

ChildCareBC

Provider Information Session

*2023/24 Funding Agreement Renewal
for CCOF, CCFRI, ECE-WE*

January 23, 2023



StrongerBC
for everyone

Today's Topics

✓ **2023/24 Funding Agreement Renewal**

- Key Activities and Timelines
- Renewal Where to Start

✓ **Program Eligibility and 2023/24 Updates**

- CCFRI Funding Guidelines
- ECE-WE Funding Guidelines
- Funding Agreement

✓ **Application Process and Assessment Updates**

- Demo new My ChildCareBC Services

✓ **Questions**

Recap: About the Program

The **Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) Program** consists of three funding streams available to eligible licensed group, multi-age and family providers:

- ✓ **Base Operating Funding (CCOF Base)**
 - ✓ **Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI)**
 - ✓ **Early Childhood Educator Wage Enhancement (ECE-WE)**
- Funding is application-based and accepted throughout the year.
 - Funding agreements expire at the end of each fiscal (March 31).
 - Facilities are listed on the **Child Care Map** and can access other programs such as **BC Maintenance**.

Renewal 2023/24 Key Activities and Timelines

Date	Key Activities
January 25	Apply/Renew web page updated and CCFRI and ECE-WE Funding Guidelines
January 31	My ChildCareBC Services with 2023/24 application launched on web page
February 23	2023/24 funding agreements sent to providers
March 9	Last day to sign funding agreement for providers to pre-claim
March 15	Providers can start to pre-claim for April 1
April 1	2023/24 funding term begins
April 30	Last day for providers to renew funding agreements for April 1
September 1	School age and preschool providers approved for CCFRI begin reducing fees

Processing Application

- No prioritized assessment
- Full or temporary approvals
 - April fee increases
- Request for information and documentation up front

Renewal Where to Start

January 25, 2023

Apply/Renew web page updated

- ✓ Steps to renew or apply
- ✓ CCOF Base eligibility requirements
- ✓ 2023/24 ECE-WE Funding Guidelines
- ✓ 2023/24 CCFRI Funding Guidelines
- ✓ CCFRI Estimator

January 31, 2023

- ✓ My ChildCareBC Services platform

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the British Columbia government website. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Family and social supports > ChildCareBC > Providing child care services > Child Care Operating Funding >. The main heading is "Apply for or Renew Child Care Operating Funding". Below this, there is a summary of funding for CCOF Base Funding, CCFRI, and ECE-WE. A "Steps to Apply or Renew Funding" section is visible, with "Step 1: Apply for Funding" selected. A button "Check out our new site" is present. On the right, there are sections for "Related Application Documents" (including 2022/23 CCFRI and ECE-WE guidelines, and application forms) and "Contact Information" for the Child Care Service Centre.

The screenshot shows a user dashboard for "Example Daycare Society". It displays the organization's ID (G-0001) and name. The main heading is "What would you like to do?". There are four primary action buttons: "Renew my funding" (with status "Approved"), "Request a change", "Submit a report", and "Submit my funding". Below this, there are two facility cards. The first card is for "Facility ID: G-0001-00008" (DEMO CHILDRENS CENTRE 1) with licence number 1234567890. The second card is for "Facility ID: G-0001-00009" (DEMO Daycare Centre 2) with licence number 987654321. Each facility card includes a "Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) Status" and an "Early Childhood Educator Wage Enhancement (ECE-WE) Status".

Program Eligibility – Basic requirements to receive funding

CCOF Base Funding

Be licensed, in good standing, agree to provide services to families receiving the ACCB and make every reasonable effort to provide an inclusive and supportive environment for all children, including children with support needs.

Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative

Be enrolled in CCOF and offer care in one or more eligible care categories.

- **Starting Sep 1, 2023:** Eligible care categories also include Preschools and care for children in Grade 1 to age 12.

ECE Wage Enhancement

Be enrolled in the CCFRI or participate as a \$10 a Day ChildCareBC Centre.

- **Starting Sep 1, 2023:** Includes facilities offering Preschool and care for children in Grade 1 to age 12.

Funding Guidelines Overview of 2023/24 Key Changes



CCFRI Expansion to Preschool and Grade 1 to Age 12



Adjusted CCFRI Affordability Benchmarks (for new facilities)



ECE-WE eligibility changes for Preschool and Grade 1 to Age 12

Expanding the CCFRI to More Families

Starting September 1, 2023, families will save up to the following amounts:

	Grade 1 to Age 12	Preschool
Group & Multi-Age	\$115 Per month, per child	\$95 Per month, per child
Family & In-Home	\$145 Per month, per child	

Pro-rated amounts apply for part-time care.

Fees will not be reduced below \$200/month for full-time care (\$140/month for enrolment of 4 hours or less per day, including Preschool)

Calculating Parent Fees

Example:	Original child care fees	Total fee reduction after increase	Total fees after reduction
Group provider charging fees for school aged children	\$400	- \$115	\$285/month
Family provider charging fees for school aged children	\$400	- \$145	\$255/month

Calculating Parent Fees

Example:	Original child care fees	Total fee reduction after increase	Total fees after reduction
Group provider charging fees for school aged children	\$300	- \$100	\$200/month
Family provider charging fees for school aged children	\$325	- \$125	\$200/month

CCFRI Provider Payment: Preschool & Grade 1 to Age 12

Provider Type	Rate Category	Current Payment (CCOF Base Funding only)	Additional Support (CCFRI Provider Payment)	New Total Payments (Starting Sept 1, 2023)
Group & Multi-Age	Preschool (Up to 4 Hours/Day)	\$27.40	\$12.60	\$40.00
	Grade 1 to Age 12 (Over 4 Hours/Day)	\$56.00	\$26.00	\$82.00
Family	Grade 1 to Age 12 (Over 4 Hours/Day)	\$29.20	\$20.60	\$49.80
In-Home Multi-Age	Grade 1 to Age 12 (Over 4 Hours/Day)	\$35.00	\$21.80	\$56.80

**Per child, based on a 20-day month.*

CCFRI Affordability Benchmarks

Affordability Benchmarks were introduced April 2021 to:

- ✓ Improve equitability for child care providers applying for the CCFRI
- ✓ Ensure new facilities accessing provincial funding charge fees in line with most similar facilities in their region
- ✓ Help make child care more affordable for families

What's changing for April 2023?

