

ECEC FEES IN JÄRVENPÄÄ AS OF 1 AUGUST 2022

Decision of the Director of ECEC of 9 March 2022, section 4

Contents

1.	LEGAL BASIS OF THE FEE	1
2.	HOURLY RATES	2
3.	INCOME DATA REQUIRED FOR THE CALCULATION OF THE FEE.....	3
4.	ACCEPTANCE AND CANCELLATION OF A CHILD'S PLACE IN ECEC AND TERMINATION OF ECEC AGREEMENTS.....	4
5.	EFFECT OF ABSENCES	5
6.	DISCOUNTS AND WAIVERS	5

1. LEGAL BASIS OF THE FEE

The monthly fee payable for early childhood education and care (ECEC) is based on the Finnish [Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education and Care](#) (1503/2016). The amount of the ECEC fee depends on the size and income of the family as well as the volume of ECEC services provided to the family. The fee is based on the number of hours that each child is booked into and/or attends ECEC on a monthly basis. If the number of ECEC hours booked for a child, or the number of hours that the child ultimately ends up spending in ECEC, exceeds the monthly limit agreed with the ECEC provider, the extra hours are charged at a higher rate. Summertime attendance is charged by the day (see section 5.1).

The amount of the ECEC fee depends on

- the size of the family,
- the family's income, and
- the number of hours that each child is booked into or attends ECEC.

The maximum ECEC fee payable for a family's youngest child is EUR 295 per month. The maximum ECEC fee payable for the second youngest child of the same family is 40% of the fee payable for the youngest child (a maximum of EUR 118 per month). The fee for any additional children is 20% of the monthly fee payable for the family's youngest child. The minimum monthly ECEC fee per child is EUR 28.

If a child's guardians live at different addresses but the child attends ECEC in a single municipality, the fee is calculated based on the income of the family with whom the child lives according to the Finnish Population Information System. If the guardians, although living at different addresses, are married to each other, both guardians' incomes are taken into account. Even if both guardians rely on the child's attending ECEC, the bill is sent to the guardian with whom the child lives according to the Finnish Population Information System. The guardians can agree between themselves how to split the bill. If the child attends ECEC in two different municipalities, each municipality charges for its services separately. The combined amount cannot exceed EUR 295 per month.

The ECEC fee is calculated by subtracting the income allowance (according to the size of the family) from the family's gross income and then multiplying the difference by the percentage shown in the table below to arrive at the amount of the monthly ECEC fee. The amount is rounded to the nearest euro. A family is deemed to consist of a cohabiting married couple or a couple in a committed relationship as well as all children under the age of 18 who live in the same household.

To use the client fee calculator, log into eDaisy on the City of Järvenpää's website:

[Fees | Järvenpää \(jarvenpaa.fi\)](https://jarvenpaa.fi)

Family size (persons)	Income allowance (gross), EUR/month	Fee percentage, %	Income threshold for the minimum fee (EUR 28), EUR/month	Income threshold for the maximum fee (EUR 295), EUR/month
2	2,913	10.70	3,175	5,670
3	3,758	10.70	4,020	6,515
4	4,267	10.70	4,529	7,024
5	4,777	10.70	5,039	7,534
6	5,284	10.70	5,546	8,041

If the family size is greater than six (6), the income allowance after which a fee becomes payable is raised by EUR 197 for each additional child under the age of 18 years.

2. HOURLY RATES

The effect of attendance on the ECEC fee is illustrated in the table below:

ECEC attendance per month (hours)	% of the fee for full-time attendance	Example based on the maximum fee of EUR 295 per month
84 hours up to 5 hours per day	60	EUR 177
85 to 105 hours	70	EUR 207
106 to 146 hours	85	EUR 251
147+ hours	100	EUR 295

The maximum amount of time that a child who is booked into ECEC for 84 hours per month can spend in ECEC each day is five (5) hours.

