

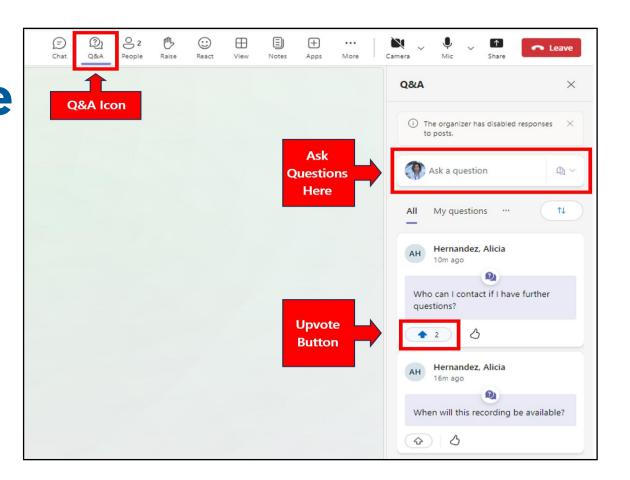
2025 EYCC Funding Updates: Part 2

Teleconference Series

Early Years and Child Care Services

January 23, 2025

How to Use the **Microsoft Teams** A&P **Feature**



Housekeeping

This meeting is being **recorded** and will be shared with the presentation.

Your microphone will be muted unless called upon during the question period.

Use the Q&A feature to post your questions. You can also email us at <u>earlyyearssystemdivision@peelregion.ca</u> or contact your Early Years Specialist.

The personal information collected during this meeting is collected under the authority of the <u>Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c.25</u>. The information will be used for future reference for purposes of the Region of Peel's Human Services Department, Early Years and Child Care Services Division.

Questions about the collection of personal information and information collected should be directed to earlyyearssystemdivision@peelregion.ca.

Disclaimer: This slide deck is shared for informational purposes only and does not replace the requirements and rules set out in the <u>Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014</u>, its <u>regulations</u>, your service agreement, the CWELCC guideline and/or the service provider handbook.

Agenda

1. 2025 CWELCC Funding Recap Part 2

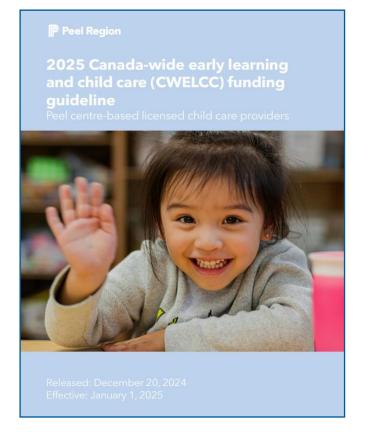
- Authentic Participation
- Use funding to support eligible costs
- Reporting and accountability requirements

2. Enhanced Program Support (EPS)

3. School-Age (6-12) Funding Recap

- Funding components and requirements
- Reporting and accountability requirements

4. Q&A Period





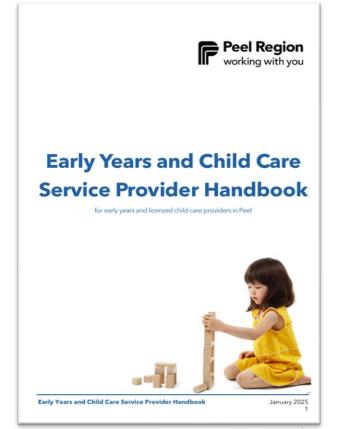
2025 CWELCC Recap Part 2

Effective January 1, 2025

Authentically participate

Providers must meet the following authentic participation requirements:

- Accept and include children who receive Child Care Subsidy, if eligible
- Participate in continuous quality enhancement practices
- Support the participation of all children by authentically participating in PIRS and complying with the PIRS Memorandum of Understanding



Fee reduction for eligible children receiving child care subsidy

Rates in OCCMS have been updated to reflect the 2025 CWELCC reduced rates starting January 1, 2025.

- Families in receipt of subsidy receive a 50% fee reduction off their parental contribution, even if their contribution is less than \$12/day.
- Municipal fees cannot exceed \$22/day including daily base fee and other mandatory fees (e.g. registration fee).

Exceeding Absent Day Allowance:

- If families exceed their absent day allowance, the remaining absent days for the year must be charged the same way as full fee-paying families.
- This means the family would pay the market rate reduced by 52.75% to the \$22/day cap.

