



October 29, 2021

Children's Services
Social & Community Services
Department
Halton Region
690 Dorval Drive 5th Floor
Oakville ON L6K 3X9

RE: Update on 2021 Child Care COVID-19 Support Funding

Dear Service Provider,

I am writing to share an update with you regarding Child Care COVID-19 Support Funding.

Summer 2021 COVID-19 Support Funding

In late July, operators submitted financial and service data for April, May and June 2021. Data from these submissions was reviewed and used to determine eligibility and allocation amounts for the application-based funding. Funding has been prioritized based on mandated closures, financial need, and risk to ongoing viability. In the coming days, you will receive an email from the Region regarding your application and allocation, if applicable.

Fall 2021 COVID-19 Support Funding

Halton Region recognizes that child care operators continue to experience financial challenges as a result of COVID-19. I am pleased to share that additional underspending in child care fee subsidy has been approved to support the licensed child care sector with COVID-19 related expenses.

The Region will distribute additional COVID-19 Support Funding to support the child care sector this fall. Funding will be based on an optional application and will prioritize financial need. Details are provided in the table below:

Operator Eligibility	Funding will only be provided to operators whose expenses exceed their revenue (are in net-deficit, as calculated by Halton Region) over the period of July, August, and September 2021.
Eligible Expenses	Funding can only be used to cover eligible COVID-19 expenses incurred in 2021. See Appendix A.
Allocation Amount	Allocations will be calculated based on submissions of an optional application and will be based on financial need. Allocations will not exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• eligible COVID-19 expenses incurred in July, August, and September 2021; or• an operator's net deficit over the months of July, August, and September 2021.

Regional Municipality of Halton

HEAD OFFICE: 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1
905-825-6000 | Toll free: 1-866-442-5866

Application Approvals	The Region will review applications to determine eligibility. Halton Region may not have sufficient funds available to support all applications and eligible costs. Funding approval will be confirmed with an email.
Application Deadline and Submission Instructions	A Program Analyst will follow up with you separately to provide the electronic application form. Applications are due on or before Wednesday, November 17, 2021. Applications should be submitted to ChildCareFunding@halton.ca . Late applications may be considered, if funding remains available after the deadline.

Licensed Home Child Care

Licensed Home Child Care providers may be eligible for Child Care COVID-19 Support Funding. A Halton Region Program Analyst will follow up with Licensed Home Child Care agencies to better understand their eligibility.

Report Back, Reconciliation and Next Steps

All operators will be required to reconcile 2021 COVID-19 Support Funding as part of year-end reconciliation.

If you have any questions, please email ChildCareFunding@halton.ca. This email account is monitored regularly.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to early years and child care in Halton.

Sincerely,



Sandy Palinski
Director, Children's Services

cc: Samantha Jackson, Manager of Systems Planning and Evaluation
Catherine Wills, Manager of Children's Developmental Services
Donette Phillips, Manager of Direct Child Care Services

APPENDIX A

Eligible COVID-19 Expenditures

Halton Region has allocated funding to child care operators who operate infant, toddler or preschool programs. Eligible expenditures include costs associated with the following:

- Child absenteeism credits/refunds;
- Enhanced cleaning;
- Additional staff to meet health and safety requirements;
- Fixed costs associated with vacancies due to lower enrolment in programs;
- Short term vacancies locally as child care centres adjust to the health and safety requirements;
- Child care staff absenteeism where staff need to stay home because they or their children are sick or need to self-isolate;
- Minor capital required (less than \$5,000 per project, not to exceed \$15,000 per organization) in accordance with the [Ministry's Reopening Operational Guidance](#) or local public health requirements.