The number of hours that each child spends in ECEC per month is agreed with the ECEC provider in writing. 24-hour childcare can be provided if the guardians work shifts. There is an online calendar in DaisyFamily that guardians can use to book their child's ECEC attendance and absences in advance. Guardians are urged to book the hours that they wish their child to attend ECEC each week as much in advance as possible and in any case by 6 pm on Monday the previous week. If the number of ECEC hours booked for a child, or the number of hours that the child ultimately ends up spending in ECEC, exceeds the monthly limit agreed with the ECEC provider, a higher monthly fee applies. No refunds are payable for a child's spending less than the agreed number of hours in ECEC. If the number of hours that a child needs to attend ECEC each month changes on a permanent basis, it is the guardian's responsibility to notify the ECEC provider via eDaisy so that a new ECEC fee assessment can be issued. ECEC fees can only be reassessed if the change to a child's monthly hours is of a permanent nature.

2.1. Fee for ECEC in addition to pre-primary education

Under the Finnish Basic Education Act, children of pre-primary education age are entitled to four (4) hours of free pre-primary education during the opening hours of pre-primary education providers each day. Families whose children attend ECEC in addition to pre-primary education are charged according to the hourly rates set out above. However, the ECEC fee charged for a child of pre-primary education age is never more than 85% of the full-time ECEC fee. Families with children of pre-primary education age who require more than 147 hours of ECEC per month on a 24-hour basis are an exception to this rule. They are charged 95% of the standard ECEC fee. It is the guardians' responsibility to notify their ECEC provider via eDaisy if they wish their child to continue attending ECEC when they reach pre-primary education age. The fees for children who attend ECEC on a full-time basis during pre-school holidays (early August, autumn break, Christmas holidays and winter break) are based on the ECEC hours booked in advance or on actual ECEC attendance each month.

3. INCOME DATA REQUIRED FOR THE CALCULATION OF THE FEE

The City of Järvenpää uses the Incomes Register to check the income of families who do not give their consent to being charged the full ECEC fee based on the hours booked. Since not all types of income are declared to the Incomes Register, families who believe that they qualify for a lower fee must log into eDaisy before their child starts ECEC and provide proof of any income that is not included in the Incomes Register (such as income from self-employment, income from investments, interest income and dividends, maintenance payments, rehabilitation allowances paid by insurance companies, pensions, adult education allowances and unemployment benefits paid by unemployment funds). If proof of income is not provided by the deadline given, the maximum fee applies. Fee assessments cannot be revised retroactively based on proof of income submitted after the deadline. It takes time for the Incomes Register to be updated with regard to income data on, for example, guardians who are returning to work after parental leave. These guardians must also provide proof of their income themselves via [eDaisy](#).

3.1. Income based on which ECEC fees are calculated includes

- taxable gross earnings and any associated payments + monthly benefits in kind + holiday bonus as shown in payslips. If a taxpayer's holiday bonus is not itemised in their payslip, 5% is added to their monthly earnings;
- income from investments, pensions and other benefits (such as maternity pay, sick pay, rehabilitation, training and unemployment allowances, labour market subsidies as well as

- interest income and dividends);
- income from self-employment based on self-assessment and supporting documents (see eDaisy for instructions);
- income from forest ownership;
- the child's own income;
- tax-exempt income; and
- maintenance payments. Regular maintenance payments that a guardian receives count as income, and maintenance payments that a guardian makes are deducted from their income. Other similar expenses resulting from family responsibilities as well as fixed-term or lifetime monetary rewards from the sale of property are also taken into account.

3.2. Income that does not affect the amount of the ECEC fee includes

- child benefits, benefits under the Finnish Disability Benefits Act (570/2007), child supplements payable under the Finnish National Pensions Act (568/2007), student financial aid granted under the Finnish Student Financial Aid Act (65/1994), housing allowances, medical care and examination expenses reimbursed under non-life insurance policies, conscripts' allowances, front veterans' pension allowances, adult education allowances, activity and travel allowances paid as part of income support, special daily allowances under the Finnish Act on Rehabilitation Benefits and Rehabilitation Allowances payable by the Social Insurance Institution (566/2005), expense allowances under the Finnish Act on Public Employment and Business Service (916/2012), scholarships and other similar grants for students, reimbursement of foster care expenses and home-based childcare allowances.

ECEC fees are imposed on an indefinite basis. ECEC fees cannot be revised retroactively. If a child starts or finishes ECEC in the middle of a calendar month, the fee for that month is adjusted based on the monthly fee agreed with the ECEC provider. ECEC fees are charged per calendar month, by the end of the following month.

