

# New Brunswick Early Learning Facility Designation

## What is New Brunswick Early Learning Designation?

Operators of licensed early learning and childcare facilities who offer services to preschool children aged five and under, may apply to become a **designated New Brunswick Early Learning Facility**.

Operators of designated facilities commit to offering affordable, high-quality and inclusive early learning and childcare services by removing barriers linked to family income, children's ability and needs, language, and minority settings. In return, they receive government funding to support preschool services, wage support for educators and parent subsidies.

Parents with preschool-aged children, enrolled in a designated facility, will pay a standard childcare fee. No applications, eligibility criteria, or income testing are required by parents.

## What criteria must operators of early learning and childcare facilities meet to apply for designation?

New applicants and operators of existing designated facilities, intending to increase designated spaces, need to meet eligibility criteria [under Policy 901](#). They must apply to be designated through the Call for Proposals process.

Operators of designated facilities must also follow the requirements of designation. They must follow the [Standard Parent Fee Grid](#), which means that parents can't be charged more than the amount that government has set.

Operators of designated facilities are required to meet the following on-going criteria:

- Be in compliance with Licensing Regulations under the *Early Childhood Services Act*
- Offer services for children birth to five, not yet attending school
- Choose and implement one of the curriculum frameworks:
  - New Brunswick Curriculum Framework for Early Learning and Child Care ~ English
  - Curriculum éducatif des services de garde francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick
- Adhere to *Childcare Grants and Subsidies Regulation*, which includes committing to implementing the low-fee policy through a subsidized fee grid and to operate within the [Market Fee Threshold](#)
- Establish a parent committee
- Create annual quality improvement plans and assessments
- Engage in on-going professional learning
- Use the Childcare Registry

In return, government provides monthly Operational Grant funding to offset the costs associated with maintaining designation program criteria and requirements.

## Who will benefit from the designation?

Families and children will benefit from overall improved quality services, including inclusive practices for children with additional needs and social inclusion of cultural minority groups.

Parents will benefit from a low-fee policy that will make childcare more affordable and accessible.

Designated New Brunswick Early Learning Facilities will benefit from greater support for educators in delivering higher quality programming.

## For more information

If you have questions or need help, you can contact us Monday to Friday between 8:15 am and 4:30 pm, excluding holidays.

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