

2024 before and after school program (BASP) pilot extension questions & answers

Payments/ funding

1. When will I receive my payment to implement the BASP pilot?

If you sign your funding agreement in GovGrants by August 21, 2024, you will receive monthly payments beginning in September 2024 through to December 2024. Your monthly payment equals your total allocation divided equally by four months.

2. Will this pilot be extended beyond January 3, 2025?

Continuation of the BASP pilot beyond January 3, 2025, depends on the 2025 Early Years and Child Care Services budget.

BASP pilot fee reduction

3. Can I reduce my fees effective September 2, 2024, rather than issue a refund for September?

Yes, you may reduce your fees instead of offering a refund. However, we strongly encourage providers to consider the impact that reducing fees may have on families when the pilot ends on January 3, 2025.

4. Are children ages 6+ years old in a kindergarten-age program eligible for the BASP pilot fee reduction?

Children over 6 years old enrolled in a kindergarten-age program using mixed age grouping are eligible for the fee reduction component of the pilot, if the provider is participating in the BASP Pilot and is at full capacity for their primary/junior school age room.

For example, a 7-year-old registered for your BASP 6-12 program is placed in your kindergarten room because there is no space available in your school age room. This child would be eligible for the fee reduction. However, a 5-year-old placed in the school

age room, would not qualify for the BASP pilot fee reduction because they are eligible for the CWELCC fee reduction.

5. If a child is absent, are they eligible for the refund/reduced fees for the absent day?

Yes, families should continue to benefit from the reduced fees for absent days if they paid a child care fee for that day.

6. If an eligible family in receipt of fee subsidy exceeds their maximum number of absent days and is required to pay the full child care fee, should the fee reduction be adjusted for the absent day?

Yes, families receiving subsidy should receive a fee reduction based on the actual fee they paid for the eligible child. If the amount they pay changes for any reason (for example reassessment, exceeding maximum absent days), then the amount of the fee reduction should be adjusted to reflect the actual fee the family paid for the eligible child.

When a child in receipt of subsidy exceeds their maximum number of absent days, their family must pay full fees and should receive a fee reduction for days not subsidized.

For example:

- If a family in receipt of subsidy pays \$6/day for child care, the reduced fee would be \$3/day.
- After the family in receipt of subsidy exceeds their maximum number of absent days, if the family is required to pay \$30/day for absent days, then the reduced fee should be \$15/day for the absent day.

7. Do providers have to issue refunds to families who withdraw from the BASP program?

We recognize that enrollment in BASP may take a few weeks to stabilize after the start of the school year, and issuing refunds to families that have withdrawn during this time may be administratively cumbersome for providers.

- If the family withdrew in **September**: You can refund the family, but it is not required. You must apply your choice consistently to all families.

- If the family withdrew on or after **October 1**: You must issue a refund based on the number of days between September 2, 2024, to January 3, 2025, where the family paid a child care fee.

8. I need help calculating my rate reduction for my program. Who should I contact?

If you need help calculating your rates, please email us at

EarlyYearsSystemDivision@peelregion.ca.

Enrichment programs (eligible for licensed child care centres only)

Note: the enrichment component of the BASP pilot is eligible for licensed child care centres only. Licensed home child care agencies do not qualify for this funding component.

9. What are examples of enrichment programs?

Examples of eligible enrichment programs include, but are not limited to:

- Sports: Soccer, basketball, volleyball
- Martial arts: Taekwondo, Judo, karate
- Arts and crafts: pottery, painting, knitting, woodworking, sculpture
- Music: drumming, group singing lessons, choir
- Dance: hip hop, Bhangra, Zumba for kids
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics): robotics, coding
- Independence: Babysitting, Homework Help, Creative Writing

10. Can I deliver the BASP pilot enrichment programs using my existing staff rather than a third party?

Yes, you can use existing staff. However, enrichment programs delivered by existing program staff may not result in an additional cost that is eligible for BASP pilot funding. For instance, if the program staff leads a yoga session with children, no additional cost may be incurred as the program staff must be there to meet ratio requirements already funded through your regular child care fees. See page 8 of the guideline for a list of eligible costs covered.

11. If a provider has already been delivering an enrichment program activity before September 2, 2024, is this covered under the pilot funding?

If you start a new or enhanced eligible enrichment program (page 8 of the guideline) after signing your agreement, you may use the funding you received under the “other” budget category to support the implemented activities. Please note:

- New activities must be within your budget.
- The funding only covers the extra cost incurred.
 - For example, if you were already providing one-hour music lessons once a week, you may increase the number of hours of music lessons (e.g. from 1 to 2 hours). In this case, you can only claim 1 extra hour.

12. My site has a Physical Literacy Champion. Can they assist in planning the enrichment program for the site?

Yes. If your agency still has a physical literacy champion, your physical literacy champion may help you inform your enrichment program approach.

13. Can I also offer enrichment programs on Professional Activity (PA) days?

Yes. However, some providers may already deliver enrichment activities during full-day programs offered on PA days and over school breaks. You cannot use the BASP pilot funding to offset the cost of existing programs that are already included in your fee but you can choose to further enhance these programs on PA days by offering additional time or enhancement activities.