

CIRCULAR

Date: March 27, 2020

CIRCULAR NUMBER: COVID-19: 2020-40

To: Early Learning and Child Care Centres and Home-based Child Care Providers offering care for children of critical services workers, ELCC staff

Subject: **COVID-19 Parent Fees**

Program(s): All

Type: Policy For Internal Reference Only
 Procedure Information Only

Effective Date Immediately

Topic: Parent Fees During COVID-19

Early Learning and Child Care has received requests from child care facilities for additional financial assistance due to reduced parent fees.

Child care facilities are encouraged to refund parent fees to families no longer receiving services at this time, or consider issuing families credit for future care for fees already paid.

All non-profit child care facilities will continue to receive their full provincial operating grants. Those that remain open to provide child care services for up to 16 children of critical service providers during COVID-19 may also continue charging the regulated maximum parent fees to the parents of those children.

Early Learning and Child Care will work with facilities that remain open to address financial pressures due to reduced fees.

To initiate discussions for additional financial support, send an email to cdcinfo@gov.mb.ca with the subject line “staying open - financial pressure”, and you will be contacted next week. Please ensure that you are able to provide details about immediate costs associated with the provision of child care to critical services workers.

All screening for suspected cases of the virus are be referred to Health Links at 204-788-8200 or 1-888-315-9257. The most up to date information on COVID-19 can be found at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/coronavirus/index.html>.