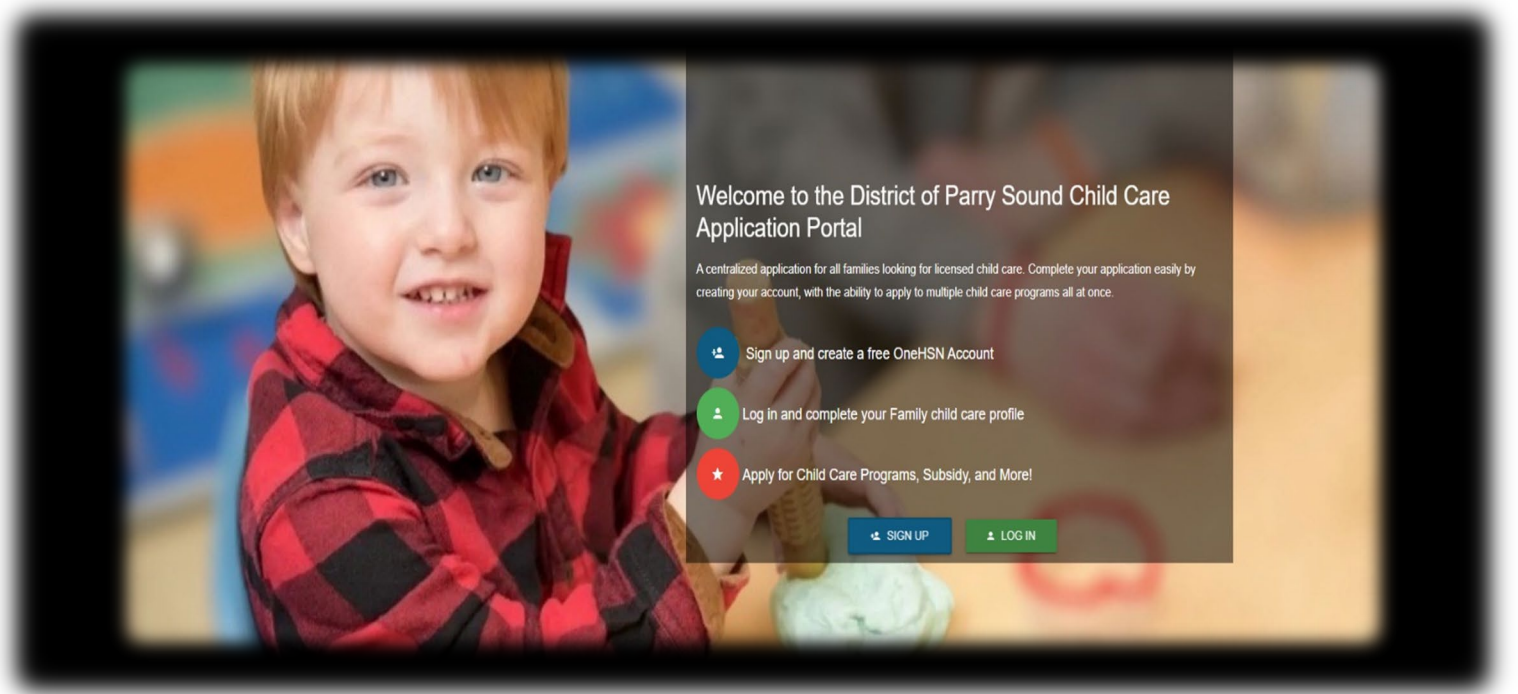


Parent Guide

To Licensed Quality Child Care in the District of Parry Sound

District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal
[Parry Sound Child Care Registry | Child Care Waitlist \(onehsn.com\)](#)





Parent Guide to Licensed Quality Child Care

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Step 1

Understanding child care in the District of Parry Sound

About this Guide

As a parent, you want the very best for your child. Searching for child care can feel overwhelming, but this guide has everything you need to know about finding the right program for you and your child.

Types of care

There are different types of child care available in the District of Parry Sound. Options include centre-based or home-based child care. Child care programs are also available for school-age children before and after school.

