

DATE: FALL 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-directed professional learning with examples below, but other options can be proposed for review.

- Virtual or in person conferences/workshops (release time may be available)
- ASCY or AECEO memberships
- Additional qualification (AQ) courses or other courses
- Resource books
- Purchase of personal technology (laptop or tablet) to support professional learning (up to \$500.00 will be reimbursed)

The process to access funds includes the completion of the Microsoft Forms document, *DECE Provincial Funds Prior Approval Request Form* at this link. <https://forms.office.com/r/ri5vSWzrTZ> Details of the funding requests process are included on the form. Approval request is required prior to the expense being occurred. To be eligible to access funds casual DECE must have completed the minimum number of days as outlined in the collective agreement. Maximum request for the period of December 2021 to March 31st, 2022 is \$500.00. Following this date, the budget will be reviewed for spending to the period ending August 31st, 2022.

Questions

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