

Investing in the Foundation Years of Our Children

Targeted Approach

- Keep pre-school services affordable
- Raise the quality of care and education in pre-school centres
- Improve career and professional development opportunities for EC teachers

Progress in the Provision of Early Childhood Services

<p>Childcare for 1 in 2 Children by 2017, up from 1 in 3 in 2013</p>	<p>31,000 children benefitting from enhanced subsidies</p> <p>10,000 children benefitting from enhanced KIFAS</p>	<p>360 SPARK™ certified pre-schools</p> <p>New Commendation Category to recognise strong teaching and learning practices</p> <p>More Opportunities for career and professional development for aspiring and in-service EC professionals</p>
ACCESSIBILITY	AFFORDABILITY	QUALITY

Introduction of 3 New Schemes

NEW PARTNER OPERATOR (POP)

Aim
To improve quality & affordability of child care services

POP will receive funding from ECDA to

- Keep fees affordable**
 - Reduce current fees
 - Fee cap of \$800
 - Keep future fee increases affordable
- Invest in improving centre quality** with attainment of the SPARK certification and strengthening HQ capabilities

Enhance continuing professional development & career progression opportunities for EC professionals

POP to complement existing Anchor Operator (AOP) scheme

about 50% of pre-school children to benefit from enhanced government support for more affordable and quality pre-schools by 2020

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (PDP)

Aim
To improve attraction and retention of teachers in EC sector to meet manpower needs

For EC professionals

With about 3 years of experience

Identified by employers for potential to take on larger job roles

Structured three-year upgrading programme

Deepen EC professionals' skills to take on larger responsibilities

Provide opportunities to further develop and progress

Range of support includes

- NEW CERTIFIABLE COURSES**
- CASH INCENTIVES** at key milestones

EARLY CHILDHOOD CAPABILITY GRANT (ECCG) for Enhanced Internship Host Operators

Aim
To support operators in delivering enhanced internships for full-time Early Childhood Care & Education students in ITE & Polytechnics

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COMPONENTS OF THE GRANT to help build capabilities in operators to deliver meaningful and realistic internships for trainee students

MANPOWER COSTS

\$1,700 per trainee for operators to recognise mentors or hire relief staff to cover mentors' duties

TEACHING MATERIALS + **PROJECT RESOURCES**

\$200 per trainee for students to be well-equipped to deliver lessons and complete major projects as part of course

INTERNSHIP STIPENDS

50% of minimum stipend co-funded by ECDA
Funding amounts to \$300 for ITE and \$350 for Polytechnic students per month
The enhanced internship and the ECCG to be implemented progressively from Sept 2015

Development of New Early Childhood Development Centres Act (ECDCA)

KEY FEATURES

- Harmonise** the regulation of child care centres & kindergartens
- Registration** of all EC professionals
- Enhancements** to ECDA's regulatory powers to better uphold standards
- Further Consultation** on changes before introducing the new ECDCA later in 2015

To raise overall sector quality

FOR PARENTS
Greater assurance of quality in ECDA-licensed pre-schools

FOR OPERATORS
Clear and consistent requirements across the EC sector