To see what is available near you go to the District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal, [Parry Sound Child Care Registry | Child Care Waitlist \(onehsn.com\)](https://onehsn.com/child-care-registry)

Licensed child care

Licensed child care programs must meet provincial standards for health, safety and supporting the developmental needs of children (as outlined in the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*). These programs are monitored and inspected for compliance by the Ministry of Education.

Licensed child care operators and licensed school boards participating in Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) program offer reduced fees to families with children under six years of age.

You can find CWELCC participating programs by using the filter in the District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal, [Parry Sound Child Care Registry | Child Care Waitlist \(onehsn.com\)](https://onehsn.com/child-care-registry).

Unlicensed child care

Unlicensed child care programs are not inspected by the Ministry of Education unless they receive a complaint and are not required to follow the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*.

Before and After School Programs

Licensed Before and After School Programs are available in most schools for children in kindergarten to grade 6.

For a complete list of before and after school options, go to the District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal, [Parry Sound Child Care Registry | Child Care Waitlist \(onehsn.com\)](https://onehsn.com)

Depending on who operates the program, there are different policies and procedures related to the registration and enrollment process. Each operator of these programs will have different hours of operation, policies and procedures related to changing your schedule, billing, cost of care, and notice of registration, withdrawal/end care.

For the most up to date information, please contact the Licensed Child Care Centre.



	Licensed centre-based care	Licensed home-based care
Licensed by the Ministry of Education	Yes	Yes, under the Home Child Care Agency, not the individual provider
Who operates	Non-profit and for-profit organizations	Non-profit, for-profit organizations and the Municipality
How is care provided	Age-specific groups (infants/toddlers/preschoolers)	Small group (not age-specific) (Maximum of 6)
Ages of children cared for	0-12 years*	0-12 years*
Fee subsidy available (for CWELCC eligible programs)	Yes	Yes
Special needs resources available	Yes	Yes
Staff qualifications	Programs must employ Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) as per the CCEYA. The percentage of RECE's varies from program to program	Home child care providers have various educational backgrounds that are approved by a licensed home child care agency. Licensed home child care agencies have consultants who are RECE's, who offer support to providers
Vulnerable Sector Check	Required by all staff	Caregivers have current checks for all family members over 18
How to apply	District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal Parry Sound Child Care Registry Child Care Waitlist (onehsn.com)	District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal Parry Sound Child Care Registry Child Care Waitlist (onehsn.com)

*Ages of children cared for, hours of operation, and group sizes may vary across programs and providers.

Step 2

Choosing a program

Things to consider

When choosing a program for your child, there are many things to consider.



Location



Cost (for more information see “child care costs”)



Hours of operation



Program philosophy/
approach to learning



Program policies



Group sizes



Cultural fit



Qualifications/training of
educators/caregivers



Rate of Educator turnover

It is recommended that you call the centre and book a visit so you can observe and ask questions.

- Is the centre/home welcoming, clean and well maintained?
- Is there an atmosphere of warmth and respect?
- Are the educators/caregivers responsive to the needs of the children?
- Are the indoor and outdoor environment well equipped?
- Does the environment allow children to investigate, imagine, think, create and solve problems?
- Are the children actively engaged in learning through play?
- Are there toys and learning materials that will engage your child?
- How long have staff been employed at the centre?
- Does the menu offer a variety of nutritious and culturally inclusive food options each day?
- Does the program have policies that reinforce equity of access and inclusion for all children?

Quality matters!

High quality Early Years programs play an important role in healthy child development and improving quality of life for families. Licensed Child Care operators are working with the District of Parry Sound to keep improving the quality of their services. Licensed Child Care programs make commitments to work on concrete changes to improve experiences, relationships, and environments that benefit children and families, leading to a higher quality of life. Quality child care is built on The Ministry of Education's resource guide: *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years*. This guide supports educators to look at the, what they do every day and understand how their actions have an impact on children and their families in six key areas:

1. Establishing positive, responsive adult-child relationships;
2. Providing inclusive learning environments and experiences that encourage exploration, play and inquiry;
3. Engaging children as co-learners along with families/caregivers, and others;
4. Planning and creating environments as a "third teacher";
5. Using documentation to make the children's thinking and the learning visible;
6. Participating in ongoing reflective practice and collaborative inquiry with others.

