

2024 General Operating Funding (GOF) Questions and Answers for Licensed Child Care Providers (Centre Based)

This Q&A provides information about the 2024 GOF SWB for Centre Based Licensed Child Care Providers.

Refer to the “Guideline - Staff Wages and Benefits for Centres” available on the [Region’s website](#) under “Funding support for licensed child care centres” for full details.

The answers in this document do not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to obtain specific financial/legal advice as applicable.

General

1. When will we receive our 2024 GOF payment?

You will receive monthly payments at the beginning of each month starting in January if you have signed your EYCCS Funding Agreement by December 1, 2023 and if you are in full compliance with all reporting requirements.

2. What are “eligible hours” for GOF?

Hours worked is defined as the total program hours worked and paid between January 1 to December 31, 2024. Program hours must include paid time in program (in ratio), professional learning, planning, set-up, and in meetings mandated by the organization.

Vacation, statutory holidays, sick time and benefit hours are not included in the hours worked for GOF as these are covered through benefits.

3. Where is the Administrative Funding for my 2024 GOF SWB?

We will release details on funding to support program administration in early 2024 after we review provincial guidelines and our funding allocations.

4. Can we use GOF-SWB to address wage compression?

No. We recognize the ongoing challenges with wage compression and are committed to investigating the compression issue in 2024. We will:

- Consult with other service system managers on their approaches to addressing wage compression.
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- Continue advocating to the province to do more about rising costs and equitable wages to support retention; and
- Explore regional options and opportunities to address the issue of wage compression.

Calculation and Distribution

5. How was my 2024 GOF SWB allocation determined?

Your 2023 allocation has been rolled over for 2024. The amount rolled over does not include the one-time Top-Up you received in October 2023.

6. We have more staff this year, did we get more GOF funding?

No. Increases in your staff complement did not result in an increase in funding. You are advised to work within the budget you have been provided to allocate funding to eligible staff.

If there has been a significant change in your operations that requires more 2024 GOF SWB funding, share this information by emailing EarlyYearsSystemDivision@peelregion.ca. This information will help inform our work on GOF in 2024. We will share more details in the New Year.

7. Are we required to communicate with staff about their GOF?

Yes. You must communicate with staff if their GOF enhancements are going to change. You must also communicate about the distribution of GOF to new staff with a letter.

Please see the [2024 GOF SWB Guideline](#) “Appendix B: Communications Template for GOF” for more details.

8. Can we change our distribution plan?

No. You must use the distribution approach that was implemented in 2023.

Workforce Innovation Funding (WIF)

9. Why was WIF discontinued for 2024?

The province communicated to us on November 30th, 2023 that the Canada-Ontario Early Childhood Workforce Agreement that supported the recruitment and retention of the early childhood workforce, has expired. Funding provided through the agreement, including WIF, has ended.

Peel is committed to supporting our early years and child care workforce. Once the WIF evaluation is completed, we will assess our ability to support the highest impact activities within our existing budget.

10. Can we use any remaining WIF funds allocated for 2023 for WIF activities in 2024?

No, 2023 funding must be spent by December 31, 2023. Any unspent WIF funding will be recovered.

Please contact your Early Years Specialist or EarlyYearsSystemDivision@peelregion.ca if you have additional questions.