

## What is the ‘\$10-a-day childcare’ initiative? (as at DEC. 2022)

The Government of Alberta is working with the Federal Government to increase funding to licensed daycares and parents through grants and subsidies. Learn more at <https://www.alberta.ca/federal-provincial-child-care-agreement.aspx>.

The intent is to decrease the average cost of childcare for children attending full-time care (100 hours per month or more) across a 5 year period. The goal is to help full-time working parents be able to work, and provide care for their children.

The initiative began in mid-January 2022, with a goal date for full implementation of the program by December 2027.

## What funding will be provided?

There are two types of funding as at Dec. 1 2022: **Affordability Grants** and **Childcare Subsidy**.

### **AFFORDABILITY GRANTS**

As of Jan. 2022, Centres that were Provincially-registered childcare facilities at the start of the program receive a set amount for every child that is registered to attend for more than 100 hours per month (full grant) or a minimum of 50 hours per month (part-time grant). This amount is removed up front from our posted fee rates (what you pay by cheque each month). *Childcare facilities that opened post-launch of the program, or childcare spaces that were created post-launch, MAY NOT have an Affordability Grant available to them. It is important to check with your childcare facility to ensure that the Grant is applicable to the space you are registering for.*

Here’s how the Operating Grant may benefit you:

Program level	2022-2023 fee schedule per month	Operating grant received by AHM	The fee that you pay for a Grant-funded childcare space
Nido (8 mns – 18 mns), attending over 100 hours per month	\$2,200	\$635	\$1,565
Bambini (19mns – 36 mnts), attending over 100 hours per month	\$1,400	\$510	\$890
Casa (3 – 6 years), attending over 100 hours per month	\$1,100	\$450	\$650

**For more information on all grant amounts available for full or part-time schedules, please visit <https://www.alberta.ca/federal-provincial-child-care-agreement.aspx>.**

### **CHILDCARE SUBSIDY**

The Province currently operates a childcare subsidy program for lower income families. Children must attend more than 100 hours to receive subsidy payments. Parents are required to apply for this program directly with the Province. Learn more about the current program here:

<https://www.alberta.ca/child-care-subsidy.aspx>

The subsidy program qualifying income top level was previously a household total of \$90,000. *As of January 2022, this threshold increased to \$180,000, and the amounts of subsidy paid to parents changes to the new schedule.* You must make under \$119,000 in your household to qualify for the full subsidy amount each month. Your subsidy amount scales down the more money that you earn. These threshold and limits are subject to change.

#### **All other aspects of the program remain the same:**

- You must still apply directly to the Province through a MyAlberta ID with various documentation (approval can take 6-8 weeks)
  - o Other qualifying factors, such as Canadian citizenship and parents must be working full-time, may also apply
- Parents will continue to be responsible for your full AHM tuition payments up-front, as they apply to you post-Operating Grant
- The Centre will submit an hours' count of your child's attendance to the Province at the end of each month
- Payments will still be sent to the Centre 2-3 weeks after your child's attendance based on the hours that your child actually attends the program (must be over 100 hours each month)
- The Centre will reimburse you your subsidy amount (methods TBC)

You can access the Province's Estimation Tool to help you determine how much subsidy, if any, you qualify for:

[https://www.childcaresubsidy.gov.ab.ca/ccs/ccs\\_public.nsf/Estimator?OpenForm](https://www.childcaresubsidy.gov.ab.ca/ccs/ccs_public.nsf/Estimator?OpenForm)

## **What attendance schedules qualify for funding?**

All funding and grant programs are primarily focused on children who are registered to attend care 100 hours or more per month. You can qualify for a partial grant if your child is registered to attend 50 hours of care or more per month.

## **FAQs**

*When will my fees at AHM go down to \$10 a day?*

Each childcare centre will always be able to set their own tuition fees. Funding like the Operating Grant and the increased Parent Subsidy are intended to move the line closer to \$10 a day care over a 5 year period, *but it will not be an exact or guaranteed amount at every centre in Alberta.*

High quality and specialized early learning Centres like Aspen Hill will always be a higher investment to attend. The new funding will make it possible for even more families to invest in quality care, or to invest in additional care to make it more affordable to return to work.

*I don't need my child to attend full time in 2022-2023, but I want to get the grant money. Should I register for full-time?*

Full-time learning benefits your child and can assist with creating more time for parents to work / pursue activities to benefit the community. We only offer schedules which will assist you in maximizing access to funding.

*How do the grants and funding affect the June deposit that AHM takes?*

The tuition deposit for the last month of learning will remain at the full posted rates, NOT including the Operating Grant, applicable to your child's level and placed schedule. Once your child completes their learning season with our Centres, the government grant amount is credited to your account to use towards upcoming care fees due. If your child is graduating from our Centre, you will receive a refund of this amount.

The information in this summary is to assist parents at AHM only, and should not be considered the only resource on the new programs. Resources consulted:

<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/cs-child-care-fact-sheet-for-parents.pdf>

<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/cs-child-care-subsidy-rates.pdf>

For questions about subsidy: call the Alberta Supports Contact Centre at 1-877-644-9992 or e-mails [cs.subsidyappfeedback@gov.ab.ca](mailto:cs.subsidyappfeedback@gov.ab.ca).

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