What is Quality Child Care?

Importance of Quality Child Care

5 Steps to Choosing Quality Child Care

Tools and Resources



Quality child care is care provided for your child by a positive caregiver in a safe and nurturing location. It can take place at a child care center, a caregiver's home or at a preschool.

The "quality" in child care is based on the open and inspiring interaction and connection between your child and the caregiver. This relationship creates confidence in your child and helps him/her grow and develop learning and emotional skills. Having these skills will help your child do better in school.

A positive caregiver is a person who has an inspiring attitude and tends for your child in a loving and caring way. This person responds to your child's needs, which will make him/her feel secure, confident, and more excited to explore and learn.

Step 3

Applying for licensed child care and before and after school care

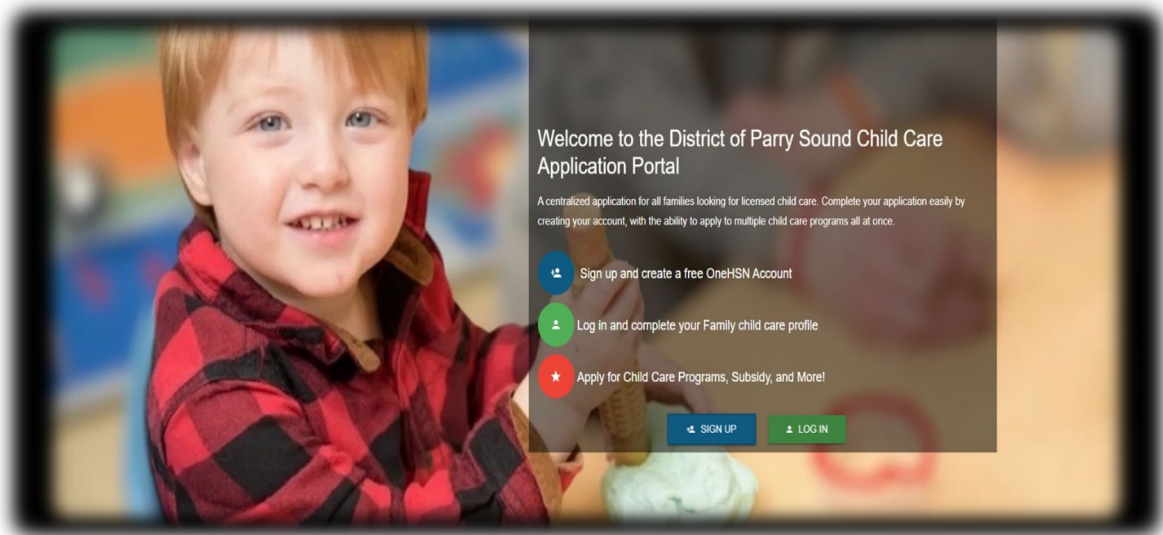
District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal

The District of Parry Sound Application Portal, [Parry Sound Child Care Registry | Child Care Waitlist \(onehsn.com\)](https://onehsn.com) is a web-based program, where parents/guardians apply for licensed child care in the District of Parry Sound (including centre-based, home-based, and before and after school programs).

- Licensed Child Care Operators receive the applications, and they continue with the registration and enrollment process, when they have a space for your child.

Steps to apply for child care on the District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal:

- Go to [Parry Sound Child Care Registry | Child Care Waitlist \(onehsn.com\)](https://onehsn.com)
- Create an account by registering, using a personal email address and creating a password.
- Follow the steps to search and find the programs that you would like to apply to.



Step 4

After you have applied for child care

Waitlists

Every child care program manages their own waitlist. Your position on their waitlist is based on several factors, such as:

- Your application date
- Your child's age
- Days/hours of care required

The District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal does not provide information about waitlist times, space availability or vacancies. To inquire about where your child is on the waitlist, or when a space may be available, contact the programs directly.

