

Education Division

15.12.2017

Dear service voucher customer**Changes coming into effect regarding income limits for early childhood education fees and the sibling discount, starting from 1 January 2018**

On 8 December 2017, Parliament approved amendments to Sections 5 and 8 of the Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education and Care. The amendment pertains to the raising of income limits and the sibling discount so that 50% of the full-time early childhood education fee calculated for the youngest child is charged for a second child.

The value of the service voucher

The value of the service voucher is determined by the child's age, the family's income and on the amount of services needed in early childhood education, which is agreed upon between the family and the day care provider in the child care agreement. The early childhood education fee in municipal day care is taken into consideration when the value of the service voucher is determined. The value of the service voucher is calculated by subtracting the early childhood education fee in municipal day care from the highest possible value of the voucher.

If you have agreed to the charging of the maximum fee without providing your income information, you should check your own income level in relation to the new income limits. As the income limits will be raised, not all who currently pay the maximum fee will belong to this fee group in the future.

You can estimate your client fee with the day care fee calculator at http://laskurit.turku.fi/paivahoitolaskuri_english.php.

Please submit your income information through the Early Childhood Education E-services if you wish your client fee to be based on your [income information](#) in the future.

If you would like to submit new income information for the recalculation of the value of your service voucher, please do so by the end of January 2018 via the Early Childhood Education [E-services](#) or by sending an income statement form to Early Childhood Education's client fee services in accordance with the instructions provided on the form. Changes will not be implemented retroactively.

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If your client fee has been based on your income information and this information has not changed, the legislative change will neither require any action from you, nor will you need to submit new income information.

In January, we will send to every family a new fee decision, which will take the income limits and sibling discount under the new law into account.

If the value of the service voucher has changed, a new child care agreement must be made between the guardian and the day care service provider.

The income limits that serve as the basis for calculating the fee have been raised, resulting in a reduction of client fees for low- and middle-income families.

Family size number of people	Current income limit, €/month, as of 1 March 2017	Maximum fee %	Income limit, €/month, starting from 1 January 2018	Maximum fee %
2	1915	11.5	2050	10.7
3	1915	9.4	2646	10.7
4	2053	7.9	3003	10.7
5	2191	7.9	3361	10.7
6	2328	7.9	3718	10.7

The value of the service voucher will continue to be determined based on the family's size and income as well as the hours reserved for early childhood education per calendar month. The income that forms the basis for the early childhood education fee will remain the same. The value of the service voucher will be determined to the smallest value if the applicant does not submit income information.

More information:

[Decision made by the Education Committee](#) on 13 December 2017, Section 200, regarding early childhood education fees.

[Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education and Care 1503/2016](#)

[Amendment to the Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education and Care, 8 December 2017](#)