



### The new Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education will come into force on 1 March 2017

The President of the Republic of Finland confirmed the Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education on 29 December 2016. The Act will come into force on 1 March 2017 without a transition period. The fee will continue to be determined based on the family's size and income and the hours reserved for early childhood education per calendar month. The income that forms the basis for the fee will remain the same. A maximum fee can be imposed if the applicant does not report the family's income.

The income limits that form the basis for the fee have been increased so that the client fees for low-income families of two or three people will decrease. This change will decrease the early childhood education fees of low-income single parents with one or two children in particular.

Family size number of people	Income limit 1 August 2016 starting from €/month	Income limit 1 March 2017 starting from €/month	Maximum fee %
<b>2</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>1,915</b>	<b>11.5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>1,915</b>	<b>9.4</b>
4	2,053	2,053	7.9
5	2,191	2,191	7.9
6	2,328	2,328	7.9

**Families of 2–3 people in particular should check the size of their day care fee**, as the income limits have changed and the fees will decrease. The income information must be submitted no later than by the end of March via the electronic services of Early Childhood Education or by submitting an income statement form in accordance with the instructions. Changes will not be implemented retroactively. You can use the day care fee calculator to calculate an indicative estimate of your future client fee.  
<http://www.turku.fi/en/daycare-and-education/day-care-and-early-childhood-education/day-care-fees-financial-support-and>

The day care fee decision is family-specific and shows the day care fees for each of the family's children separately. If the child's parents live separately but in the same municipality, only one day care fee decision will be made. In this type of situation, the fee will be determined based on the income of the parent with whom the child legally resides in accordance with the Act on the Population Information System and the Population Register Centre's certificates services (661/2009). The parents must otherwise agree amongst themselves about sharing the fees charged for early childhood education or how these fees are taken into account in child support, for example. If early childhood education is provided for the child in two municipalities, the fee must be determined separately for each municipality. (Section 4). **A separate communication about the change will be sent to families who share the fee.**



As the new law comes into effect, a new fee decision and agreement on early childhood education will be prepared for each child, to be valid starting from 1 March 2017. The new decision will specify the weekdays and times of which the chosen day care hours consist. The agreement is made for a minimum period of four months. **The guardian must make an appointment with the manager of the early childhood education place in order to make a new agreement.**

In a meeting held on 18 January 2017 (Section 3), the Education Committee decided upon the client fees in early childhood education that will come into effect on 1 March 2017. Link to the decision:

<http://ah.turku.fi/kasopelk/2017/>

Further information

Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education 1503/2016