

What is the ‘\$10-a-day childcare’ initiative? (as at DEC. 2023)

The Government of Alberta is working with the Federal Government to increase funding to certain 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 an extended 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 late 2026.

Childcare centres and the Provincial government decide how much, when, and if the different grants and subsidies will apply to the specific centre. Not all programs will be available at all centres.

What funding will be provided?

There are two types of funding as at Dec. 1 2023: **Affordability Grants** and **Childcare Subsidy**.

AFFORDABILITY GRANTS

The program started in Jan. 2022. Centres that are Provincially-registered childcare facilities can 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). If applicable, this amount is removed up-front from our posted fee rates (what you pay by cheque each month). *Childcare facilities 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 Grant may benefit you:

Program level	AHM 2024-2025 fee schedule per month	Operating grant received by AHM	The fee that you pay for a Grant-funded childcare space
Infant, attending over 100 hours per month	\$2,200	\$883	\$1,317
Toddler, attending over 100 hours per month	\$1,400	\$709	\$691
Preschool, attending over 100 hours per month	\$1,100	\$626	\$474

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 families whose total income is less than \$180,000. Your subsidy amount scales down the more money that you earn. These threshold and limits are subject to change. Children must attend more than a designated number of hours each month 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>

Highlights of the program:

- You must 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 continue to be responsible for your full AHM tuition payments up-front
- The Centre submits 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
- The Centre will reimburse you your subsidy amount via cheque approx. 1.5 months after the month of attendance.

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

FAQs

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

Each childcare centre sets their own tuition fees. Funding like the Affordability Grant and Childcare 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.

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

Aspen Hill reserves the right to post and require a deposit of the school's preference each learning season. Please review your upcoming learning season Fee Schedule to learn more.

The information in this summary is to assist parents considering 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.

Updated: Dec. 1 2023