

EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE FEES AS OF 1 MARCH 2017**Maximum fee and sibling discounts**

The maximum full-day care fee is EUR 290 for the youngest and EUR 221 for the second youngest child in early education and care. For the family's other children, the full-day care rate is 20% of the care fee charged for the youngest child, the maximum being EUR 58. In all fee categories, the full-day care fee charged for the second youngest child in early education and care cannot be any higher than 90% of the fee charged for the youngest child. The next revision of the fees is scheduled for 1 August 2018.

EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE	Fee	PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION AND EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE*)	Fee	SHIFT CARE HOURS/MONT H	Fee
over 7 h	100%	over 7 h	65%	161–	100%
over 5 up to 7 h	80%	over 5 up to 7 h	40%	101–160	80%
up to 5 h	60%	up to 5 h	20%	61–100	60%

*) Care provided in lieu of pre-primary education during holidays is subject to a charge.

For temporary early education and care, the fee is EUR 46.20 per day and for temporary part-day early education and care EUR 24.70 per day.

For the second and any additional children, the rates are EUR 24.70 and EUR 15.30 per day, respectively.

Family size

When the family size is determined, married or common-law couples living in the same household, as well as the minor children of both partners living with them in the same household, are taken into account.

Fee percentages and minimum and maximum gross income limits

Family size	Minimum/ gross income limit EUR/month	Fee %	Maximum fee/ gross income limit EUR/month
2	1,915	11.5	4,433
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 six, the income limit used as the basis for determining the fee is increased by EUR 138 for each additional minor child in the family. If the family's income is lower than the minimum gross income limit, or if the fee per child is less than EUR 27, no fee is charged.

To calculate your family's full-day care fees, use the following formula:

- Check the minimum gross income limit per month that matches your family size from the table, and subtract it from your average monthly gross income.
- Use the remaining figure to calculate the amount according to the fee percentage (11.5, 9.4 or 7.9) = the full-day care fee for your youngest child.

Income

Income includes all taxable earned income, capital gains and all tax-free income earned by a child, parent or other guardian and his or her spouse or partner living in the same household.

The following are not considered as income: child home care allowance (with the exception of flexible and partial home care allowance); child benefit; disability support for those under the age of 16, disability support for those over the age of 16, care allowance for pensioners and dietary compensation according to the Disability Benefit Act (570/2007); child increment according to the National Pension Act (568/2007);

housing allowance; compensation for medical treatment and examinations paid under accident insurance; conscript's allowance; front veteran's compensation; study grants; adult education support; social assistance; maintenance allowance paid as labour market subsidy or training subsidy; scholarships or other forms of grants awarded for studies; or compensation for the costs of family care.

Child support payable to children outside the family involved and other corresponding costs due to actual family relations, including traditional life-annuity, are deductible from income.

Income declaration

The parents of the child must provide an income declaration unless the family's total gross income exceeds the limit requiring payment of the maximum day care fee. The income declaration should be made by using the form available from the Department of Early Education and Care's customer service outlets or its website at <http://www.hel.fi/www/vaka/fi>. The income declaration, together with the enclosures, is to be sent to: Department of Early Education and Care, Client Fees Unit, PO Box 3001, 00099 City of Helsinki. The income declaration can also be submitted at the child's care place.

Adjustment of the early education and care fee

The early education and care fee is effective until further notice. Any substantial change in income or change in the family size must be reported in writing, accompanied by the necessary documents. If the decision on the early education and care fee has been made on the basis of inaccurate information provided by the client, the fee may be adjusted and charged retroactively, but only from up to one year. The unit that determines the fees has access to the KELA information system, wherein payment information on the client's pending and current benefits can be checked without the client's consent. Access to the system is based on Section 21 of the Act on the Status and Rights of Social Welfare Clients.

Monthly fee

The monthly fee is charged for a maximum of eleven calendar months per operating year (1 August–31 July). No fee is charged for July, provided that the child has started in municipal early education and care no later than in September of the current operating year. The care fees for summer are announced separately.

If the child is regularly absent for 4 to 12 days per month, the monthly fee is reduced by 4% for each agreed upon day of absence.

The regular absences must take place over a minimum period of 3 months. A monthly fee is charged for early education and care, and occasional absences are not recompensed. Regular, recompensed absences can be based on work shifts, in which case they must be notified to the care place at least one week in advance. If one of the parents is at home and the absences are not based on the work shifts of the working parent, the days of absence will be agreed to a specific day of the week that will recur regularly for at least 3 months. The principle of regularity will be entered in the service plan. Other absences are not considered as compensable regular absences.

If the child is absent from early education and care due to illness, regular days off will not be recorded as days of illness. If the child is ill during a holiday that has been agreed upon in advance, the holidays will not be recorded as days of illness. If a regular day off falls on a midweek holiday, the day off does not need to be taken on another day.

Impact of absences on the early education and care fee

The early education and care fees cover approximately 10% of the costs to arrange early education and care, and usually no compensation is given for absences. The monthly fee is also charged for days of absence with the following exceptions:

1. If the child is absent from early education and care due to illness on every operating day during a calendar month, no fee is charged.
2. If the child is absent from early education and care due to illness on at least 11 operating days during a calendar month, only half of the monthly fee is charged.
3. If the child is absent from early education and care for reasons other than illness every day during a calendar month, half of the monthly fee is charged.

Starting and ending early education and care

The early education and care fee is charged from the start date of care, as indicated in the early education and care decision. If an early education and care place duly applied for and granted for a child is not accepted and no notice of cancellation is given before the care start date, as defined in the early education and care decision, half of the monthly fee will be charged.

The ending of early education and care should be notified one month in advance. Invoicing ends at the agreed upon end date of care.

Fee charged for uncancelled early education and care

If a child's guardians reserve an early education and care place for the child for their holiday and do not cancel it, a fee equal to half of the monthly fee, as determined based on the Act on Early Childhood Education Client Fees, may be charged for the uncancelled care place. Even if the family's income is low enough that no monthly fee is charged for the child, a fee equal to half of the minimum monthly fee, as determined based on Section 7, can still be charged for unused early education and care as referred to in Section 10.

ENQUIRIES

Enquiries concerning the determination of Education Sector

Client Fees and Invoicing, PO Box 3001,
00099 City of Helsinki
Töysänkatu 2, documents submitted to the
caretaker
tel. 09 310 1711 9am–11am
varhaiskasvatus.maksut@hel.fi

Invoicing of early education and care; changes in due date and collection

City of Helsinki
Financial Management
tel. 09 310 25300, fax 31025355
tel. 09 310 25300, fax 31025355
talpa.asiakaspalvelu@hel.fi