Affordable Child Care Benefit (BC)

The new **BC Affordable Child Care Benefit** will replace the **Child Care Subsidy** as of September 1, 2018.

The **BC Affordable Child Care Benefit** helps families to reduce cost of child care each month. You can apply online on <u>My Family Services</u>, which takes about 30 minutes to complete. It takes approximately ten business days to process electronic applications. After you apply, you can log in to review messages about the status of your application.

Children who have a designated special need and require extra support may be eligible for an additional \$150 per month towards the cost of child care. You can use this <u>Estimator Tool</u> to estimate how much funding you would receive through the Affordable Child Care Benefit.

More information on the BC Affordable Child Care Benefit can be found here.

BC Affordable Child Care Benefit

Application Process

Confirm Eligibility and Documents Required

You, your child, (and if applicable your spouse) must have at least one piece of government issued ID. Your family must be making under \$111,000 a year. Your reason for requiring child care must also be one of the following

- You are working or self-employed;
- You are looking for work;
- You are living with a medical condition;
- You are attending school;
- You are participating in an employment program.

Each of these reasons require their own form of documentation, which can be found here.



Prepare Additional Supporting Documents

In addition to preparing the appropriate documentation to prove your reason for requiring child care as mentioned above, before you start the application you must also:

- 1. Select a child care provider;
- 2. Complete the Child Care Arrangement Form with the child care provider;
- 1. Complete the Child Care Arrangement Form (CF2798) (PDF);
- 2. Have digital images of one piece of government-issued identification for each family member (Birth Certificate, License, Passport, PR Card etc).

You can upload a scanned image or photo of your supporting documents throughout the application process, or all together at the end. Make sure your documents are clear, and that important information is visible.



Register Child's Disability

If you have a child with a diagnosed special need, you are eligible to receive an additional \$150 a month to support you with childcare costs. To be eligible you will need to provide one of the following:

- Special Needs Supplement Form (CF2951) (PDF). This form requires you
 to receive signatures from a medical professional in completing it.
- Proof that you receive the federal Child Disability Benefit. For more information on how to access the federal Child Disability Benefit please click here.



Fill Out the Application

You can apply online on My Family Services, which takes about 30 minutes to complete. It takes approximately ten business days to process electronic applications. If your family has two parents, both you and your spouse will have parts of the application to complete. Once you submit your part of the application, your spouse will be emailed a code they can use to log in to provide identification information, as well as consent to have their income confirmed directly with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

You can also submit <u>your application</u> and supporting documents by mail or fax. It can take about three weeks to process documents received this way.



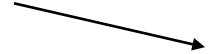
If approved, you will either see the status update on My Family Services, or receive a letter in the mail.

Rejected

If denied, you will see that status update on My Family Services, or receive a letter in the mail. To appeal the decision, you can call the Child Care Service Centre at 1-888-338-6622 and they will review your case with you.



The BC Child Care Services will then send a cheque covering your costs directly to the Child Care Provider.



Continuously File Income Taxes

The BC Child Care Benefit is automatically renewed annually once the BC government confirms with the Canada Revenue Agency that the Family is still eligible (the income levels haven't changed too much).



Inform BC Government of Any Changes

If you decide to change childcare providers you must re-file an application online on My Family Services, which takes about 30 minutes to complete.