



CUSTOMER FEE NOTICE

1 April 2024

FEES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, STARTING 1 AUGUST 2024

Early childhood education organised by the municipality is subject to a monthly fee. The fee is determined according to the Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education and Care (1503/2016) and the Education Committee decisions. The amount of the customer fee is based on family size, income and the agreed service need (i.e. the daily hours the child spends in early childhood education). The service need is agreed for a minimum of a three-month period.

Highest fee and sibling discount

The early childhood education fee for full-time care is up to 311 euros for the youngest and 124 euros (40%) for the second youngest child receiving early childhood education. For other children in full-time early childhood education, the fee is 20% of the youngest child's fee, but not more than 62 euros.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	Fee	PRE-PRIMARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION *)	Fee	BORN IN 2019	Fee
over 7 h	100%	over 7 h	65%	over 7 h	65%
Holiday fee for a six-year-old pre-primary education pupil		pre-primary education + early childhood education			
7–8 h/day	90%**)	total 7–8 h/day	60%	over 5 – max 7 h	40%
over 5 – max 7 h	80%	over 5 – max 7 h	40%	max 5 h	20%
max 5 h	60%	max 5 h	20%	max 4 h	0%

SHIFT CARE HOURS/MONTH	Fee
161–	100%
101–160	80%
61–100	60%

*) Pre-primary education is not provided during school holidays. An increased early childhood education fee is charged based on the current service need for holiday periods.

***) Only applies to the early childhood education fee for six-year-old pre-primary education age pupils during school holidays.

Early childhood education (4 h/day) is free for children aged five, born in 2019 and living in Helsinki, from 1 August 2024 onwards until the start of their pre-primary education.

For temporary full-time early childhood education, a fee of €46.20/day is charged, while the fee for part-time early childhood education is €24.70/day. For the second child, the fees are €24.70/day and €15.30/day respectively.

Family size

The family size considers those living in the same household in a marriage or marriage-like relationship, as well as their underage children who live in the same household.

Payment percentage, minimum and maximum gross income limits

Family size	Minimum/ gross income limit €/month	Fee %	Highest fee/ gross income limit €/month
2	4,066	10.7	6,968
3	5,245	10.7	8,147
4	5,956	10.7	8,858
5	6,667	10.7	9,569
6	7,376	10.7	10,278

If a family has more than six members, the income limit used as grounds for determining the fee is raised by 275 euros for each additional underage child. If a family's income is below the minimum gross income level or if the fee per child is less than 30 euros, no fee is charged.

The early childhood education fee for a family is calculated according to the following formula:

- The minimum gross income limit per month for early childhood education is selected from the table based on the family size and subtracted from the (average) monthly gross income.
- From the remaining amount, 10.7% is taken as the full-time early childhood education fee per month for the youngest child.

Income

Income includes taxable earnings and capital income, as well as tax-exempt income, of the child, the child's parent or other guardian and the spouse or person living in a marriage-like relationship with the parent or guardian in the same household. Among other things, income includes salaries, benefits, fees, grants, rental income, dividends, holiday pay, allowances and bonuses. If the income varies monthly, we calculate the average monthly income over a year or at least three months.

Gross income does not include the following: child home care allowance (except for flexible and partial care allowance) and child benefit; benefit for disabled individuals under 16 years of age, benefit for disabled individuals aged 16 or older, care allowance for pensioners and dietary grant according to the Act on Disability Benefits (570/2007); child increase according to the National Pensions Act (568/2007); housing allowance; medical care and examination costs reimbursed based on accident insurance; conscript's allowance; front-veteran's supplement; financial aid for students according to the Act on Financial Aid for Students (65/1994); adult education allowance; social assistance; maintenance allowance of labour market subsidy or training support; grants and similar benefits received for studies; or compensation of costs of family care. Child maintenance allowance paid for children outside the family and other similar costs arising from actual family relationships, as well as annuities, are taken into account as deductions from income.

