

## TO EARLY EDUCATION CLIENT FAMILIES

### CLIENT FEES

Early education fees are based on the Act on Client Fees in Early Childhood Education and Care (1503/2016) and the decisions of the City of Riihimäki Board of Education and Welfare.

### FEE DETERMINATION

The client fee is a monthly fee based on the size and income of the family and the average early education hours reserved for the child. An amount equal to the income limit is deducted from the family's gross income, and a fee based on the payment percentage is calculated from the resulting monthly income. "Family" refers to persons who are married, living together or in a civil union plus both persons' children under the age of 18 who are living in the same household.

#### **Income limits and payment percentages of early education client fees**

For full-time early education (receiving early education at least 35 hours per week on the average), the monthly fee may be no more than the percentage of the amount exceeding monthly minimum income determined by family size.

**The family may be ordered to pay the maximum fee for the child if the applicant does not report the family's income.**

**There is a counter on the City web site you can use for estimating the amount of the fee.**

Income limits and payment percentages as of 1 August 2018

Family size, persons	Income limit, Euros / month	Maximum payment percentage	Gross income €/month for maximum fee
2	2,102	10.7	4,803
3	2,713	10.7	5,414
4	3,080	10.7	5,781
5	3,447	10.7	6,148
6	3,813	10.7	6,514

If family size is larger than six, 142 Euros will be added to the income limit for each subsequent underaged child in the family.

When there are several children from the same family receiving municipal early education, a fee based on income limits will be determined for the youngest child. The fee may be no more than 289 Euros / month. The client fee for the next youngest child in full-time early education will be a maximum of 145 Euros as of 1 August 2018. Otherwise the sibling discount for another child in the family receiving the service will be 50 percent of the computational full-time early education fee for the youngest child. For other children, the fee will be 20 percent of the computational fee for the youngest child.

The minimum monthly fee charged will be 27 Euros.

**Income that will not be included in the calculation:** child benefit, benefits based on the Disability Benefits Act, national pension child supplement, general housing allowance, care and examination expenses based

on an accident insurance, conscript's allowance, veteran's supplement, study grant, adult education allowance, study grant housing allowance, activity and travel allowance paid as income support, maintenance allowance based on acts 566/2005 and 1295/2002, grants and similar support related to studies, compensation for family care expenses and children's home care allowance.

## Client fee based on reserved average weekly early education hours

average early education hours / week	average reservation hours / day	average reservation hours / month	percentage of the client's monthly fee for full-time early education
max. 12.5	2.5	53	47%
more than 12.5, max. 20	4	84	60%
more than 20, max. 27.5	5.5	116	73%
more than 27.5, max. 35	7	147	86%
more than 35	more than 7	more than 147	100%

**The guardian shall bindingly specify in the income report the average early education hours the client fee will be based on.** Average time will be reserved for the operating period of 1 August – 31 July. Reserved average early education hours may be changed for the period of 1 January – 31 July if the guardian notifies the city about the change by 15 December. Otherwise reserved early education hours may only be changed if the applicant's employment, study or family situation changes. If the family's situation changes due to a guardian starting work or studies, the child may be immediately transferred from part-time care to full-time care. **If the early education hours reserved for the child are exceeded, the fee for the actual level used shall be charged for the applicable month. If the hours reserved for the child are exceeded in two consecutive months, the child shall be permanently transferred to a fee level matching the early education hours used in the previous month.** Any unused hours will not be compensated.

If the need for early education is 1-4 days / month, **the client may choose temporary care** and its applicable fee.

**Free pre-school education** is available for 4 hours on active schooldays (not Saturdays). Early education outside regular pre-school education hours is subject to a fee based on reserved early education hours.

**Open early education club activity** is subject to a fixed monthly fee determined by the board.

If early education has been included in a **child's special care program** as rehabilitation, a client fee will not be charged for the rehabilitating part of early education. Special care programs are drafted with disabled services.

## FEE COLLECTION

The fee is collected monthly for those calendar months during which the child receives municipal early education or has a place reserved for it. The fee is collected for a maximum of eleven months during the period of 1 August – 31 July. If the child's early education begins in August, next year's July will be free of charge. If early education begins or ends in the middle of a month, the fee is determined from the starting date and will end after the reservation has been cancelled.

If the child is absent due to illness for more than 10 active days during a calendar month, one half of the monthly fee will be charged. If the child is absent due to illness every active day of the calendar month, no fee will be charged for that month. Other temporary absences will not reduce the monthly fee.

If a child is absent every active day of the calendar month for reasons other than illness, one half of the monthly fee will be charged. If the child is present on even one day of the calendar month, a fee will be charged for the full month.

Fee adjustment. The fee is redetermined at the beginning of every operating year. The fee is also redetermined if regulations governing the client fee change or if the fee is incorrect. A client may ask for adjustment of their fee if the family's income changes significantly (by more than 6%). If the decision about the client fee was based on incorrect information provided by the client or their representative, the fee may be corrected retroactively for one year. When changing employment, a new income report with enclosures must always be provided for the fee adjustment.

Fee reduction. The early education client fee may be waived or reduced based on a person's maintenance obligation or income requirement, or if early education is necessary for child protection. A waiver or reduction of the fee based on the aforementioned reasons requires an attestation.

Penalty interest. If the fee for the service has not been paid by the due date, annual collection interest may be charged starting from the due date at a rate no higher than the rate defined in section 4, paragraph 3 of the Interest Act. Early education client fees are subject to debt recovery, and the collection will be handled by a private collection agency.

**For more information:** [www.riihimaki.fi](http://www.riihimaki.fi)/ Palvelut Koulutus ja varhaiskasvatus /Varhaiskasvatus /  
**Varhaiskasvatuksen maksut**