



**AGES FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING IN ECS PROGRAMS
DEPENDING UPON STATUS OF CHILD**

Allocation Criteria

1. A child who meets conditions a, b, c, and d unless e, f, g or h apply is counted toward WMA enrolment for the purposes of allocating ECS base instruction funding:
 - a. is attending an ECS program on the September count date of the current school year operated by a school authority or is covered by an education services agreement that has been approved for funding by the School Finance Branch;
 - b. meets the minimum age requirements as set out in the following table:

Category of ECS Children	Type of ECS Funding Provided	Minimum age of the child as of August 31	Maximum age of the child as of September 1
Kindergarten child	Base Instruction Funding (Maximum of 1 year funding)	4 years 8 months	Less than 6 years
ECS child with a mild/moderate disability/delay	Base Instruction Funding (Maximum 2 years funding which includes the Kindergarten year)	3 years 8 months	Less than 6 years
ECS child who is gifted/talented	Base Instruction Funding (Maximum 2 years funding which includes the Kindergarten year)	3 years 8 months	Less than 6 years
ECS child with English as a Second Language (ESL) needs	Base Instruction Funding (Maximum 2 years funding which includes the Kindergarten year) and ESL Funding	3 years 8 months	Less than 6 years
ECS child with severe disabilities/delay	Base Instruction Funding (Maximum 3 years funding which includes the Kindergarten year), PUF Funding and SLS Kindergarten Severe Funding	2 years 8 months	Less than 6 years
ECS child with moderate language delay	Base Instruction Funding (Maximum 3 years funding which includes the Kindergarten year), SLS Kindergarten (PUF) Moderate Language Delay Funding, ECS Pre-Kindergarten (PUF) Moderate Language Delay Funding	2 years 8 months	Less than 6 years
ECS child who is developmentally immature	Base Instruction Funding (Maximum 2 years funding)	5 years 8 months	Less than 7 years



- c. Is a resident of Alberta and has a parent who ordinarily resides in Alberta on the September count date;
- d. Is a Canadian citizen on the September count date; or
 - i. is lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence; or
 - ii. is a child of a Canadian citizen; or
 - iii. is a child of an individual who is lawfully admitted to Canada as a permanent or temporary resident; or
 - iv. is a stepchild (who has been issued a study permit) of a temporary foreign worker that is in Canada on a work permit; and who is the biological or adopted child of the temporary foreign worker's spouse or partner; or
 - v. is a stepchild of a Canadian citizen and is the biological or adopted child of the Canadian citizen's non-Canadian spouse or partner. The following documentation is required:
 - 1) proof of application for permanent resident status and fee payment to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC); or
 - 2) valid study permit for the child.
- e. For funding purposes, a First Nations child who resides on a reserve is not counted toward WMA enrolment.
- f. An individual who is developmentally immature (code 10).
- g. An individual who is at least 5 years 8 months of age as of August 31, but less than 7 years of age as of September 1, and who is either coded severe or mild/moderate, gifted/talented, or ESL/Francisation, may be counted toward WMA enrolment if the school jurisdiction, the ECS operator and the parent agree that an ECS program is the most appropriate placement, and the child has had less than the maximum years of funding for which they are eligible.
- h. An individual who is at least 6 years, but less than 7 years old as of September 1 may be counted toward WMA enrolment if they are enrolled in an ECS program and are either developmentally immature or are entering an ECS program for the first time. Any other situations involving registering an overage child require special approval from the School Finance Branch.

Reference: Section 3, 21, 32, 41, 52, 53, 197, 222 Education Act
Early Childhood Regulation 31/2002
Early Childhood Policy 1.1.3
Funding Manual for School Authorities
Standards for Special Education
Standards for the Provision of Early Childhood Special Education
Policy 13 – Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters