

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

- City of Toronto

WHAT IS A CHILD CARE SUBSIDY?

- A child care subsidy assists with the cost of child-care for children 0-9 years of age. If you live in the City of Toronto, the subsidy may be extended to children up to 12 years of age upon over-age approval from Toronto Children's Services.
- Subsidy is available for licenced group child care centres and licenced home child care.
- Eligibility is determined through the use of an income test where your family income is taken in consideration. Please note that [Ontario Student Assistance Program \(OSAP\)](#) loans, scholarships, fellowships and bursaries are no longer considered to be taxable income. Under the income test, assets and expenses are not taken into consideration.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA?

- A resident of the City of Toronto.
- Each parent who is working, looking for work, self-employed or studying (please note that correspondence courses are not included). Not all courses are approved or eligible.
- The child must reside with you and you must be the parent, foster parent or legal guardian of that child.
- Subsidy is available for when you are in an approved activity (i.e. those days/hours that you are attending classes/tutorials/labs, including study time, travel time to and from work/school). An official letter from the University outlining your FT/PT status as a student should be enough to support your application. You should apply even if you have not started working/studying yet.
- First-time applications can be done online through the City of Toronto website or call the City of Toronto at 311. Be ready to provide them with the information shown on Line 236 of your most recent [Notice of Assessment](#) or [Notice of Reassessment](#) and the amount of any [Universal Child Care Benefit](#) you receive, if applicable. If you are a new immigrant or a new resident to Canada, you may still apply before you have to file your first tax return. You will need to file taxes for the year in which you arrive; please [contact us](#) if you have any questions.
- You can use their [fee subsidy calculator](#) to estimate how much you will need to pay for childcare.
- When your completed application is received, the information will be used to determine if you qualify to be placed on the first-come first-served subsidy waiting list. It is important to note that there is often a fairly long waitlist for subsidy depending on your family situation and your child's age.

WHAT IF I AM NOT APPROVED?

- If your caseworker is not able to help, you have the right to appeal the [Children's Services](#) decision, procedure or policy by submitting a letter of appeal to Metro Children's Services Client Liaison Consultant at childcare@toronto.ca or by calling 416-397-1262.

WHAT IF I LIVE OUTSIDE OF THE CITY OF TORONTO?

- Childcare subsidies are available through your local municipal Children's Services Division. To apply, contact the office in your area. For more information, please contact the Family Care Office for a tip sheet on subsidies available in regions outside of Toronto.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Canada Revenue Agency: www.cra-arc.gc.ca
- Government of Canada Information Line: 1-800-622-6232
- Ministry of Children & Youth Services: www.children.gov.on.ca
- City of Toronto Children's Services
Call 311 or www.toronto.ca/children
- Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)
1-888-815-4514
www.osap.gov.on.ca

For more information on childcare options, financial assistance, and parenting resources, please contact the Family Care Office.
416.978.0951 www.familycare.utoronto.ca

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