

Child Care Provider Funding Grants

The County of Dufferin supports licensed child care providers through funding grants. Several different types of funding are available, including the types listed below. Contact the Children's Services Division for more information at communityservicesinfo@dufferincounty.ca or 519-941-6991 ext. 2206.

Wage Enhancement Grant/Home Child Care Enhancement Grant

The Government of Ontario provides an annual wage enhancement for eligible child care workers within licensed child care centres and enhancement grants for licensed home child care providers (regardless of Purchase of Service status).

The enhancement grant initiative will support a wage increase of up to \$2 per hour (and 17.5% mandatory employer paid benefits) for individuals who work in programs within licensed child care centres or as a home visitor working within licensed home child care. The home child care enhancement grant will support a grant of up to \$20 per day for home child care providers who are contracted to work with a licensed agency.

Child care providers must complete an application to be eligible for this annual funding.

General Operating Grant

Licensed child care providers that have a Purchase of Service with the County are eligible for this annual funding which provides a supplement for staff wage and operating cost support.

One-time Funding Grants

When there are available funds, grant applications for one-time operational and capital costs are offered to licensed child care providers that have a Purchase of Service with the County.

Repairs and Maintenance Expense Funding

These funds are to help pay for repairs or purchases for the programs to meet legislated requirements. Funding can be used for health and safety practices, the upkeep of equipment, property repairs and maintenance.

Play Based Materials and Equipment Expense Funding

These funds are to help child care providers to create enriching environments that promote children's exploration and learning through play. Funding can be used for Play-Based Materials and Equipment that are consistent with the principles of *How Does Learning Happen?* as well as for non-consumable supplies/equipment that support the regular operation of the child care program (e.g., kitchen appliances and supplies, technology, etc.).