Use funding to support eligible costs

- Your 2025 CWELCC funding is a flexible allocation and allows you to spend depending on the operational needs of your CWELCC program.
- You must spend your CWELCC funding on eligible costs*.
- To determine whether costs are eligible, expenses must be meet the three cost principles below:

Cost Principle	Description
Attributable	Directly or indirectly tied to child care delivery for CWELCC-eligible children.
Appropriate	Necessary for operations, health, safety, cultural, or religious needs; practical for program delivery.
Reasonable	Aligns with program needs, fair market value, and operating capacity.

^{*}Refer to Section 8 of the 2025 CWELCC Guidelines for more details and examples of Eligible and Ineligible Costs.

2025 Payment Schedule

- In 2025, the Region has adjusted the payment schedule for the CWELCC announcement.
- As a result, you will notice significantly higher monthly payments of 12.5% in the first three months of 2025.
- Beginning in April and onwards, you will receive approximately 6.95% of your total 2025 Cost-Based allocation.
- This updated payment schedule is designed to support you with greater cash flow ahead of potential allocation adjustments in Q1 2025.
- It is important to note this payment schedule and budget accordingly to ensure sufficient funding for the entire year.

Example: Centre-based Provider "AAA"

Total Program Cost Allocation: \$1,000,000

Month	% of Allocation	Payment
Jan	12.50%	\$125,000
Feb	12.50%	\$125,000
Mar	12.50%	\$125,000
<mark>Apr</mark>	<mark>6.95%</mark>	<mark>\$69,500</mark>
May	6.95%	\$69,500
Jun	6.95%	\$69,500
Jul	6.95%	\$69,500
Aug	6.94%	\$69,400
Sep	6.94%	\$69,400
Oct	6.94%	\$69,400
Nov	6.94%	\$69,400
Dec	6.94%	\$69,400
Total	100.00%	\$1,000,000

Budgeting

- In January, all providers and agencies received a pre-populated operating budget template with 2023 actuals.
- It is a requirement if you are in receipt of the Legacy Top-up to review and submit a completed operating budget with projected 2025 costs by **March 31, 2025**.
- We encourage everyone to build and maintain an up-to-date 2025 operating budget, which will support you with the following benefits:
 - 1. <u>Maximize</u> the use of cost-based funding allocation upon eligible costs for your child care operations; and
 - **Minimize** the amount of unspent funding which will be recovered and returned to the Ministry.



Meet Reporting Requirements

2025 CWELCC Funding Reconciliation (beginning in 2026)

- During reconciliation, Peel will compare your program cost allocation for the calendar year to your actual reported program costs (eligible costs).
 - You will also be asked to report your actual base fee revenue and KPI data
- In 2025 the Ministry requires licensees to complete a Standardized Financial Report. Once released, Peel will aim to align the FAIR with the template to reduce admin burden.

Audited Financial Statements

- Effective January 1, 2025, it is a requirement in Peel to operate on a calendar year fiscal cycle (January to December).
- You must submit your AFS and FAIR by April 30, 2026.

Meet Reporting Requirements (Cont'd)

Extensions and Exemptions

- Any providers and agencies who have been approved for an extension or exemption to the calendar year fiscal cycle requirement must:
 - 1. Continue to provide an AFS and FAIR four (4) months after their fiscal year end date; and
 - 2. Provide an additional Calendar-year Statement of Revenue and Expenditures and the FAIR on April 30, 2026.

Compliance Policy:

 As a reminder, you are required to submit information in a timely manner and meet the deadlines and guidelines directed by Peel.

Please refer to the Service Provider Handbook for more details.



Enhanced Program Support (EPS)

Enhanced Program Supports (EPS)

EPS is a short-term support for the entire classroom, allowing you to hire new staff/extend hours of existing staff when needs are present.

You are responsible for using EPS within the guidelines, including:

- **Meet EPS staff requirements** (i.e., EPS staff must be above ratio, compensated within allowable wage limits, cannot provide 1:1 support, etc.).
- Complete training requirements (i.e., <u>Together We are One</u> webinar).
- Authentically participate to deliver inclusive practices in your program (i.e., work together with your PIRS Resource Consultant to support program needs, etc.).





