

TABLE 22 Definitions and regulations/policies for non-standard hours child care in Canada. Provinces/territories (2022).

P/T	Definition of non-standard hours child care	Regulations/policies
NL	Services between 6:30 am to 8:30 pm are considered “standard hours,” ¹ with services outside these hours considered non-standard.	Requests for non-standard hours must be made in writing to be approved by the minister.
PE	A regulated centre or child care home outside 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday is considered “non-standard hours.”	No specific restrictions
NS	“Extended hours child care” means full-day, part-day or school-age programs operating for more than 12 hours per day or past 6:30 pm on weekends. Family child care agencies develop internal policies for extended hours child care in family child care homes.	May operate up to 18 hours per day and have any child attend for up to 13 hours per day or 65 hours per week. A family child care home must be approved by the agency to have a child attend for up to 65 hours per week.
NB	“Extended hours” services means a centre or home-based service provided after 12 consecutive hours or after five days in a week. “Overnight services” means services between 8 pm and 6 am.	Licensees/applicants must apply to provide non-standard hours care. A child shall not be admitted after 8 pm and may attend for up to 14 consecutive hours in a 24-hour period. Centres must have at least two educators and up to 12 children per licence, including the operator’s children, with up to three infants.
QC	“ <i>Mode de garde particulier</i> ” (special child care) is defined as evening, night, weekend, on call, half-day/ part-time, in any of the following time periods: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm; 6:00 pm – 12:00 am; or 12:00 am – 6:00 am.	In <i>centres de la petite enfance</i> (CPE) and garderies, children may not be present for more than 48 consecutive hours. Centres are funded for and required to provide up to 10 hours/day and must be open at least 7:00 am – 6:00 pm.
ON	“Temporary care or supervision of children” is allowed for up to 24 consecutive hours.	Up to 24 consecutive hours
MB	“Overnight care” may be provided by a centre approved to provide care for 24 hours a day, during a recognized period for sleeping during the night and care from 8:00 pm – 6:00 am in home-based child care.	Licensees must be approved to offer care beyond 18 hours in any 24-hour period. Licensees must have separate sleeping rooms for male and female school-age children. Centres can have up to 8 children in one sleeping room, two staff or 1:8 ratio, and an approved security system. Group child care homes’ overnight staff must be 18 or older, have a criminal record check, child abuse registry check and first aid training.

Source: Lero, D.S., Prentice, S. Friendly, M., Richardson, B, and Fraser, L.(2019). *Non-standard work and child care in Canada: A challenge for parents, policy makers, and child care provision*. Childcare Resource and Research Unit and University of Guelph.

1 In legislation, there is no definition of non-standard hours child care per se but standard operation hours are defined as 6:30 am – 8:30 pm.

TABLE 22 *continued*. Definitions and regulations/policies for non-standard hours child care in Canada. Provinces/territories (2022).

P/T	Definition of non-standard hours child care	Regulations/policies
SK	Defined as extended hours and 24-hour child care. A centre may provide child care for 24 hours or more if there is a demonstrated need.	An extended-hours centre can operate for 80 hours/week or more. A family child care home may provide up to 100 hours of care in one 24-hour period; a group family child care home up to 150 hours; a teen student support home up to 75 hours.
AB	“Overnight care” is defined in policy as care provided between 12:01 am and 5:00 am. ² For the purpose of fee subsidy, “extended hours” is defined as on weekends or outside 6 am – 6 pm on weekdays.	Staff:child ratios for overnight care will align with the “rest” period ratio chart. Children in day homes may not receive care for more than 18 hours within a 24-hour period without prior written notification to the agency.
BC	“Overnight care” is defined as care provided before 6:00 am or after 7:00 pm.	Licensees may provide care for up to 13 hours/day to each child. Approval from a medical health officer is required to provide overnight care. There may be no more than five children in one room. Children over 6 years old of opposite sexes must be supervised at all times if sharing one room. Staff:child ratio must be maintained if three or more children are sleeping overnight. Preschool, occasional child care or child-minding licensees may not provide overnight care.
YT	“Night care” is care provided during evening and night hours.	There are legislated requirements on child ratios, sleeping arrangements and supervision in both centre and home-based night care.
NT	No non-standard hours child care.	<i>Not applicable</i>
NU	No non-standard hours child care.	<i>Not applicable</i>

Source: Lero, D.S., Prentice, S. Friendly, M., Richardson, B, and Fraser, L.(2019). *Non-standard work and child care in Canada: A challenge for parents, policy makers, and child care provision*. Childcare Resource and Research Unit and University of Guelph.

² [Regulation changes](#) now allow programs to provide overnight care.