- Affordability Benchmark is increasing from the previous 70th percentile to:
 - 80th percentile for under 36 months care
 - 75th percentile for 3 years to Kindergarten
- Adjusted in response to the Ministry's continued monitoring of this policy's impacts and feedback received from stakeholders. Limited exceptions apply.

2023/24 ECE Wage Enhancement Funding Guidelines

- **As of September 1, 2023**, facilities offering care to children in preschool and/or school aged children (Grade 1 to age 12+) must be enrolled in the CCFRI in order to be eligible for the ECE-WE.
- As these categories will become eligible for the CCFRI on September 1, 2023, the requirement will apply for these care types, just as it does for other CCFRI-eligible programs.
- Facilities not approved to participate in the CCFRI as of September 1, 2023 will no longer be eligible to participate in the ECE-WE.

2023/24 Funding Agreement Updates

Communicating with parents/public:

- ✓ Section 4.1
 - (b) Provide the parents of any newly enrolled child in writing, details around your approved participation in CCFRI.
 - (c) You must advise parents of enrolled children of any relevant information to this Agreement in the form and frequency directed by us in writing.

Sharing investigation information with parents/public:

- ✓ Section 10.5
 - The status of, or results of any investigation by the Ministry into your compliance decreasing Parent Fees and/or distributing ECE Wage Enhancement Funding in accordance with this Agreement can be released to the public.

2023/24 CCFRI Assessment

Facility Closures

- Facilities may charge full monthly parent fees for closures of up to 2 consecutive weeks per month, or 4 weeks per year
- Limited exceptions

Initial Fees (for new Facilities)

- Fees must be at or below the Affordability Benchmark
- Limited exceptions, including for Preschool/Grade 1 to 12 Years Fees until Sep 2023/Mar 2024

Parent Fee Increases

- Annual Fee Increase Limit based on 3% of the regional median fee
- Limited exceptions, up to a maximum based on 10% of the median fee

Parent Fee Increase

A parent fee increase is an increase to the daily/monthly fee you charge a parent for their child to occupy a space at your facility.

A parent fee increase includes:

- A reduction of hours of operation or services previously included in the parent fee, and the imposition of added fees for these same hours or services; and
- Imposing a new administrative fee or increasing an administrative fee for some or all children enrolled in a CCFRI-Eligible Care Category.

What Fees to Report on Your Program Confirmation Form

Report your **highest full-time daily/monthly parent fee** on your Program Confirmation Form, exclusive of optional fees.

The full-time daily/monthly fee is used to determine eligibility for CCFRI:

- **For new providers**, to assess whether parent fees are set at or below their regional 2023-24 Affordability Benchmark.
- **For existing providers**, to assess whether any planned fee increase is at or below the 2023-24 Annual Fee Increase Limit for the facility's region.

The full-time daily/monthly fee also used to determine the CCFRI amount.

- If the maximum Parent Fee Reduction reduces the parent fee to less than \$200 per month (\$10/day), the CCFRI amount will be reduced so parent fees are at least \$200 per month – **resulting in a lower fee reduction amount.**

What if I Only Offer Part-Time Care?

- The full-time daily/monthly fee is used to determine the CCFRI amount.
- To ensure you receive the maximum fee reduction amount:
 - If you only offer care for 4 hours or less each day, **calculate the parent fee you would charge for more than 4 hours of care.**
 - If you only offer care for 4 days or fewer per week, **report your daily rate.**
- Reporting a part-day or part-time rate may lower the amount of CCFRI parents are eligible to receive.

Streamlined Process to Request More Information

- The ministry may request additional information and/or documentation to assess applications for facilities with parent fee increases under the Parent Fee Increase Exceptions Policy.
- With My ChildCareBC Services, the process is embedded into the Program Confirmation Form for renewing providers.
 - Providers with proposed fee increases above the Fee Increase Limit will be required to provide more information and/or documentation automatically when completing their Program Confirmation Form.
 - No additional information is required for providers with no fee increase and those with fee increases below the Fee Increase Limit.

My ChildCareBC Services

- My ChildCareBC Services (MyCCBC) is a new cloud-based platform available on January 31 for CCOF, CCFRI and/or ECE-WE funding.
- The platform was developed to streamline the renewal process for a more user-friendly experience.
- The platform includes:
 - the online application form to apply for, or renew funding
 - a secure way to receive communications from the program
 - reminders and notifications to help keep track of deadlines
 - indicators to track the status of applications
- Increased functions scheduled in future versions.

My ChildCareBC Services Demo

Renewal 2023/24 Summary

- ✓ On January 25, the **Apply/Renew web page** will be updated with 2023/24 Funding Guidelines and information for renewing and new providers
- ✓ On January 31, the new **My ChildCareBC Services** platform will be linked on the **Apply/Renew web page**
- ✓ Visit our web page for information to help you renew, if you still have questions, please call the team 1-888-338-6622, option 2

Thank you for your commitment to B.C.'s children and families!

ChildCareBC



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for everyone