2025 School-Age (6-12) Funding

Effective January 1, 2025

2025 School-Age (6-12) Funding Components



Confirmed for 2025

Workforce Grants (GOF, WEG, WCF)

Fee Reduction

Program Enrichment

Enhanced Program Support

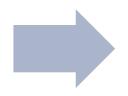


More Details Coming in 2025

Minimum Wage Offset
Workforce Innovation Funding
Administration
Operations (Special Purpose)

Key Changes For School-Age in 2025

For 2025, you must meet all mandatory funding requirements prior to accessing flexible funding options. Mandatory requirements include:



- Meet your Workforce Funding Requirements (GOF, WEG, WCF)
- Meet Your Fee Reduction Requirements
- Facilitate BASP Enrichment Activities
- Use EPS Funding to Support Inclusive Programs

After meeting mandatory requirements, unspent 2025 funding can be spent on:

- Wage Enhancement
- Workforce Compensation
- General Operating
- Fee Reduction
- Program Enrichment
- Enhanced Program Support*.

^{*}Note: You may only move a maximum of 10% out of EPS unless you have approval from the region

Meet Your BASP Fee Reduction Requirements

There are two key activities required to meet your BASP fee reduction requirements:

1. Communicate to families

- a) Post your fee schedule for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year by **December 31, 2024.**
- b) Make your fee schedule publicly available in your Parent Handbook.
- c) Use at least one of your regular communication channels, such as email, letter, or the parent board(s) in your centre(s).

2. Reduce your BASP fees

- a) Before School only, After School only and Before and After School programs.
- b) Reduce fees by the same \$
 amount as the before and after
 school fees for Ministry of
 Education approved PA days and
 breaks.

Fee Reduction Options

- You can choose to offer retroactive refunds or upfront discounts to families.
- If you choose refunds, you must follow the schedule provided:

For Days Paid Between	Issue Refund By
January 3, 2025 - March 31, 2025	March 31, 2025
April 1, 2025 - June 27, 2025	June 27, 2025

Facilitate BASP Enrichment Activities

Objective: enrich your school-age programs with activities that meet the children's needs and interests.

Key Requirements:

- Provided to children enrolled in primary/junior school-age BASP programs between January and June 27, 2025.
- Child participation must be voluntary for all enrichment activities.
- Delivered primarily after-school (3-6 PM) on average once a week with a range of offerings available to families (during after-school, PA Day).
- Offered primarily at the program's regular location.
- Meet any applicable licensing/regulatory requirements, have appropriate insurance coverage and work with your school partners to ensure feasibility (if located within a school).

Refer to page 22 in the 2025 School-Age Funding Guidelines for a complete list of requirements.

Meet Reporting and Accountability Requirements

Reconciliation and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- There are no significant changes to KPIs for 2025; some are under review.
- In your reconciliation report, you will report:
 - Year-end spending on each budget category.
 - Your key performance indicators for each in budget category.
 - Reconciliation details will be shared later in 2025.

Complete Monthly OCCMS Reporting

This is a requirement under the guideline to be eligible for school-age funding.

Benefits:

- Accurately assess service provider eligibility for school-age funding.
- Increase accuracy of funding allocations as this data is used to inform them.
- Streamline and reduce reporting on schoolage funding we'd like to use the OCCMS data to reduce duplication in reporting specifically on the fee reduction and enrichment.
- Enhance compliance and monitoring of trends in school-age programs.



Next Steps



What's next?

Date	Details
January 31, 2025	Deadline to submit the Workforce Supplementary Schedule; please contact us if you require an extension.
March 31, 2025	 Deadline for recipients of Legacy top-up funding to submit a 2025 operating budget. Deadline to issue BASP payments for days paid between January 3, 2025 - March 31, 2025.
June 27, 2025	Deadline to issue BASP payments for days paid between April 1, 2025 - June 27, 2025.



Questions?



Complete Our Survey

Your feedback is important to us.

Please take a moment to complete this short survey on today's session:

https://forms.office.com/r/PX6x3Wpytn

We will share this link in the chat.





Thank You!