If a family's gross income decreases or increases by 10% or more, if the size of the family changes (due to, for example, divorce, childbirth or remarriage) or if the number of hours that a child needs to attend ECEC each month changes on a permanent basis or due to legislative reform, it is the guardian's responsibility to notify the ECEC provider. The ECEC fees of families who have qualified for a lower fee are reviewed whenever

- the family's disposable income changes to a material degree,
- it is obvious that the family circumstances based on which the fee was lowered have changed,
- the hours that a child attends ECEC have changed, or
- it transpires that the fee was miscalculated.

If the fee assessment was based on false information provided by the parents or guardians, up to one year's worth of charges can be adjusted retroactively.

4. ACCEPTANCE AND CANCELLATION OF A CHILD'S PLACE IN ECEC AND TERMINATION OF ECEC AGREEMENTS

It is the guardian's responsibility to accept or reject the ECEC place offered to their child and to notify their ECEC provider when the child no longer needs the place via eDaisy. If a child's parents or guardians do not want the place offered to the child but fail to formally reject the place before

the provision of ECEC begins, half of the monthly ECEC fee imposed pursuant to the Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education and Care is payable. ECEC fee payments end when a child no longer needs ECEC based on the guardian's notice of termination to the ECEC provider.

5. EFFECT OF ABSENCES

Half of the monthly ECEC fee is payable if a child misses 11 days or more of ECEC in a calendar month due to illness. No fee is payable if a child misses an entire calendar month of ECEC due to illness.

No fee is payable for any periods that a child does not attend ECEC due to their guardian's being on parental leave (if the leave is granted on the basis of the child in question). The ECEC provider must be notified of the leave in advance. The child retains their ECEC place as long as their absence due to parental leave does not exceed 13 weeks.

Half of the monthly ECEC fee is payable if a child misses an entire calendar month of ECEC for any other reason.

5.1. Effect of holidays

The fee for the year (1 August to 31 July) is charged for 11 months and the 12th month, i.e. July, is free if a child has attended ECEC continuously since 31 August. If a child started ECEC on or after 1 September, a fee is charged for any days on which the child is booked to attend ECEC in July.

Families can take their child out of ECEC for a continuous 8-to-10-week period between 1 June and 15 August and get a refund for those weeks. To take advantage of this option, the child's attendance status must be updated in DaisyFamily by the deadline given in the spring.

The refund for summer holidays is not payable for children who start basic education in the autumn, however. If a child is starting basic education in the autumn, ECEC fee payments will end as soon as their guardian notifies the ECEC provider in question and the child no longer needs a place in ECEC (see section 4).

6. DISCOUNTS AND WAIVERS

A family's ECEC fee can be lowered or waived altogether based on an assessment of the family's unique needs and circumstances. The ECEC fee must be waived or lowered if collecting the (full) fee would

- place an unsustainable financial burden on the client or the family or compromise the ability of the child's parent or guardian to discharge their statutory maintenance obligations; or
- result in the family's needing social assistance or preventive financial support. The family's circumstances on the whole, including any long-term illnesses, persistent internal conflicts within the family, child welfare and any substantial temporary decrease in earnings, are also factored into the assessment. The aforementioned circumstances are also taken into account if the discount/waiver is being sought on the basis of the fee's compromising the ability to discharge statutory maintenance obligations.



An application form for a discount/waiver of ECEC fees can be found on the [website](#) of the City of Järvenpää. Applications must be accompanied by evidence of income and expenses. Recipients of social assistance can use their latest social assistance assessment and statement as proof of income. Discounts and waivers are granted taking into account the principles of preventive child protection.

ECEC fees cannot be lowered or waived retroactively, and instead any discount/waiver granted will be effective as of the beginning of the month during which the application was submitted. Decisions on ECEC discount/waiver applications are taken by the Director of ECEC.

In the event of temporary financial difficulties, families are urged to contact <https://www.sarastia.fi/asiakaspalvelu> before their next payment is due. Overdue ECEC fee payments are subject to late-payment interest pursuant to the Finnish Interest Act. Debts arising from overdue client fees and late-payment interest can be collected without a court order.