Child care and early learning updates e-newsletter

November 10, 2026

Welcome to The Regional Municipality of Durham's child care and early learning updates e-newsletter. These e-newsletters provide licensed child care operators in Durham Region with updated information related to child care.

This edition includes the following topics:

- 2027 Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system funding guideline updates.

2027 Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system funding guideline updates

The Child Care and Early Years Division (CCEYD) has received the Ministry of Education's 2027 Child Care and Early Years Funding Guidelines. While the guidelines have not yet been posted, we are sharing key updates to support your planning for 2027. Once posted, the guidelines can be found on ontario.ca under Child Care and Early Years Funding Guidelines.

2027 Professional Learning funding

Professional Learning funding has not been included in the 2027 guidelines at this time. Should the ministry provide additional direction regarding Professional Learning funding, the CCEYD will share further information with operators. Professional learning expenses may be eligible through your centre's cost-based funding allocation. Please connect with Stacee.Stevenson@durham.ca for clarification.

2027 Workforce supports

For 2027, Wage Enhancement Grant (WEG) and Workforce Compensation (WFC) funding will remain at 2026 funding levels. As a result, the CWELCC wage floors and wage ceilings remain unchanged for 2027.

Workforce compensation wage floors

Position	2027 wage floor

Registered Early Childhood Educator (RECE) program staff	$25.86
RECE child care supervisor	$26.86
RECE home child care visitor	$26.86

Workforce compensation wage ceilings

Position	2027 wage ceiling
RECE program staff	$28
RECE child care supervisor	$31
RECE home child care visitor	$31

Wage Enhancement Grant (WEG)

WEG cannot exceed $2 per hour in program and cannot push wages above the wage eligibility ceiling ($33.81 per hour for 2027).

The maintenance of the 2026 wage floor and ceiling amounts for 2027 does not prevent operators from increasing employee base wages. Reasonable wage increases that can be accommodated within an operator's approved CWELCC allocation remain an eligible expense. The CCEYD will continue to review the 2027 guidelines and share additional information with operators as it becomes available.

To assist with planning, the 2027 Staff Compensation Calculator will be posted by November 12 and can be accessed in the Child Care Operator Portal under Communications and Resources, by selecting Templates & Forms, followed by CWELCC. The calculator is labelled 2027_Staff_Compensation_Calculator. If you have questions surrounding workforce supports, please contact Grace.Severn@durham.ca or Lindsay.Hill@durham.ca.

2026/2027 upcoming document submissions

As year-end approaches, there are several important documents that need to be completed and submitted. Some of these documents will support the reconciliation of 2026 funding and activities, while others will provide essential information to help prepare for a successful transition into 2027. Timely completion and submission of these documents is essential. Doing so will help ensure year-end processes are completed efficiently and that planning for the upcoming year can move forward smoothly.

The team is here to support you throughout this process. If you have any questions or require assistance with the reporting requirements, please reach out to Stacee.Stevenson@durham.ca.

2026 submission deadlines

Document	Who needs to submit	Due date
General Operating Survey	CWELCC operators or programs exclusively serving children ages six to 12	November 27, 2026
Eligible Children in Ineligible Spaces (ECIS) Reporting	CWELCC Programs who have school age children who were five years old and enrolled in grade one between September and December 2026.	December 4, 2026
Funding Allocation Data Tool	CWELCC operators	December 4, 2026

2027 submission deadlines

Document	Who needs to submit	Due date
Standardized Financial Report (SFR)	CWELCC operators	January 31, 2027

Local priorities reconciliation	CWELCC operators or programs exclusively serving children ages six to 12	January 31, 2027
Professional Learning Reconciliation	CWELCC Operators who accessed Professional Learning funding in 2026.	January 31, 2027
Emergency Funding Reconciliation	CWELCC Operators who accessed emergency funding in 2026.	January 31, 2027