Resources

- 1. Peel's 2025 School-Age (6-12) Funding Guideline
- 2. Ministry of Education's Ontario's Child Care and Early Years Funding Guidelines
- 3. EYCC Service Provider Handbook

Resources will be posted on Peel's website for providers: <u>Funding support and resources - peelregion.ca</u>

Appendix 1a: Ineligible costs

- Profit-related costs: Dividends, in-kind benefits, perks for controlling owners.
- Already funded costs: Items reimbursed by public sources (e.g., insurance claims).
- Major capital repairs for existing spaces.
- Ineligible Child Care: Expenses for children aged 6 to 12.
- Financing Costs: Interest exceeding Canada Small Business Financing Program rates (excluding government loans).
- Penalties: Fines, forfeitures, or liquidated damages.
- Taxes: Corporate and personal income taxes.

Note: This list is not exhaustive. Ineligible claims may result in funding recovery. Contact us at EarlyYearsSystemDivision@peelregion.ca with questions.

Appendix 1b: Example of Rising Food Costs

Scenario:

Provider "AAA" operates an Islamic child care program offering halal meals. Food costs have risen significantly, confirmed by multiple supplier quotes.

All three principles are met, so the cost is eligible for CWELCC funding.

- ✓ **Attributable**: Food costs are directly tied to child care for CWELCC-eligible children.
- ✓ Appropriate: Halal meals are necessary to meet cultural and religious needs.
- ✓ Reasonable: Increased costs align with fair market value based on supplier quotes.

Important: Before purchasing or hiring family/friends for work, you must get at least 2 quotes. Keep all documentation for reconciliation.

Appendix 2: Key Performance Indicators

Category	Details
Wage Enhancement Grant (staff supporting school-age (6-12) programs only	 Number of fully-eligible (\$2 per hour) full-time equivalent (FTE) staff eligible for WEG. One FTE is equivalent to 1,754.5 hours for the year. Number of partially-eligible (less than \$2 per hour) FTE staff eligible for WEG. One FTE is equivalent to 1,754.5 hours for the year.
Workforce Compensation Fund (staff supporting school-age (6-12) programs only)	 Number of RECE program staff supported by wage floor. Number of RECE supervisors supported by wage floor. Number of RECE program staff supported by annual wage increase. Number of RECE supervisors supported by annual wage increase.
General Operating Fund (staff supporting school-age (6-12) programs only	 Total number of RECEs employed as of December 31 of the calendar year. Total number of RECEs who left the agency between January 1 and December 31 of the calendar year. Total number of RECEs who joined the agency between January 1 and December 31 of the calendar year. Number of staff supported with GOF wage enhancements.

Appendix 2: Key Performance Indicators (cont.)

Category	Details
BASP - Child Care Fees (for school-age (6-12) programs only):	 Average monthly number of children that received the fee reduction in before and after school programs. (TBD) Average monthly number of children that received the fee reduction in PA days/winter/spring break programs. (TBD)
BASP - Enrichment (for school-age (6-12) programs only):	 Total number of enriched program hours. Average monthly number of children who participated in enriched before and/or after school programs. (TBD) Average monthly number of children who participated in enriched programs in PA day/winter/spring break programs. (TBD)
Enhanced Program Support (for school-age (6-12) programs only):	 Number of school aged children with special needs* served (cumulative). Average monthly number of school aged children with special needs served (cumulative) Number of school aged classrooms supported. Number of hours of enhanced program support provided in school age classrooms.

Appendix 3 Who Qualifies for 6-12 School Age Funding?

To qualify for 2025 School Age (6-12) Funding, you must:

- 1. Hold a Ministry of Education licence to operate one or more child care centre(s) for children 6 to 12 years old.
- 2. Participate in the CWELCC program if you also operate child care for children under 6 years old.
- 3. Be open and actively providing licensed before, after, or before and after school primary/junior school-age programs to children 6 to 12 years old;
- 4. Have signed a 2025 Early Years and Child Care (EYCC) Funding Agreement;
- 5. Be compliant with the requirements in the EYCC Service Provider Handbook, including the Compliance and Authentic Participation policies.
- 6. Report your monthly enrollment data and operating capacity for this age group in OCCMS; and
- 7. Comply with all legislative and regulatory requirements under the CCEYA.

Note: If you are licensed to provide child care exclusively to children 6 to 12 years old, you do not need to participate in the CWELCC program to qualify for 2025 School-Age (6-12) Funding. You will continue to qualify as you have in previous years.





