

Questions and Answers – Major Capital Funding Program

Q1. What are the changes to the Major Capital Funding Program?

A1. The Major Capital Funding Program has been expanded in order to provide increased options for creating new child care spaces in British Columbia. Capital funding is available for both non-profit and private sector organizations. Whether you are a family child care provider, a non-profit or private group child care provider who wants to create new licensed child care spaces--there is capital funding available. Targeted capital funding provides additional incentives to create child care spaces in high need areas and unused public space.

There are four funding streams:

1. Major Capital Funding for Creation of Family Child Care Spaces

Up to \$380 per space is available to create new licensed family child care spaces. The program is available to new family providers becoming licensed and for existing family providers who are increasing the total number of spaces on their license.

2. Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces – Non-Profit and Private Sector Organizations

- Non-Profit Organizations:

Regular Major Capital Funding – 75% contribution by the Province to a maximum of \$500,000 towards the cost of creating new licensed group child care spaces in child care settings other than those listed under Targeted Major Capital Funding below.

Or

Targeted Major Capital Funding – 90% contribution by the Province to a maximum of \$500,000 towards the cost of creating new licensed group child care spaces in:

- Aboriginal communities on and off reserve.
- Rural communities outside the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the Capital Regional District with a population under 10,000.
- Purpose built buildings at public or private post-secondary institutions and government buildings.

- Private Sector Organizations:

Regular Major Capital Funding – 75% contribution by the Province to a maximum of \$250,000 towards the cost of creating new licensed group child care spaces in child care settings other than those listed under Targeted Major Capital Funding below.

Or

Targeted Major Capital Funding – 90% contribution by the Province to a maximum of \$250,000 towards the cost of creating new licensed group child care spaces in:

- Aboriginal communities on and off reserve.
- Rural communities outside the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the Capital Regional District with a population under 10,000.
- Purpose built buildings at public or private post-secondary institutions and government buildings.

3. Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces in Schools and Public Buildings

- Non-Profit or Private Sector Organizations in Existing Public School Space: 100% funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 per room, to a maximum of \$250,000 total, for the conversion of existing school space.
- Non-Profit or Private Sector Organizations in Existing Private School Space: 90% funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 per room, to a maximum of \$250,000 total, for the conversion of existing school space.
- Non-Profit or Private Sector Organizations in Existing Post-Secondary Institution or Government Building: 100% funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 per room, to a maximum of \$250,000 total, for the conversion of existing public post-secondary or government building space.
Or
90% funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 per room, to a maximum of \$250,000 total, for the conversion of existing private post-secondary institution space.

4. Major Capital Funding for Creation of Community Hubs

100% funding up to a maximum of \$250,000 is available for the creation of a community hub. Funding under the Community Hubs program is to be used to cover the costs associated with the co-location of family/early childhood development related services. Funding for community hubs is contingent upon the inclusion of new child care spaces. If funding is required for the creation of new child care spaces, a separate application must be made through the Major Capital Funding Program for Creation of New Child Care Spaces.

Application forms and criteria for all Major Capital Funding Programs are posted on the Ministry of Children and Family Development web site at:

<http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/capital.htm>

Q2. Who is eligible to apply for Major Capital Funding?

A2. Eligible applicants are as follows:

Major Capital Funding for Creation of Family Child Care Spaces – applicant can be sole proprietorship, partnership or limited company.

Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces – Non Profit and Private Sector Organizations – applicant can be a non profit society, local government, public institution, First Nations government, band/tribal council, sole proprietorship, partnership or limited company.

Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces In Schools and Public Buildings - applicant can be a non profit society, local government, public institution, First Nations government, band/tribal council, sole proprietorship, partnership or limited company.

Major Capital Funding for Creation of Community Hubs - applicant can be a non-profit society, local government, public institution, First Nations government, band/tribal council.

Q3. What is the application deadline for funding?

A3. The application deadlines are as follows:

- For Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces in Schools and Public Buildings the application deadlines are November 30, 2007 or January 31, 2008.
- For Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces – Non-Profit and Private Sector Organizations the application deadline is November 30, 2007.
- For Major Capital Funding for Creation of Family Child Care Spaces there is no application deadline. Applications will be accepted and approved on an on-going basis.
- For Major Capital Funding for Creation of Community Hubs the application deadline is November 30, 2007.

Q4. What is the budget for the Major Capital Funding Program?

A4. The total budget for Major Capital Funding is \$12.5 million, which is available for new applicants requesting funding under the various streams of the Major Capital Funding Program.

Q5. I am hoping to renovate an existing empty classroom in a public school, which application do I need to complete?

A5. If you are renovating an existing space in a public or private school, apply for funding under Child Care Capital Funding Program – Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces in Schools and Public Buildings.

Q6. We are going to build a purpose built building for child care on local government land, which application do I need to complete?

A6. If you are intending to construct a purpose built building as opposed to renovating existing space, apply under Child Care Capital Funding Program – Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces – Non-Profit and Private Organizations.

Q7. What is the maximum funding I can apply for as a family child care provider?

A7. If you are intending to create new licensed family child care spaces, up to \$380 per space is available. For example, if you are creating seven new family child care spaces, the maximum funding available would be $\$380 \times 7 = \$2,660$.

Q8. What items are eligible for funding to create new child care spaces? Can I buy books/toys with capital funding?

A8. Eligible items include those that are required in order to meet Licensing Regulations.

Funding will be considered for:

- Building a new child care facility including the cost of buying land or a building, or renovations to a building.
- Assembly of a modular building and site development.
- Renovations of a building.
- Buying equipment and furnishings to support new child care spaces in an existing facility or as part of the above activities to create new spaces.

Funding will not be considered for:

- The creation of Childminding, Occasional Child Care at a Ski Hill or Resort, or Residential Care spaces.
- Projects enhancing existing spaces without the creation of new licensed group child care spaces.
- Projects already completed before approval of funding from the Province of BC
- Assets acquired prior to approval of the funding application.
- Non-capital items such as toys, art supplies, books, games, small appliances and computers.

Q9. Are funds available for the creation of a community hub?

A9. A community hub is defined as the co-location of two or more family related or early childhood development services, along with a child care centre.

100% funding up to a maximum of \$250,000 is available for the creation of a community hub. However, funding is contingent on the hub including the creation of new licensed child care spaces.

Funding under the Community Hubs program may not be used for the creation of the new child care spaces but rather the costs associated with the co-location of the other family services. If funding is required for the creation of new child care spaces, a separate application must be made through the Major Capital Funding Program for Creation of New Child Care Spaces. (see funding guidelines)

Q10. How does the Ministry plan to mitigate staffing issues associated with an increase in new child care spaces when there is a shortage of skilled professionals working in the child care field?

A10. The Ministry of Children and Family Development is aware of the recruitment challenges in the early childhood education sector. Steps are being taken to support the recruitment and retention process of early childhood educators across the province.

The Ministry has provided nearly \$4.5 million in grants to support professional development programs, training opportunities and bursaries for early childhood educators.

Currently, there are approximately 9,600 active and registered early childhood educators in this province. The Ministry will continue to look at ways to support the sector to attract and retain early childhood educators.