee Increase Limits for Group Child Care (Per Day)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Fraser Valley	\$2.04	\$2.00	\$1.42	\$0.76	\$0.80	\$0.57
Kootenay-Boundary	\$1.71	\$1.66	\$1.38	\$0.66	\$0.66	\$0.61
Metro	\$2.33	\$2.28	\$1.66	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$0.71
Northern	\$1.66	\$1.57	\$1.28	\$0.66	\$0.66	\$0.42
Thompson-Okanagan	\$1.90	\$1.85	\$1.38	\$0.66	\$0.66	\$0.61
Vancouver Island	\$2.14	\$2.09	\$1.42	\$0.66	\$0.66	\$0.66

**Table 10. Annual Fee Increase Limits for Family Child Care (Per Day)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12
Fraser Valley	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.28	\$0.85	\$0.85
Kootenay-Boundary	\$1.33	\$1.42	\$1.28	\$0.71	\$0.71
Metro	\$1.71	\$1.66	\$1.42	\$0.80	\$0.80
Northern	\$1.28	\$1.28	\$1.23	\$0.71	\$0.71
Thompson-Okanagan	\$1.33	\$1.33	\$1.23	\$0.71	\$0.71
Vancouver Island	\$1.38	\$1.38	\$1.33	\$0.71	\$0.71

**Table 11. Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amounts for Group Child Care (Per Day)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Fraser Valley	\$6.80	\$6.71	\$4.76	\$2.61	\$2.66	\$2.00
Kootenay-Boundary	\$5.71	\$5.57	\$4.52	\$2.28	\$2.14	\$2.00
Metro	\$7.76	\$7.61	\$5.47	\$2.52	\$2.52	\$2.33
Northern	\$5.47	\$5.23	\$4.28	\$2.28	\$2.28	\$1.47
Thompson-Okanagan	\$6.38	\$6.19	\$4.52	\$2.28	\$2.14	\$2.04
Vancouver Island	\$7.14	\$6.95	\$4.76	\$2.14	\$2.14	\$2.14

**Table 12. Maximum Exceptional Fee Increase amounts for Family Child Care (Per Day)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12
Fraser Valley	\$4.76	\$4.71	\$4.28	\$2.85	\$2.85
Kootenay-Boundary	\$4.52	\$4.76	\$4.28	\$2.38	\$2.38
Metro	\$5.71	\$5.57	\$4.71	\$2.71	\$2.71
Northern	\$4.28	\$4.28	\$4.19	\$2.38	\$2.38
Thompson-Okanagan	\$4.47	\$4.47	\$4.19	\$2.38	\$2.38
Vancouver Island	\$4.66	\$4.66	\$4.42	\$2.38	\$2.38

## Appendix C: Daily Affordability Benchmarks

A list of the regions can be found in [Appendix A](#).

**Table 13. Affordability Benchmarks for Group Child Care (Per Day, before CCFRI)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Fraser Valley	\$79.76	\$79.52	\$54.66	\$28.57	\$28.57	\$24.52
Kootenay-Boundary	\$72.28	\$72.00	\$54.95	\$26.19	\$26.19	\$23.80
Metro	\$95.23	\$91.42	\$66.42	\$29.28	\$29.28	\$28.17
Northern	\$63.61	\$61.90	\$49.76	\$24.76	\$24.76	\$19.00
Thompson-Okanagan	\$73.80	\$73.80	\$50.76	\$26.19	\$26.19	\$23.80
Vancouver Island	\$83.33	\$80.95	\$52.61	\$23.66	\$23.76	\$27.38

**Table 14. Affordability Benchmarks for Family Child Care (Per Day, before CCFRI)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years to Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12
Fraser Valley	\$54.76	\$52.38	\$45.71	\$33.33	\$31.14
Kootenay-Boundary	\$52.38	\$53.33	\$47.61	\$28.57	\$26.47
Metro	\$66.66	\$67.90	\$57.14	\$29.42	\$30.47
Northern	\$47.61	\$46.19	\$44.28	\$26.19	\$28.57
Thompson-Okanagan	\$52.38	\$50.19	\$45.00	\$26.19	\$26.19
Vancouver Island	\$54.76	\$53.80	\$47.61	\$30.47	\$28.57

## Appendix D: Median Parent Fees

A list of the regions can be found in [Appendix A](#).

**Table 15. Median Parent Fees for Group Child Care Providers (Monthly)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years - Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Fraser Valley	\$1,425	\$1,410	\$995	\$545	\$560	\$415
Kootenay-Boundary	\$1,200	\$1,168	\$950	\$475	\$450	\$420
Metro	\$1,634	\$1,595	\$1,150	\$526	\$525	\$485
Northern	\$1,152	\$1,095	\$900	\$475	\$475	\$313
Thompson-Okanagan	\$1,343	\$1,295	\$950	\$475	\$450	\$425
Vancouver Island	\$1,499	\$1,455	\$1,000	\$450	\$450	\$450

**Table 16. Median Parent Fees for Family Child Care Providers (Monthly)**

Region	0-18 Months	18-36 Months	3 Years - Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1 to Age 12
Fraser Valley	\$1,000	\$987	\$900	\$600	\$600
Kootenay-Boundary	\$945	\$1,000	\$900	\$500	\$500
Metro	\$1,200	\$1,170	\$990	\$566	\$570
Northern	\$900	\$900	\$875	\$500	\$500
Thompson-Okanagan	\$944	\$940	\$880	\$500	\$500
Vancouver Island	\$980	\$978	\$925	\$500	\$500