Part 1: 2025 CWELCC Recap

Effective January 1, 2025

Key Terms: Fees

- **1. Base fee:** any fee that a family must pay that is required for the delivery of child care services, such as daily fees, registration and other mandatory fees (one-time or recurring).
- **2. Registration fee:** a common mandatory fee that a family pays when first registering their child to secure a spot in the program.
- **3. Prepaid/deposit fee:** a payment that a family pays upfront for child care service.
 - It can be used to hold a spot for the child in the program.
 - If the child attends the program, the deposit is deducted from the total amount owed for child care.



You Must Reduce Your Base Fees

- As of January 1, 2025, you must reduce your base fee for CWELCC eligible children to:
 - \$22 per day; or
 - maintain the base fee you were charging on December 31, 2024, if it was less than \$22.
- The CCEYA requires you to include all mandatory fees in the calculation of your daily base fee to comply with the \$22/day fee cap.



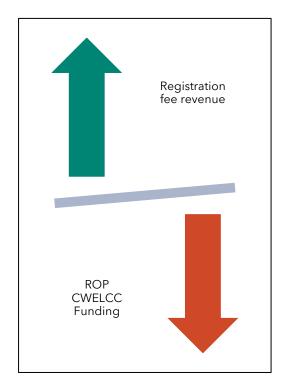
Mandatory Fees - Registration Fees

What is new starting January 1, 2025 under the CCEYA?

• Registration fees **and other mandatory fees** are now included in the \$22/day base fee cap.

Was registration fee revenue included in the CWELCC funding formula?

- Yes, all mandatory fees families pay, like base fees, registration fees, and other mandatory fees were included in your 2025 projected revenue.
- This amount is listed under the "Revenue Offset Budget" category in GovGrants.
- Since the Revenue Offset is a negative amount, it reduces the CWELCC funding you receive from the Region as you are already receiving this revenue from families.



Options for Registration Fees

What are your options for registration fees for 2025?

Option 1:

Peel's Recommendation:
You stop charging registration
fees and other mandatory
fees

- These fees will not increase the amount of funding you get to keep.
- Charging them creates extra administrative work without benefiting your funding.
- Most providers are already at the \$22/day base fee cap therefore registration fee cannot be added.

Option 2:

You continue charging a registration fee and other mandatory fees.

- You must let us know by **January 31, 2025** if you do so.
- This amount will be included in your revenue offset and would reduce the amount of funding you receive from the Region.
- Please see pages 12 to 14 of the guideline for detailed requirements related to the new rules for registration fees.

Note: Projected revenue from 2025 registration and other mandatory fees is not included in the Revenue Offset amount in GovGrants.

Prepaid Fees or Deposits

Reminder:
A deposit is an upfront payment for child care service.

- Providers can continue to collect deposits.
- Deposits must be calculated based on the new reduced daily fee.
- You can determine:
 - the number of service days the deposit will cover (e.g. 10 days for a two week period; 21.75 days for a month, etc.).
 - when to apply the deposit to the child's account (e.g. first month of enrollment, after three months of enrollment, last month the program in August or December, etc.).
- You must be transparent with families. All information related to your fee policy **must** be clearly outlined in your Parent Handbook.

Note: Fee deposits or prepaid fees do not need to divided across the year and added to your regular daily fee. They are considered "deferred revenue" and are earned when used by families.

Changes to Closure Days

What has not changed?

- Closure days where fees are not charged for a statutory holiday do not count towards the 20-day limit.
- Events outside of your control (like natural disasters, pandemics, or strikes) continue to be excluded.
- You must disclose in your Parent Handbook your closure days and whether fees are charged.

What has changed for 2025?

• Statutory holidays now count as part of the 20-day annual closure limit if fees are charged.

Do I need to make an immediate change?

• No, we recognize that this change will impact some programs, and we will be engaging the sector to inform a transition plan.

Parent Handbook Requirements

Update your
Parent
Handbook so
families are
aware of:

- The \$22 per day base fee cap.
- Your fee payment approach (accepted methods of payment).
- Your fee payment schedule (how often are fees collected: weekly, monthly etc.).
- Base fees and non-base fees charged.
- Operating hours and holiday closures (you must specify what days you are open or closed and whether fees are charged for closed days).
- Circumstances in which refunds or credits will or will not be provided.

Important: these are regulatory requirements under the CCEYA. We will collect a copy of your Parent Handbook in Q1.