

Information about municipal early childhood education client fees

Effective as of 1 March 2017



JYVÄSKYLÄ



How are early childhood education fees determined?

The fees charged for early childhood education are based on the Act on Customer Fees for Early Childhood Education Services and Section 4 of the Act on Customer Fees for Health and Social Services. The Acts include provisions on how the fees payable by customers for early childhood education and the income on which such fees are based are determined.

Family size

For calculation purposes, a family is deemed to include married and co-habiting unmarried couples and the minor children of both parties living under the same roof.

If the guardians of the child live in different addresses but the early childhood education is provided for the child only in one municipality, the fee will be based on the income of the household, which is the child's official place of residence.

Family income

The income of the household refers to the income of the parents or other guardian of a child using early childhood education services, and that of the spouse or cohabiting partner living in the same household. For the purposes of the calculation, family income includes all taxable and capital income as well as tax-exempt income. If no documentary proof is provided of the holiday bonus for the full tax year, an amount equal to 5% of the monthly income will be added to the total monthly earnings. Children's income may include survivors' pension, interest income, child support or child maintenance. Child support paid to children outside the family and other similar costs arising from actual family circumstances are deducted from the family income for calculation purposes.

The customer fee for early childhood education is determined for an indefinite or fixed term based on verifiable or estimated income. If the family fails to report any income, the highest rate will apply. An exemption from the customer fee may be granted or its amount reduced based on maintenance obligations or considerations related to means of support or custody.

Monthly fee

The customer fee for early childhood education is charged as a monthly fee for eleven calendar months during the year. No fee is charged for June or July provided that the child has entered into care before September 1st of the previous year. The right to a free month applies even if the child moves from one municipality to another.

The customer fee for early childhood education is based on the family's total gross income. If the fee for an individual child is less than €27, it is waived.

Family size, income limits, percentage rate and minimum gross income limits for the highest rate:

Family size, no. of people	Income limit €/month	Rate (%)	Minimum gross income limit for the highest rate (€)
2	€1,915	11.5	€4,493
3	€1,915	9.4	€4,995
4	€2,053	7.9	€5,718
5	€2,191	7.9	€5,856
6	€2,328	7.9	€5,993

If the family size is greater than 6, the income limit determining the amount of the fee is increased by €138 for each additional minor child in the family.

According to the law, the youngest child accessing the early childhood education services is regarded as the first child of the family. The maximum fee payable for the first child is €290 per month. The fee chargeable for the second child accessing early childhood education full time may be no more than 90% of the fee payable for the first child. The fee charged for each child beyond the second child is 20% of the fee payable for the first child. The amount of the fee charged for children other than the first child is derived from a full-time early childhood education fee that would be chargeable for the first child.

Determination of customer fees for early childhood education based on the number hours in care

The fee is determined and billed according to the number of hours the child is in care to be agreed upon with the family. If the number of hours is not known, an estimate is made. The actual number of hours spent in day care are checked every three months.

Early childhood education is free for 84 hours per month. The charge for a child requiring early childhood education in addition to the free hours is 55% or 65% of the maximum.

Specified day-care hours/month	Customer fee as percentage (%) of maximum rate	Maximum €/month
0–84 hours	55%	€160
85–107 hours	65%	€189
108–130 hours	80%	€232
131–150 hours	90%	€261
151 hours or more	100%	€290

Fee for temporary care

The fee for non-recurring temporary care (up to 5 days) is €19 per day regardless of the actual amount of time spent in care. The same fee applies to all siblings in temporary care.

Fee charged for non-cancelled early childhood education in case of absence

If a place has been applied for and granted to a child and it is not cancelled before the specified start date, a fee equivalent to 50% of the monthly fee will apply.

Fees charged for periods of absence

- If a child is absent from early childhood education because of illness on all days of the month on which education is provided, no fee will apply.
- If a child is absent from early childhood education because of illness for a minimum of eleven days of the month on which education is provided, half of the regular fee will apply.
- If a child is absent on all days of the calendar month for reasons other than illness, half of the regular monthly fee will apply.
- When the father of a child who has started early childhood education draws a paternity allowance, no fee will apply but the child is not entitled to education on such days. The notice of absence due to paternity leave must be filed with the early childhood education facility no later than two weeks before the planned start date.
- If a child's early childhood education period starts or ends in the middle of the month, the monthly fee is reduced to reflect the actual duration of care.

Refunds for school holidays

Families are eligible for a refund for full days of school leaves reported in advance as follows:

- **Need for care 108 hours or more**
A refund is paid for all the days during the school leave reported in advance.
- **Need for care 85–107 hours**
The hours available and eligible for a refund are calculated on the basis of 107 hours.
- **Need for care 8–84 hours**
The hours available and eligible for a refund are calculated on the basis of 84 hours.

Adjustment of early childhood education fees and changes in the information provided

The early childhood education fee will be adjusted if there is a significant change in the family income (+/- 10%), the amount proves to be incorrect, the size of the family or the duration of early childhood education changes, or existing regulations or decisions are amended. If the decision regarding the fee amount is obviously based on inaccurate information provided by the parents or other guardians, the fee can be adjusted retroactively for a maximum period of 12 months.

Families are obligated to promptly report any changes in income to the customer payment secretary of the Financial Unit either by using the online portal or by mail. If the change in income occurs in the middle of the month, the adjusted fee will apply as of the beginning of the following month.

All changes in family size, need for care, workplace, address, telephone numbers, e-mail address and name changes must be promptly reported to the director of the day-care facility using the online portal or the changed information/termination form.

Payment of fees

The early childhood education fee is invoiced once per month. The specified care hours are invoiced in arrears, with the invoice falling due on the last day of the following month. If the invoice is not paid by its due date, a reminder will be sent to the customer. Failure to pay the invoice by the due date indicated in the reminder will result in collection measures. Early childhood education fees are directly leviable.

Club fees

Clubs operate from August to May. Club fees are paid on a monthly basis with no refunds for absence. The fee is based on the agreed-upon number of club days: the fee is €44 per month for a club meeting twice a week and €22 per month for a club meeting once a week. The family club fee is €6 per meeting.

Additional information

More information on early childhood education fees and the contact details of the customer payment secretaries are available on the City of Jyväskylä Early Childhood Education website: www.jyvaskyla.fi/paivahoito/hoitomaksut



JYVÄSKYLÄ CITY
Early Childhood Education Services

www.jyvaskyla.fi/paivahoito