



Frequently Asked Questions about Alberta Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Centres

About ELCC Centres: In June 2017, the Alberta Government signed a multilateral Agreement with the federal government, provincial, and territorial partners to support affordable child care initiatives across Canada. The Alberta Government is using the funding to create Alberta Early Learning and Child Care Centres that cap parent fees at \$25/day. This funding is for three years. The Alberta Government will use evaluation to assess the next steps of the ELCC Centres. At this time the government has not released any information on funding more ELCC Centres in the future.

Which YMCA of Northern Alberta Child Care Centres are Alberta ELCC - \$25/day Centres?

Grande Prairie: 3 locations

1. YMCA Clairmont Child Care
2. YMCA Patterson Child Care
3. YMCA St. John II Child Care (Opening September 2018)

Fort McMurray: 1 location

1. YMCA Birchwood Child Care

Edmonton Region: 15 locations

1. YMCA Beaverbrook Child Care (Spruce Grove)
2. YMCA Castle Downs Child Care
3. YMCA Citadel Child Care (St. Albert)
4. YMCA Clareview Child Care
5. YMCA Devonshire Child Care
6. YMCA Ellwood Child Care
7. YMCA Jamie Platz Child Care
8. YMCA Kipnes Child Care
9. YMCA Norwood Child Care
10. YMCA Parkallen Child Care
11. YMCA Shirley Stollery Child Care
12. YMCA St. Gabriel Child Care
13. YMCA St. Monica Child Care (Opening September 2018)
14. YMCA Westglen Child Care
15. YMCA William Lutsky Child Care

If my child currently attends an ELCC Centre will my fees be automatically reduced?

- Yes. All children who are currently enrolled in YMCA Child Care Centres that have been selected as ELCC Centres continue to be enrolled in the program. Your fees will automatically be amended to reflect your fee for May 1, 2018.

What is the new monthly fee at a YMCA ELCC Centre?

- Fees will continue to be charged on a monthly basis, and the monthly fee for ELCC Centres will be \$543.75 per child. This is based on an average number of days per month per year multiplied by \$25/day. All children enrolled in ELCC programs will be charged the same fee regardless of age. Full fees will be charged for children who miss any part of the month due to illness or vacation or choosing to not attend program field trips.

Who is eligible to receive \$25/day child care at the YMCA ELCC Centres?

- All children birth to 5 years (as well as kindergarten children that attend YMCA Early Years Child Care) that are enrolled in the ELCC Centres are eligible for \$25/day child care. Children that are enrolled in an Out of School Child Care program are not eligible.

What will the fees be if I have provincial child care subsidy?

- If you are currently approved to receive provincial child care subsidy your parent portion will be adjusted accordingly. For those that receive maximum subsidy, the parent portion will be \$0.

Does the YMCA still require a pre-authorized payment plan?

- Yes. All families are required to have a valid Pre-Authorized Payment Plan with the YMCA, even if your fees will be \$0. If a child who has subsidy should not attend the required hours or if any additional fees are incurred, families are responsible for paying the balance owing which will be automatically deducted through a Pre-Authorized Fee Withdrawal.

Is part-time care available?

- Part-time care may be available at some Centres. If available, part-time care will be in full days, not partial days. If you are interested in this option, please speak to your director. The part-time fee will be \$25/day.

Can I transfer to a YMCA ELCC Child Care Centre?

- Yes. The YMCA tries to accommodate all families, however, we cannot guarantee a continuation of care if a family wishes to transfer between locations.

Priority of children joining YMCA Centres is as follows:

- Children of YMCA Staff
- Siblings of children already attending that program
- Siblings of children attending another YMCA Child Care program
- Transfers from another YMCA Child Care program
- General public waitlist

If I wish to transfer to a YMCA ELCC Centre or join the waitlist (there is a \$25 non-refundable waitlist fee) for a YMCA ELCC Centre who should I contact?

- If you are interested in transferring to another Centre, please contact your current Centre director.
- If you wish to join the waitlist, please contact YMCAELCC@northernalberta.ymca.ca to receive more information on how to submit your request through our website.

With the fee for families lowering, how will YMCA Child Care services change?

- YMCA Child Care will continue to provide high-quality programming for children. The YMCA ELCC Centres will also begin to offer additional supports for children, families, and educators. These additional supports will include Family Support Workers, enhanced curriculum, increased family engagement, and additional professional development for the educators.

Will this increase how many children will attend the YMCA Child Care Centres?

- Our goal is to serve the children and families in the community. The Centres are licensed to serve a number of children based on the size of the classroom. If the Centre is not currently at capacity, it is likely that there will be an increase in the number of children attending the Centre. Our ratio of Educators to children does not change as this is a provincial-licensing requirement.

If you have any further questions about Early Learning and Child Care Centres that we cannot answer, please contact:

- Alberta Supports Contact Centre (1-877-644-9992)
- The provincial website (alberta.ca/elcc)
- Email ELCC@gov.ab.ca

Other resources and links that you may find helpful

- [Early Learning and Child Care Centre grant recipients and fact sheet](#)
- [Child care in Alberta](#)
- [Child Care subsidies](#)