

Inclusive Child Care Supports Committee

Children's Services Systems Management	Name of Policy Specialized Supports Funding
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APPROVED BY: Inclusive Child Care Supports Committee
and Director of Children's Services **DATE:** May 26, 2009

EFFECTIVE DATE: **LATEST REVISION:**

Authority: Niagara Region

Intent: The intent of additional support funding is to support children in child care centres where the safety of the child or children is in question due to the developmental and or social emotional needs of the child.

Definitions:

Policy: Children between the ages of 0-6 are eligible for additional support in a child care centre where:

1. the child care centre has a purchase of service agreement with Niagara Region Children's Services
2. appropriate documentation regarding the child's developmental or social emotional needs and Level of Service Tool report has been completed
3. the Support Representative of Quality Child Care Niagara has visited the centre to ensure that all aspects of Quality Child Care Niagara have been implemented
4. the support will ensure continued placement as an employment support in a child care centre and the family is in receipt of child care subsidy
5. the child is not attending junior or senior kindergarten
6. the support will be short term and will be reviewed within three months in order to support regular staff to develop strategies to work with the child.
7. the safety of the child or children is in question due to the developmental and or social emotional needs of the child.

In all cases, where child care may be jeopardized, the Fee Subsidy Caseworker and parent must be notified prior to any decisions being made which may impact services to the child.

All approved funding is limited, time specific and is approved on a case by case, "first come, first serve" basis.

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Procedure:

1. Child Care Centres will make application to Niagara Region Children's Services for Specialized Support Funding by completing the Specialized Support Funding form for children who require short term supports and meet the above outlined eligibility criteria.
2. If funding is approved, the child care centre and resource teacher agency will be notified by Children's Services, in writing of the funding decision. Since the funding arrangement for specialized supports is between Children's Services and the child care centre, the child care centre is responsible to notify the parent of funding decisions.
3. Hours of support are based on the child's attendance. The child care centre sends an invoice and a record of the child's attendance to Children's Services for compensation.

Rate of financial reimbursement must align with that of the child care centre and the **temporary employment** of support staff is the sole responsibility of the child care centre.

Length of Support: When additional supports are provided to a child care centre, the support is short term and will evolve on a reduced hourly basis over a course of months. Maximum support for a child/group of children will be 6 months.

* In situations where the Resource Teacher together with the Centre Supervisor feels the child's behaviour poses immediate health and safety concerns for the child, staff or children attending the program and or the placement may be in immediate jeopardy, an emergency request may be made for up to 20 hours of service. In these situations where child care may be jeopardized, the Fee Subsidy Caseworker and parent must be notified.

Appeals

Parents have the right to appeal funding decisions through the Child Care Centre to Children's Services.

The Child Care Centre will notify Niagara Region Children's Services that they wish to appeal the funding decision to reduce or terminate funding for Specialized Support.

A case conference will be held with the parent, Child Care Centre, Representative(s) of the Resource Teacher Agency, Children's Services and any other agencies providing support to the child as deemed necessary to discuss the situation.

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Alternate supports will be discussed during the case conference to determine any other funding that may be accessed or other options of support within the child care operation

Should no alternatives be available, the appeal can be then forwarded to the Director of Children's Services to determine further funding.

**APPLICATION FORM
SHORT TERM
SPECIALIZED SUPPORT FUNDING FOR CHILD CARE**

Date of Application:	
Name of Child Care Centre:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	Fax Number:
Contact Person's Name:	Centre E-mail:

Agency Providing Resource Teacher Support	
Resource Teacher:	
<u>Contact Info:</u>	
Phone:	E-mail:

<u>Child Information:</u>	Level of Service Tool Score:	
Child's Name:	DOB:	
Parent/Guardian:		
Address:	Phone Number:	
Start Date:	Program Type: ___ full	
Number of Days per week _____	___ half	
Current Number of Children in Group _____	___ nursery	
<u>Support Funding Criteria:</u>		
1. Does the child care have a purchase of service agreement with Children's Services?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Does the family receive fee subsidy?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Does the child attend junior or senior kindergarten.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Funding Applied for: (hours per day and week, number of weeks, hourly rate)		
Resource Teacher Report Supporting Additional Support Request included with this report?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If no, why not?		
Identified areas of Delay Requiring Support:		

Consent forms on file at Child Care Centre, Resource Consultant's Agency and Children's Services, Regional Municipality of Niagara.

RESOURCES/ SUPPORTS/ CHANGES CHECKLIST FOR CHILD CARE SUPPORTS

Has the Child Care Centre Participated in Quality Child Care Niagara?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Phase One	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Phase Two	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Has the Child Care Centre Consulted with the Quality Child Care Niagara Support person for advice on any adaptations to be made as recommended by the Resource Teacher?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Resources/Supports/Changes To be Made	Responsibility	Date to be Completed By
Environmental Changes		
Schedule Changes		
Equipment		
Change in Routines		
Volunteer/Student/Family Member/Other Resources or Supports		
Do centre-based staff require additional training to be better able to support the child?	If yes, what type of training?	

MEASURABLE OUTCOMES TO FACILITATE INCLUSION

GOAL: To facilitate inclusion and reduce the need for ongoing support.

CHILD CARE PROVIDER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILD		OUTCOMES ACHIEVED
Action:	Measurable Outcomes Expected:	
RESOURCE CONSULTANT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILD		OUTCOMES ACHIEVED
Action:	Measurable Outcomes Expected:	

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Child Care Provider: _____ **Date:** _____

Resource Consultant: _____ **Date:** _____

At the end of the contract, a written report of measurable outcomes will be required.