



Government is making quality child care more affordable and accessible for families throughout B.C. This starts with a \$1-billion investment in Childcare BC – the province’s 10-year path to universal child care.

As part of this, the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund (formerly major capital funding) is investing \$221 million to support the creation of up to 22,000 new licensed child care spaces over the next three years.

Grant applications are now open for public-sector, private-sector and non-profit organizations to apply – with a focus on partnerships between the public sector and non-profit child care providers building licensed infant/toddler spaces. Government will look to leverage existing facilities – on school grounds, at recreation centres and other public places – to help make life easier for families. Preference will also be given to communities with the greatest need and to spaces that serve vulnerable and underserved populations and operate outside of core business hours. Government is also prioritizing the hiring, retention and development of Early Childhood Educators to help create quality child care spaces.

Highlights of the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund:

- A streamlined application process and continuous intake, rather than fixed application dates.
- Prioritizing, for the first time, funding for public-sector partnerships with non-profit child care providers. Public sector partnerships, such as local/municipal governments, band/tribal councils and/or First Nations governments may apply for up to 100% of the total cost of their projects, up to a maximum of \$1 million per facility (i.e. no funding contribution required).
- School boards, public post secondary institutions, and Indigenous organizations are now eligible for 100% of the total cost of their project, up to a maximum of \$500,000.
- Child development centres are eligible for 100% of total project costs, up to \$500,000.
- Not-for-profit organizations are eligible for up to 90% of total project costs, up to \$500,000.
- Private child care providers are eligible for 75% of total project costs, up to \$250,000.

Successful applicants must be willing to apply for Child Care Operating Funding and commit to enrolling in the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (where eligible) – another way government is working to make quality child care more accessible and affordable to more B.C. families.

To learn more and apply for funding, visit [www.gov.bc.ca/childcare/newspacesfund](http://www.gov.bc.ca/childcare/newspacesfund) or call 1 888 338-6622.