

DATE: April 23, 2021

TO: All Designated Early Childhood Educators (Permanent and Occasional)

CC: Elementary Principals and Vice-Principals

FROM: Jamie Nunn, Superintendent of Human Resource Services
Lisa Kiriakopoulos, Manager - Early Years
Tamara DuFour, President, Hamilton-Wentworth Designated Early Childhood Educators Local

RE: **Professional Learning Funding – Designated Early Childhood Educator (DECE)**

Background

As part of central bargaining, the Designated Early Childhood Educator (DECE) employee group is eligible to access for funding to support professional learning through to August 2022. The professional learning, or resources to engage in learning, are directed by the DECE.

Professional Learning

These funds are intended for self-selected professional learning with examples below, but other options can be proposed for review.

- Virtual Conferences/workshops
- Virtual Group study (eg. With the support of Early Years system team, or ASCY)
- ASCY memberships
- AECEO memberships
- Additional qualification (AQ) courses
- Resource books

At this time, items requiring release time cannot be approved. Request for reimbursement can be up to \$700.00 per person. This amount will be reviewed in the Fall 2021 based on usage, and any changes will be communicated.

The process to access funds includes the completion of the Microsoft Forms document, [DECE Provincial Funds Prior Approval Request Form](#). Details of the funding requests process are included on the form. Approval request is required prior to the expense being occurred.

Questions

Designate Early Childhood Educators can contact Tamara DuFour, DECE Local President, or Lisa Kiriakopoulos, Manager Early Years, with any questions.