

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE CIRCULAR

Date: October 11, 2024			
CIRCULAR NUMBER: ELCC-2024-09			
To: Early learning and child care facilities			
Subject: Extension of \$10-a-Day Parent Fees to School Age Child Care on Non-School Days			
Effective Date: December 8, 2024			
Type:	Policy		
	Procedure	☐ Centres	☐ Information Only
	Licensing	☐ Nursery Schools	
	⊠ Financial	☐ Family/Group Homes	
	⊠ Subsidy		

This circular is being sent to provide advance notice to all licensed early learning and child care (ELCC) facilities that the extension of \$10-a-day parent fees to school age children on non-school days is planned to come into effect on December 8, 2024.

In Budget 2024, Manitoba committed to investing in the extension of \$10-a-day parent fees to school aged child care on non-school days. Reducing parent fees for school age children makes child care more affordable and accessible for Manitoba families. The Budget is anticipated to pass by November 7, 2024, which will enable the implementation of the reduced parent fees prior to the winter break.

Facilities are encouraged to plan for the maximum regulated daily fees for school age children on in-service days and school breaks being reduced to \$10 a day (4 to 10 hours of care) beginning on December 8, 2024. Additional funding, equivalent to the difference between the previous and new fees for your facility type, will be provided to offset the reduction in school age fees on non-school days to ensure that facilities continue to receive the same revenue as prior to December 8, 2024.

Funded Facilities: Licensed, non-profit centres and family/group child care homes that receive provincial operating grant funding are required to comply with the regulated maximum daily fees for all children enrolled.

 The Reduced Parent Fee Revenue Grant (Revenue Grant) will be extended to offset the fee reduction on non-school days for subsidized and non-subsidized school age children.



Unfunded Facilities: Licensed centres and family/group child care homes that do not receive provincial operating grant funding are not required to follow the regulated maximum daily fees for non-subsidized families; however, they cannot charge subsidized families more than the regulated maximum daily fees.

 Unfunded facilities that enroll subsidized school age children will be paid an additional subsidy on non-school days through the regular subsidy payment process on behalf of subsidized families.

Transition Grant

The one-time Transition Grant will be provided to facilities to support the extension of \$10-a-day parent fees for non-school days for school age children. The purpose of the Transition Grant is to help bridge funded facilities to the next Revenue Grant payment, which will be paid after *Facility (Child Attendance) Reports* for the December 8, 2024 to January 4, 2024 reporting period have been submitted, processed and paid through in Child Care Online on or after January 5, 2025.

There are approximately 73 non-school days per year, with an average of six per reporting period over the calendar year. Therefore, the value of the Transition Grant for school age spaces for non-school days will be calculated based on your facility type and the number of licensed school age spaces for 12 non-school days (6 days times two reporting periods).

Eligible, funded facilities will receive the Transition Grant before December 8, 2024. The Transition Grant is not an advance and will not need to be reconciled or repaid at a later date. This is a one-time grant to support the extension of \$10-a-day parent fees for school age children on non-school days for existing funded facilities. This one-time grant will also be provided as new spaces become funded.

Implementation Resources

- Review the <u>Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Facilities: Extension of \$10 a Day Parent Fees for School Age Children on Non-School Days</u>. The FAQs have been organized into 7 sections:
 - New Maximum Regulated Daily Fees on Non-School Days
 - Child Care Subsidy Program
 - o Eligible, Funded Facilities Reduced Parent Fee Revenue Grant
 - Unfunded Facilities Additional Subsidy on behalf of Subsidized Families
 - o Eligible, Funded Facilities Transition Grant
 - Important Reminders Facility (Child Attendance) Reporting
 - Additional Resources and Contacts
- Review the <u>Total Parent Fee Revenue Tables for Facilities Effective December 8,</u> <u>2024</u>, which outlines the new parent fees (including the maximum subsidized daily fees and maximum non-subsidized daily additional fees per child) and the Reduced Parent Fee Revenue Grant amounts.



• Register for one of the following the webinars to receive additional implementation support. An email invitation will be sent separately.

\$10-a-Day Parent Fees: Extension to Non-School Days Webinars

- 1) Tuesday, October 22 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 2) Tuesday, October 22 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Watch your email for an invitation to register for an upcoming **Facility Orientation**: **Child Care Subsidy and Facility Reporting** webinar to be held in December 2024.
- Visit <u>www.manitoba.ca/education/childcare/childcare_news/current_circulars.htm</u> for a copy of the circular, FAQs and Total Parent Fee Revenue Tables, or to view the webinar after the session has been held.
- Share <u>Frequently Asked Questions for Families: \$10-a-Day Parent Fees for School-Age Children on Non School Days</u> with your families and encourage them to visit <u>www.manitoba.ca/10aday</u>.

Non-profit Centres

Please keep your Record of Board of Directors current and accurate on <u>Child Care Online (CCO)</u>. As the department often emails important information directly to the board, please ensure that email addresses for all board members are entered into CCO.

If you have any further questions after reading this circular, the FAQs, and attending a webinar, please email Child Care Information Services at cdcinfo@gov.mb.ca with the subject line "Extension of \$10 a day" or call 204-945-0776 (toll free: 1-888-213-4754).

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to meeting the needs of Manitoba families and children. We recognize the critical importance of working together to strengthen Manitoba's ELCC system, and we appreciate the continued feedback.

Early Learning and Child Care Division