#### Ministry of Education

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#### Ministère de l'Éducation

900, rue Bay 24e étage, édifice Mowat Queen's Park Toronto ON M7A 1L2



2016: FSP1

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Transfer Payment Agencies - Family Support Programs

**Executive Directors** 

FROM: Julia Danos

Director, Early Years Implementation Branch

Early Years Division Ministry of Education

Marie Li

Director, Financial Analysis and Accountability Branch

Financial Policy & Business Division

Ministry of Education

**DATE:** January 19, 2016

SUBJECT: 2016 Family Support Program Service Agreement

**Package** 

We are pleased to provide you with your 2016 Family Support Program Service Agreement Package, which includes your service agreement and the updated 2016-17 Family Support Program Business Practices, Services and Funding Reference Document (Reference Document).

## 2016 Service Agreement

The Ministry of Education (the Ministry) has revised its service agreement template to better align with the Ontario Public Service's updated standard agreement template and reflects the conditions and best-practices under which the government funds transfer payment recipients. Under the amended template, general terms and conditions are now captured under Schedule A. Schedule B now consists of program specific information and additional provisions. Please refer to Appendix A for additional information about the changes to the service agreement.

Service agreements must be submitted to the Ministry by March 11, 2016. For your

convenience, agencies may submit their signed service agreement **by email** to <a href="mailto:tpa.edu.earlylearning@ontario.ca">tpa.edu.earlylearning@ontario.ca</a>. If this is not possible, you may submit two original signed copies of the agreement by regular mail to:

Julia Danos, Director Early Years Implementation Branch Ministry of Education 24th Floor, Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2

The Ministry will email a scanned signed copy or mail a hard copy of the completed agreement back to your organization for your records.

# 2016–17 Ontario Family Support Program Business Practices, Services and Funding Reference Document

A few key changes have been made to the Reference Document, including:

### The Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014

- The agreements now include language from the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 to clarify the licensing exemptions related to the provision of child care services in family support programs. Section 4 of the Act sets out which programs and services do not require a licence and further exemptions are set out in regulation.
- Exemptions include: preparation for junior kindergarten, certain 3-hour programs (until January 1, 2017) and nutrition programs. Please refer to the reference document for additional details.

# **Unlicensed Child Care Registries**

- To align with the Child Care and Early Years Act and the Ministry's goal to increase access to licensed home child care. Family support programs are no longer permitted to use funding from the Ministry to support unlicensed child care registries. This change does not preclude family support programs from continuing to use provincial funding to provide access to resources for all child care providers.
- As a reminder, the Ontario website has many resources for families in search of a child care provider. Family support programs can refer families to <a href="http://www.ontario.ca/page/find-and-pay-child-care">http://www.ontario.ca/page/find-and-pay-child-care</a> for this information.

# French Language Services

In areas designated under the *French Language Services Act*, agencies are required to meet the specific requirements for French language services outlined in their service agreement. Agencies that are not operating at full capacity must submit a plan to build

capacity annually. The 2016 plans are due to the Ministry by June 30, 2016.

#### **NEW! Family Support Program Website**

The Ministry's website now includes a family support program landing page with information about the four programs funded by the Ministry: Better Beginnings Better Futures, Child Care Resource Centres, Ontario Early Years Centres, and Parenting and Family Literacy Centres. This website can be viewed at: <a href="http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/FamilyPrograms.html">http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/FamilyPrograms.html</a>. If you need to update your program information, please send all updated information to <a href="mailyOntario.ca">elib@ontario.ca</a> with the title "Family Support Program Website" in the subject line.

# 2016 Interim Report (Transfer Payment Agencies with annual funding over \$350,000)

The Interim Report (previously referred to as Revised Estimates) submission for 2016 is due on **August 31**, **2016**. Agencies will continue to submit financial reports in the Education Finance Information System (EFIS) 2.0. Further information about this submission will be available in spring of next year through the Financial Analysis and Accountability Branch.

#### Cash Flow in 2016

Monthly cash flow will be based upon your 2015 Interim Report submission (if applicable) until your 2016 signed service agreement is received by the Ministry. Your monthly cash flow will be updated to reflect your 2016 allocation as follows:

Signed Service Agreement Received by:	Payment Date:
January 29, 2016	March 2, 2016
February 26, 2016	April 4, 2016
March 30, 2016	May 3, 2016

Your regional Child Care Advisor or Education Officer and Financial Analyst continue to be the Ministry contacts for your agency. The contact list is available on the <u>Financial Analysis and Accountability Branch website</u>. Please direct any questions or concerns regarding this memo to your existing contacts.

We look forward to our continued collaboration in supporting children and their families in the coming year.

Sincerely,

#### Original signed by:

Julia Danos Marie Li
Director Director

Early Years Implementation Branch

Financial Analysis & Accountability

Early Years Division Branch

Financial Policy & Business Division

#### **Enclosures**

2016 Family Support Program Service Agreement

2016-17 Ontario Family Support Program Business Practices, Services and Funding Reference Document

2016-17 EDU Family Support Program Serious Occurrence Form (if applicable)

cc: Education Officers, Early Years Implementation Branch, Early Years Division, Ministry of Education

Child Care Advisors, Early Years Implementation Branch, Early Years Division, Ministry of Education

Financial Analysts, Financial Analysis & Accountability Branch, Financial Policy & Business Division

# **Appendix A: Changes to the Family Support Program Service Agreement Schedules**

Item	Description & Changes		
Service Agreement Changes	<ul> <li>The Ministry has revised its 2016 service agreement template to align with the updated standard conditions and best practices for transfer payment agreements.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Two new schedules (A and B) have been added to the service agreements, "General Terms and Conditions", and "Program Specific Information and Additional Provisions".</li> </ul>		
	The content of schedules C to F remain unchanged.		
	As a result of the two new schedules A and B, the titles associated with each schedule have been updated as follows:		
	2015 Name	2016 Name	
	Schedule A - Program Description	Schedule A - General Terms and Conditions	
	Schedule B - Budget	Schedule B - Program Specific Information and Additional Provisions	
	Schedule C - Payment	Schedule C - Program Description	
	Schedule D - Reports	Schedule D - Budget	
		Schedule E - Payment	
		Schedule F - Reports	