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|  | CITY OF KAUNIAINEN CLIENT INFORMATION  Education sector 1.8.2023  Early Childhood Education |

**CLIENT FEES FOR DAYCARE AND PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION 1.8.2023 onwards**

Client fees are calculated as a percentage of the family’s total gross income. The maximum fee for early childhood education to be 295 euros, and the lowest fee is 28. The fee for the other child is a maximum of 40 percent of the fee for the oldest child, i.e. a maximum of 118 euros. The fee for the following children will be 20 percent of the fee for the youngest child. The index adjustment of the client fees and income limits are made every two years.

**INCOME**

Income included when calculating the fees comprises the taxable earned income, capital income and tax-exempt income of the child, the child’s parent or other guardian living in the same household with the child, and the parent/guardian’s spouse or other live-in partner. Additional holiday pay of 5% is added to salary income.

**Income exempt from fee calculation**

* child home care allowance
* child benefit
* benefits under the Act on disability benefits (570/2007)
* the child increase under the Act on national pensions (568/2007)
* housing allowance
* medical costs for examinations and hospital care payable under an accident insurance policy
* conscript’s allowances or front-veteran’s supplement
* study grants
* adult education allowance from the Education Fund
* housing supplement as a part of financial aid for students
* social assistance payments covering e.g. travel expenses
* Maintenance allowance under the Act on rehabilitation benefits and rehabilitation allowances paid by the Social Insurance Institution
* expense allowance under the Act on public employment and business services (916/2012)
* Stipends and similar allowances for studies
* reimbursements for family care expenditure

Maintenance allowance paid for children outside the family and similar costs arising from actual familial bonds, including life annuities, **will be considered as grounds for deductions.**

**INCOME ASSESSMENT**

Information on the family’s income is submitted on the income assessment form with any appendices required. An income assessment is not required if the family agrees on the income assessment form to the highest daycare/preschool fee set by the service provider. **If the family does not submit a form for income assessment with attachments within two weeks after the start of early childhood education, the city will charge the highest fee according to the agreed period of early childhood education.**

**ADJUSTMENT OF THE CLIENT FEE**

The family is required to notify the service provider in writing if the family’s income (min +- 10%) or the family size changes at any point during the year. If the decision concerning the fee has been based on an estimate given by the client that is lower than the actual income, the fee can be retroactively corrected for a period of one year at most.

**MONTHLY FEES**

The basic rule is that the monthly fee is charged for a maximum of eleven (11) months out of the working year (1 August–31 July). Generally, July is then exempt from a fee on the condition that the municipal daycare/preschool activities have started in September the previous year, at the latest.

A fee can be charged for a place in daycare/preschool that has not been cancelled in a case where a place has been booked for the child for the summer season, but the place has not been cancelled in advance in accordance with the terms required by the municipality. If no client fee has been set for the child, half of the statutory minimum fee can be charged.

**Fee percentages, maximum and minimum gross incomes:**

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| Family size | Minimum gross income  €/month | Fee percentage | Gross income limit for maximum fee, €/month |
| 2 | 3874 | 10.7 | 6626 |
| 3 | 4998 | 10.7 | 7750 |
| 4 | 5675 | 10.7 | 8427 |
| 5 | 6353 | 10.7 | 9105 |
| 6 | 7028 | 10.7 | 9780 |

If the family members number more than 6, a sum of € 189 is added to the income limit for each of the next underage children of the family. If the family’s income is less than the minimum gross income or if the fee per child comes to less than € 27, the fee is not collected. If the family does not report its income, the highest fee for the agreed early childhood education/preschool attendance is charged for the family’s children. You can calculate what your family would pay for full-time education/preschool attendance using the following model: Count your family size. Check the minimum gross income per month in the table. Subtract that from your average gross monthly income. Calculate the fee percentage (10.7%) of the remaining sum; that would be your client fee.

**FEES CHARGED**

For fulltime daycare/preschool, **an average of at least 35 hours a week**, 100% of the fee is charged. **For more than 25 hours but less than 35 hours a week** of early childhood education/preschool, 80% of the full-time fee is charged. **For up to 25 hours a week** of daycare/preschool, 60% of the full-time fee is charged.

Calculation of the weekly average daycare/preschool attendance takes into account the child’s regular absences per month if the service provider has been notified of these in advance. A written agreement is made in advance between the service provider and the parents concerning the child’s regular daily daycare/preschool attendance and absences. The family’s holidays (e.g. autumn, Christmas and skiing holidays) and any occasional absences will not be included in the regular absences.

**CLIENT FEES FOR DAYCARE SUPPLEMENTING PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION**

Pre-primary education free of charge is given on specific days for four (4) hours a day.

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| Pre-primary education (20 h) and daycare, total hours per week | Client fee, % of the full-time fee |
| minimum 45 h | 80% |
| over 35, less than 45 h | 60% |
| maximum 35 h | 45% |

If the child requires early childhood education during the school holidays at Christmas, the skiing holiday and summer, client fees are charged for those times according to the full-time fee.

**OCCASIONAL DAYCARE AND PLAY GROUPS**

A fee of € 28 a day is charged for occasional early childhood education of more than five hours a day, while the fee for occasional early childhood education of up to five hours a day is € 15 a day. For the family’s other children the fee for occasional early childhood education of more than five hours a day is € 15 a day, while the fee for occasional early childhood education of up to five hours a day is € 8 a day The fee for play groups is € 10 per 2 h.

**IMPACT OF ABSENCES ON CLIENT FEES**

The monthly fee is charged for absences, with the following exceptions:

1. there is no fee if a child is absent from early childhood education due to illness for an entire calendar month

2. if a child is absent from early childhood education due to illness for 11 days or more in the same calendar month, the fee is reduced to half the normal monthly fee.

3. if a child is absent from early childhood due to some reason other than illness for an entire calendar month, the fee is reduced to half the normal monthly fee.

The full monthly fee is charged in all other cases, even if the child has only been present during one day.

**BEGINNING AND END OF DAYCARE/PRESCHOOL**

Client fees are charged from the starting date as set out in the decision. If the child’s place in early childhood education/preschool is cancelled, invoicing ends on the last day the child attends. The notice period for cancellation is two weeks.

**INCOMES REGISTER**

The city can with the client’s consent check income information from the Incomes register-service. The register contains e.g. salary slips and KELA benefits. The register is not complete, which means that not all income is visible there. It is still the client’s responsibility to inform the city about changes in income