Income declaration and payment decision

The parents of a child must declare their income if the combined gross income of the family does not warrant the highest early childhood education fee and whenever the income changes significantly. The income declaration form can be found on the hel.fi website (Childhood and Education → Early childhood education → Early childhood education fee). The declaration form with its attachments should be sent via secure email (link to Securemail via websites) or by post to: Education Division, Customer fees and invoicing, PO Box 58301, 00099 City of Helsinki. An income report can also be submitted to the location where the child receives their early childhood education.

The payment and other decisions made during the service period can be viewed in the Edlevo e-service if you agreed to the use of the e-service when applying for early childhood education, pre-primary education or a club and are logged into the e-service at hel.fi/vakapalvelu. Alternatively, you can log into the e-service by using the Edlevo mobile app, which can be downloaded from Google Play and the App Store. Use your suomi.fi e-identification to log into the service. When you log into the Edlevo service, your contact details will be updated and passed on to the early childhood education and pre-primary education staff. The City of Helsinki e-service Edlevo is available in Finnish, Swedish and English.

Review of the early childhood education fee

The early childhood education fees are reviewed every year. Families must provide up-to-date information about their income either annually or whenever their income changes. If a family's income information is more than one year old, they may be asked to provide a new, up-to-date income declaration. The request for an income declaration comes with the payment decision, giving the family 14 days to submit a new income declaration. Please ensure that your email address in Edlevo is correct in order to receive the notification of a new payment decision.

Families are obliged to report any changes in their income in writing, accompanied by relevant attachments, if the change is fundamental or the size of the family changes. If a decision regarding the fee has been based on incorrect information provided by the customer, the fee can be retrospectively corrected for up to one year. The person responsible for determining and deciding the customer fees has viewing rights to the KELA information system, where they can check the status and payment details of a customer's benefits without the customer's consent. The use of the system is based on Section 21 of the Act on the Status and Rights of Social Welfare Clients.

Monthly fee

A monthly fee is charged for up to eleven calendar months during an operating year (1 August–31 July). The monthly fee is not collected for July. The prerequisite is that municipal early childhood education has commenced no later than September of the operating year. Summer-time fees are announced separately. The invoice is sent only to the address of the family where the child lives with their guardian(s).

If the child is **regularly** absent for 4–12 days a month, 4% for each contractual day of absence is reimbursed.

Regular days off can be set up for a minimum period of three months. Reimbursed days off can be based on agreed weekdays or work shifts, which must be reported to the care place at least one week in advance. **When a child's regularly reimbursed weekday absence falls on a bank holiday, it counts as a reimbursed day off. However, reimbursed days off cannot be concentrated on bank holidays or holiday periods.** Other days off during a calendar month do not count towards the reimbursed absences.

If a child is absent from early childhood education due to illness, any regular days off during that period are not recorded as sick days. If a child is ill during a previously agreed-on holiday, these days are not recorded as sick days. If a regular day off falls on a bank holiday, the day off does not need to be taken on another day.

Effects of absences on the early childhood education fee

Early childhood education fees cover approximately 10% of the cost of early childhood education, and as a rule, no reimbursements are made for absences. The monthly fee is also charged for days off, with the following exceptions:

1. If a child is absent from early childhood education due to illness for all of the operating days within a calendar month, no fee is charged.
2. If a child is absent from early childhood education due to illness for at least 11 operating days within a calendar month, 50% of the monthly fee is charged.
3. If a child is absent from early childhood education due to a reason other than the child being ill for an entire calendar month, 50% of the monthly fee is charged.

Start and end of early childhood education

The early childhood education fee is charged from the start date onwards, as specified in the early childhood education decision.

Families are requested to give notice of the termination of early childhood education at least one month before the need for it ends. The notice must be given in writing to the director of the early childhood education place. The invoicing will end on the agreed termination date.

ENQUIRIES

Determining early childhood education fee Education Division

Customer fees and invoicing, PO Box 58301,
00099 City of Helsinki
Street address: Työpajankatu 8,
Tel. +358 (0)9 310 43270 at 9.00–11.00
varhaiskasvatus.maksut@hel.fi

Invoicing of early childhood education; Postponement and collection

City of Helsinki
Financial administration
tel. +358 (0)9 310 25300
talpa.asiakaspalvelu@hel.fi

Securemail is available on the hel.fi website
(Early childhood education fee)