



## Early Learning and Child Care Profiles

# Affordability

Research has demonstrated that children who have access to **high quality** licensed early learning and child care (ELCC) have higher scores on achievement and language tests, demonstrate better social skills, and exhibit fewer behavioural problems than children who experience low-quality care. **Cost** is one of the main barriers to parents accessing licensed early learning and child care programs.

### **\$8,598 - \$14,875**

Cost range for a 3 year old child to attend a centre-based licensed early learning and child care program for 1 year on a full-time basis.

### **Parent Fees: Licensed Centre-Based Care**

2014 rates for full-day care in Waterloo Region:

- \$55.17 - \$77.00 for an infant (birth to 18 months)
- \$38.99 - \$67.00 for a toddler (18 to 30 months)
- \$34.39 - \$59.50 for a preschooler (2.5 to 5 years)

### **Parent Fees: Licensed Home-Based Care**

As of July 1, 2014 the Region of Waterloo Licensed Home Child Care is available to both full-fee paying families and families receiving a child care subsidy.

2014 Rates for full-fee paying families for full-day (6-13 hours) care:

- Infant: \$43 per day
- Toddler: \$41 per day
- Preschool: \$39 per day
- School Age: \$37 per day

### **\$9,750**

Cost for a 3 year old child to attend a home-based licensed early learning and child care program for 1 year on a full-time basis.

### **\$4,656 - \$4,753**

Cost for a 4 -7 year old child to attend a school-based before and after school program for one school year.

### **Parent Fees: School-Based Before and After School Programs**

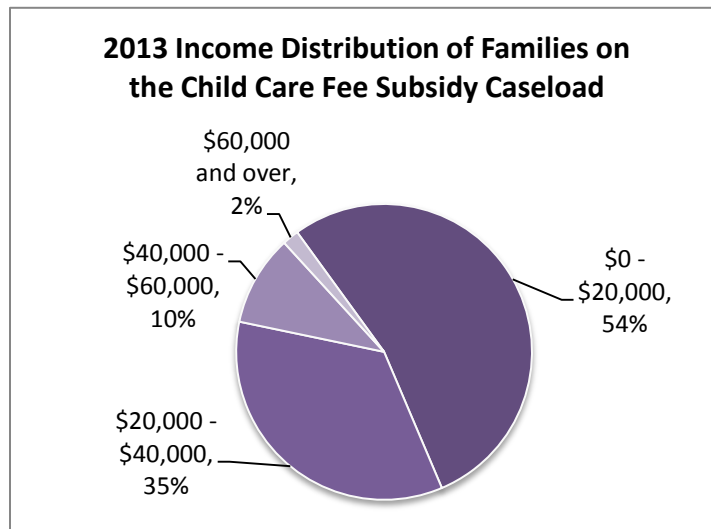
2014-2015 rates for 4 to 7 year olds operated by the Waterloo Region District School Board and Waterloo Catholic District School Board:

- Before School: \$7.00 - \$12.40 per day
- After School: \$11.60 - 17.00 per day
- Before and After School: \$24.00 - \$24.50 per day

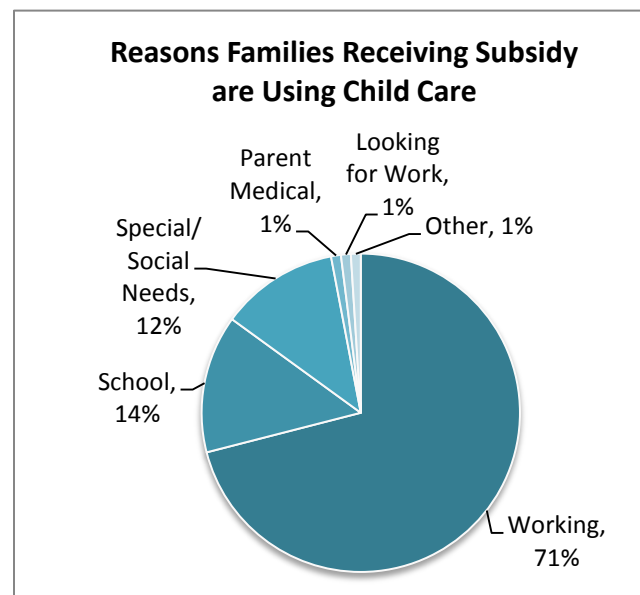
## Child Care Fee Subsidy

Child Care Fee Subsidy provides financial assistance to families to help pay for child care costs. The level of assistance is based on the family's income.

- In 2013, an average of 2,926 children received child care subsidy per month
- Most families (54%) that receive child care subsidy have an income of \$20,000 or less per year
- Families contribute a monthly amount to child care ranging from \$0 - \$916.67, depending on their family income.
- 80% of families receiving Child Care Fee Subsidy are single-parent families and 20% are two-parent families.



Geographic Distribution of the Child Care Subsidy Caseload in 2013	
Municipality	%
City of Cambridge	31%
City of Kitchener	49%
City of Waterloo	14%
Township of North Dumfries	0.5%
Township of Wellesley	1%
Township of Wilmot	0.5%
Township of Woolwich	2%



For more information or to request this profile in alternative formats (e.g., large text), please contact Michelle Martin, Social Planning Associate, at [mimartin@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:mimartin@regionofwaterloo.ca) or 519-575-4757 ext 2397