If you no longer require care, please go into your account and remove your applications.

Being offered a child care space

When there is a space available for your child at a program you have applied to, the program will contact you to offer this space. Typically, programs need a response within 24 to 48 hours of making an offer, so be sure to check your email regularly.

Once you have accepted a space, the program will require you to complete a registration package.

When you apply to programs through the District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal, you need to prioritize your top three applications. When you accept a space at a program, applications ranked below the one you accepted are removed from your account. Programs prioritized higher than the program you accepted, will remain on your account.

Child care costs

Child care fees vary from program to program and are based on the age of the child and sometimes, on the number of hours they attend.

With the introduction of the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) program, families with children under six years of age enrolled in a child care program participating in CWELCC will receive a significant reduction to their child care fees.

Contact the child care centre, the home child care agency, or visit their website for specific details on fees. In addition to the monthly fees, some programs may charge other fees, so it is important to ask about this ahead of time.

Did you know?

You can also claim the Ontario Child Care Tax Credit on your tax return to cover the cost of child care in centres, homes and camps.

For more information, visit ontario.ca/page/ontario-child-care-tax-credit

Additional help paying for child care

In addition to reduced fees through the CWELCC program, some families are also eligible for further financial support to help pay for child care. The District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board, Child Care Fee Subsidy program helps parents pay for licensed child care so they can go to work or school. Child Care Fee Subsidy may cover all or part of a family's child care costs.

To learn more about Child Care Fee Subsidy visit

[Child Care Fee Subsidy – District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board \(psdssab.org\)](https://psdssab.org/child-care-fee-subsidy) or email subsidy@psdssab.org

Special needs support

Through Inclusion Support services, Resource Consultants provide support to child care and EarlyON programs by conducting regular visits to programs, providing early identification and intervention as well as individual consultations to programs across the District of Parry Sound. Resource Consultants and front-line staff work together to ensure programming is meeting the needs of every child and to include everyone in conversations regarding the next steps in supporting individual children.

For more information, visit

[Inclusion Support Services – District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board \(psdssab.org\)](https://psdssab.org/inclusion-support-services) or email inclusionsupportservices@psdssab.org

Questions or concerns about your child's care?

The first step is to speak with your child care educator/provider. If they cannot resolve the issue, speak with the centre supervisor/home child care visitor/supervisor. If you still cannot resolve the issue, you may file a complaint the Ministry of Education.

For licensed child care, call 1-800-510-5333 or email ontario.ca/page/make-child-care-complaint

Additional resources

1. District of Parry Sound Application Portal - [Parry Sound Child Care Registry | Child Care Waitlist \(onehsn.com\)](#)
2. Ministry of Education - [Child care rules in Ontario | ontario.ca](#)
3. Ministry of Education Licensed Child Care Search - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/find-and-pay-child-care>
4. Ministry of Education Child Care and Early Years Act - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-education>
5. Ministry of Education, complaints about child care - [ontario.ca/page/make-child-care-complaint](https://www.ontario.ca/page/make-child-care-complaint)
6. Inclusion Support Services - [District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board \(psdssab.org\)](#)
7. EarlyON Child and Family Centres - [District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board \(psdssab.org\)](#)
8. Child Care Fee Subsidy - [District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board \(psdssab.org\)](#)
9. Types of Child Care - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/types-child-care>
10. What is the EDI? - <https://edi.offordcentre.com/about/what-is-the-edi>
11. Roots of Empathy - www.rootsofempathy.org
12. HIGH FIVE - www.highfive.org
13. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit - <http://www.myhealthunit.ca>
14. Early Childhood Development Intercultural Partnerships - <http://www.ecdip.org/>
15. College of Early Childhood Educators - <http://www.college-ece.ca>
16. One Kids Place - www.onekidsplace.ca
17. Hands The Family Help Network - <https://thefamilyhelpnetwork.ca/>
18. Autism Ontario - <https://www.autismontario.com/>
19. How Does Learning Happen? - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-does-learning-happen-ontarios-pedagogy-early-years>