



## 2022-2023 Directives – Full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds

- **Dedicated measure:** Funds can be spent on other measures applicable to full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds
- **Protected measure:** Funds can only be spent on the elements referred to in the measure

### Note

The *Act to amend the Education Act and other provisions regarding preschool education services for students 4 years of age*, adopted in the fall of 2019, allows for large-scale deployment of full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds. As a result of this Act, the service **is no longer reserved for disadvantaged areas**.

### Multi-grade classes (4 and 5 year-olds)

Multi-grade classes for full-time 4-year-old and 5-year-old students qualify for the same budgetary measures (Amount per student – kindergarten classroom,<sup>1</sup> parental component, additional resource support person, and educational material) as full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds, provided the following conditions are met:

- At least six students:
  - including three to five 4-year-old students
  - more than five 4-year-old students and at least six students who attain 5 years of age before October 1 of the current school year.

### Note

**The maximum number of children in a multi-grade class is 14**, with the lowest average becoming the maximum, as provided for in the Provincial Agreement and supported by jurisprudence.

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<sup>1</sup> 5-year-old students are funded under the budget rules applicable to kindergarten for 5-year-olds. These students are deducted from the funding for kindergarten in the classroom (measure 11021).

### **Kindergarten classroom (dedicated measure)**

**Measure 11021** constitutes the basic allowance for full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds and for authorized multi-grade classes. The amount per student for the 2022-2023 school year is \$7,815.

Funding is provided from the sixth student in the class. When the class is composed of between six and 14 students, the allowance corresponds to the funding of 14 students.

### **Additional resource support person (dedicated measure)**

**Measure 11023** grants an allowance of \$28,115 per group for the addition of another resource support person in the classroom **to assist the teacher**. The resource support person must be specialized in preschool-age child development and be present half-time in the classroom. He or she may be a special education or daycare technician.

#### **Note**

The additional resource support person must not replace the support or professional staff members needed to address the needs of students at risk or with special needs. In addition, the person must not be used to assist another group of students or activity at the school. **His or her job is to assist the teacher of the full-time kindergarten class for 4-year-olds.**

### **Parental component (dedicated measure)**

The parental component provides for ten meetings to be organized for parents whose children attend full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds. No time is prescribed for these meetings. **Measure 11022 provides for an allowance of \$182 per student** to assist with the organization of the meetings.

**Note**

**Responsibility for the parental component of kindergarten for 4-year-olds should not fall on teachers, who already have pedagogical responsibilities. Instead, it should be assumed by a resource support person from the school board or school service centre** whose skillset includes interventions with parents (e.g., parent officer, Passe-Partout officer, transition officer, etc.). The teacher may assist the resource person (e.g., by choosing the topic or content of the meetings, etc.). See *Guide to Support the Parent Component*

**Educational materials (protected measure)**

**Measure 11024** provides for a protected *a posteriori* allowance of \$11,000 **per new class**, to purchase educational materials for children in full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds. The allowance is also granted to new, authorized multi-grade classes, and is not increased or indexed from year to year.

**Note**

The new preschool cycle program explicitly mentions the need for a rich preschool environment that allows students to explore a variety of games (symbolic, manipulation, construction, rules, motor, outdoors, etc.), as well as science and art materials and a range of books.

**Room**

The room used for full-time kindergarten classes for 4-year-olds should comply with ministerial guidelines, i.e. be 60 m<sup>2</sup> to 70 m<sup>2</sup> in size and be close to services (cloakrooms and toilets).

**Addition of specialist teachers at preschool level (protected measure)**

**Measure 15026** offers schools the opportunity to add 30 minutes per week in one of the following subjects: **physical education, drama, visual arts, dance or music**. Unfortunately, it excludes French as a second language. This measure must be applied in accordance with the provisions of the provincial agreement concerning the new workload, and in particular the stipulation that the educational workload of full-time preschool teachers must comprise no more than 22 hours and 30 minutes of developmental and cognitive learning activities and at least 30 minutes of other educational duties, for a total of 23 hours per week (clause 8-6.02 B)). The measure specifies that, in future, “the specialist teacher must assist with the development of the children, in compliance with the preschool education program”.

**Note**

The use of this measure may have an impact on the time allocated to each subject or on the elements of the basic school regulation for which mandatory consultations are required under the terms of the *Education Act* (sections 84, 86 and 89). Chapter 4 of the local agreements may also include a consultation requirement connected to the use of this measure, since it may interfere with the pedagogical organization of some classes. In all cases, however, it is a budgetary measure and must be adopted by the governing board (section 95 of the *Education Act*).

**Activity program**

The prescribed activity program is the **Preschool Education Cycle Program**, which has replaced the education program for kindergarten for 4-year-olds.

**Note**

This is the second year of application for the preschool cycle program. To help teachers, the Ministry has posted some additional program tools on its website, concerning play, observation of the children's progress, and classroom organization.

**Evaluation of learning**

Currently, the provisions of the basic school regulation concerning evaluation of learning and the single report card do not apply to full-time kindergarten for 4-year-olds. In addition, children cannot repeat the year.

**Furniture, equipment, and tools (protected measure)**

When a school service centre or school board does not have enough furniture for newly added kindergarten classes for 4-year-olds, it may qualify for additional funding to cover the purchase of furniture suitable for these classes (**sub-measure 18013 in the investment budget rules**).

**Note**

The new preschool cycle program explicitly states that the classroom must be physically adapted to the needs of all 4-year-old children and must be easily accessible and safe. It must also be organized in a way that encourages the children to participate and explore different games.

## References

- Gouvernement du Québec (2022). *Maternelle 4 ans à temps plein – Objectifs, limites, conditions et modalités – Année scolaire 2022-2023*, Ministère de l'Éducation, 8 pages.
- Gouvernement du Québec (2021). *Québec Education Program – Preschool Education – Preschool Cycle Program*, Ministère de l'Éducation, 64 pages.
- Gouvernement du Québec (2021). *Preschool Tools (Play, Observation of Children's Progress, Classroom Organization)*, [Online], Ministère de l'Éducation.
- Gouvernement du Québec (2022). *Centres de services scolaires et commissions scolaires – Règles budgétaires de fonctionnement pour les années scolaires 2021-2022 à 2023-2024 – Éducation préscolaire et enseignement primaire et secondaire*, ministère de l'Éducation, 315 pages.
- Gouvernement du Québec (2022). *Centres de services scolaires et commissions scolaires – Règles budgétaires pour les investissements pour les années scolaires 2021-2022 à 2023-2024 – Éducation préscolaire et enseignement primaire et secondaire*, ministère de l'Éducation, 84 pages.
- Gouvernement du Québec (2022). *Centres de services scolaires et commissions scolaires – Renseignements spécifiques à l'année scolaire 2022-2023 – Éducation préscolaire et enseignement primaire et secondaire*, ministère de l'Éducation, 60 pages.
- Gouvernement du Québec (2021). [Guide to support the parent component - Preschool education for 4-year olds - revised edition](#), ministère de l'Éducation, 18 pages