



February 20, 2024

Children's Services
Social & Community Services
Department
Halton Region
1151 Bronte Rd.
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

RE: Policy Clarification on 2024 Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Annual Increase Funding for New Hires

Dear Operator,

The Ministry of Education issued policy clarification on February 13, 2024 regarding the CWELCC annual increase for eligible RECE staff hired into a position in 2024. The ministry clarified that funding for the annual wage increase in 2024 will be tied to the position, and not the individual staff member. This means that all eligible staff can receive up to \$2 per hour in CWELCC annual increase funding for 2024, including staff who are:

- continuing in their existing positions;
- newly filling an existing position (e.g. replacing a previous staff member); or
- filling a newly created position in 2024.

The individual staff's base hourly wage will continue to determine how much CWELCC annual increase and wage floor funding will be provided.

The Ministry of Education recognizes that this is a change from previous direction, and the change has been implemented to support overall workforce recruitment and retention. The Ministry will incorporate this change into future versions of the CWELCC Guidelines.

Next Steps

Halton child care operators can expect to receive a 2024 Wage Enhancement Grant (WEG) application by the end of February, requesting up-to-date staffing and wage information. This information will be used to adjust workforce compensation funding retroactive to January 1, 2024.

Halton Region's CWELCC Workforce Compensation Calculator has also been updated to incorporate this policy clarification and is attached for reference.

Regional Municipality of Halton

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

If your organization has questions about CWELCC workforce compensation funding, please contact your Program Analyst. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the implementation of the CWELCC System in Halton.

Sincerely,

Christina Gallimore

Christina Gallimore
Manager of Systems Planning and Evaluation

CC: Sandy Palinski, Director, Children's Services

Encl: 2024 CWELCC Workforce Compensation Calculator