

Child care and early learning updates e-newsletter

May 29, 2025

Welcome to The Regional Municipality of Durham's child care and early learning updates e-newsletter. These e-newsletters provide licensed child care operators in Durham Region with updated information related to child care.

This edition includes the following topics:

- Professional Learning Funding Application reminder
- Mid-year reconciliation
- Ready for school toolkit: Early Development Instrument (EDI) resources and activities
- New Fee Subsidy summer care codes for kindergarten and school-age children

Professional Learning Funding Application reminder

The Ministry of Education (EDU) is offering funding to enhance professional development to boost the recruitment and retention of Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECE) and other program staff. Funding will support professional learning opportunities that build the capacity of the child care and early years sector to support the provision of high-quality programs.

As a reminder, to access professional learning funding in 2025, operators must complete a [Professional Learning Funding Application](#), available on Durham.ca, and provide detailed information on their proposed professional learning opportunity. Professional learning must be completed between January 1 and December 31, and will require reconciliation and supporting documentation at year-end.

For additional clarification, please consult the Professional Learning Funding policy (Policy # 1-110) available in the Child Care Operator Portal. Any questions about Professional Learning Funding can be forwarded to Stacee.Stevenson@Durham.ca.

Mid-year reconciliation

A mid-year reconciliation of the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system cost-based funding will be rolled out this spring. This process will provide insight to the financial health of centres, ensure compliance concerning eligible expenses, and support the sustainability and quality of care.

Why mid-year reconciliation matters: The mid-year reconciliation is a crucial step in the cost-based funding model as it provides the opportunity to:

- **Monitor financial health:** By reviewing the financial status of each centre, it allows the opportunity to identify discrepancies or areas of concern promptly.
- **Ensure compliance:** The intent is to verify that all centres are adhering to the funding guidelines and making appropriate use of public funds.
- **Identify overpayments:** Identify overpayments of CWELCC funds and apply necessary financial adjustments.

As part of the mid-year reconciliation process, a template will need to be completed for each site, capturing the timeline of January 1 to May 31, 2025. The template will be uploaded to the Child Care Operator Portal on May 30, and must be completed and returned by July 2. Year-end reconciliation will be completed in January 2026 to ensure ongoing financial stability. In the meantime, all centres are encouraged to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Ready for school toolkit: Early Development Instrument (EDI) resources and activities

The [Ready for school toolkit: Supporting early growth](#) is an online resource that provides information on the EDI and provides simple and fun activities to support children's development across the five EDI domains. The activities included in the package on Durham.ca can be completed to help children build skills to do well in school and life.

New Fee Subsidy summer care codes for kindergarten and school-age children

Starting this summer, new codes KSC (kindergarten school closure) and SSC (school-age school closure) will be introduced. These will automatically replace the regular school-year codes (KA, KB, KBA/SA, SB, SBA) when full-day care is needed during summer months. If a child has a scheduled school-year code, the corresponding summer closure code (KSC or SSC) will be available for billing, with schedules copied over.

For kindergarten and school-age children, full-day care on PA days or school closures, the KF (kindergarten full-day) and SF (school-age full-day) codes will continue to be used from September to June.

For multi-site operators offering week-to-week summer registration, schedules will be removed for weeks the child is not registered.

If you have any questions about codes, please reach out to the caseworker assigned to your child care agency.