

Relocating CWELCC Enrolled Child Cares Policy

Overview

The intent of this policy is to establish a consistent approach for York Region to address relocation scenarios with child cares enrolled in the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) program.

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Background

In 2022, all child cares across Ontario were invited to join the CWELCC program. This resulted in a 90 per cent opt in rate in York Region.

In 2023, the province implemented the Access and Inclusion Framework, instructing Service System Managers (SSMs) to develop a Growth Plan focusing new CWELCC funded spaces into priority neighbourhoods with a historically low access rate and high presence of diverse and vulnerable populations.

This means, while all child cares joining CWELCC in 2022 could opt in regardless of their location, child cares looking to join CWELCC or expand their existing CWELCC participating child care beyond 2022 must be in York Region’s identified priority neighbourhoods.

2022 CWELCC Enrolled Child Care Operators

RELOCATING REQUIREMENTS

New Location

Child care operators must give their Contract Funding Coordinator (CFC) written notice as soon as the decision is made or minimum sixty (60) calendar days prior, of any decision to relocate.

Child care operators who joined CWELCC in 2022 who wish to relocate will be approved to do so with no restrictions, limitations, or provisions as to where they can relocate in York Region. If interested, the child care operator can inquire about the need for child care in the new location. The child care suitability report in the Early Years Finder Tool can be used internally to guide the conversation.

Relocations outside of York Region will result in a terminated CWELCC agreement between the child care operator and York Region. The child care operator will need to reapply to the municipality they are relocating to.

Please note: any 2022 CWELCC enrolled child care operators who received additional funding for approved new spaces in 2023 onwards are restricted to where they can relocate. See [2023 and Beyond CWELCC Enrolled Child Care Operators](#) below for more information.

Spaces

If a relocating child care does not maintain their current licensed capacity for each age group, any unused CWELCC funded spaces will be returned to York Region and a funding reduction will occur.

Child care centres are not permitted to increase their licensed capacity. To be eligible for new CWELCC funded child care spaces, child care operators are required to apply through York Region's yearly CWELCC application for any additional spaces.

Existing Families

Children attending the child care prior to relocation should be prioritized for a spot in the child care's new location ahead of any new children being accepted.

Financial Concerns

If the relocation is as a result of financial concerns, such as from accommodation expense arrears, the CFC should be notified to review the financial viability of the child care as the Region may choose not to continue funding the program.

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2023 and Beyond CWELCC Enrolled Child Care Operators

RELOCATING REQUIREMENTS

New Location

Child care operators must give their CFC and families written notice as soon as the decision is made or within sixty (60) calendar days notice of any decision to relocate.

Child care operators who joined CWELCC in 2023 and beyond, including those who opted into CWELCC in 2022 and were approved for additional CWELCC funded spaces through York Region's yearly CWELCC application are limited to where they can relocate.

CWELCC funding was approved based on the child care's location in one of York Region's identified priority neighbourhoods in accordance with York Region's Growth Plan, therefore, relocation must be within their current priority neighbourhood.

If relocation is not planned within their current priority neighbourhood, the CWELCC funding agreement may be terminated.

For child care operators who opted into CWELCC in 2022 and were also approved for additional CWELCC funded spaces through York Region's yearly CWELCC application, and who relocate outside their priority neighborhood, the additional CWELCC child care spaces approved through the yearly CWELCC application will no longer be funded by York Region. The child care operator will be required to reduce their licensed capacity back to their 2022 licensed capacity at time of opt in.

Relocations outside of York Region will result in a terminated CWELCC agreement between the child care and York Region. The child care will need to reapply with the municipality they will be relocating to.

Spaces

If a relocating child care does not maintain their current licensed capacity for each age group, any unused spaces will be returned to York Region and a reduction in funding will occur.

Child care centres are not permitted to increase their licensed capacity. To be eligible for new CWELCC funded child care spaces, child care operators are required to apply through York Region's yearly CWELCC application for any additional spaces.

Existing Families

Children attending the child care prior to relocation should be prioritized for a spot in the child care's new location ahead of any new children being accepted.

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Financial Concerns

If the relocation is as a result of financial concerns, such as accommodation expense arrears, the CFC should be notified to review the financial viability of the child care as the Region may choose not to continue funding the program.

Appeal Requests

All child care operators have the right to seek clarification regarding eligibility decisions made with regards to CWELCC program funding. See the [CWELCC Funding Dispute Resolution Policy](#) for more information.

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