



YMCA Kids Club Wait-list Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How does the YMCA School Age wait-list work?

A. The YMCA manages over 1,000 licensed child care spaces for school age children at 44 locations throughout Metro Vancouver.

Our wait-list does not operate on a “first come – first served” basis.

There are a number of priorities taken into consideration for enrolment such as:

- siblings of current participants
- children who are transferring from one YMCA Child Care program to another
- school the child is attending
- partnership agreements

Q. When can I join the school age wait-list?

A: Families are welcome to join the School Age wait-list at any time.

Q. Is there a fee to join the school age wait-list?

A: No. However, a \$100 non-refundable registration fee is due at the time of enrolment.

Q. How long do I have to wait in order to get a school age child care space?

A: The length of time is different for each location. Wait-list times can vary from 1 year to 3+ years. It is very difficult for us to predict when a space might become available for you, as there are many factors which are used to offer spaces (i.e. the date you came onto the wait-list, the type of program you are looking for, etc). Typically, the majority of spaces become available between May and September of each year. We suggest that you put your child’s name on several wait-lists. You will remain on the wait-list until you are offered a space or request to be removed.

Families will only be contacted when a space becomes available. Please note, we contact families via email so please ensure you use an email address that is checked often when applying for care.

Q. What if I accept a school age space and then decide that I don’t want it?

A: We have a 30-day withdrawal policy that applies to all parents who accept a space. If you accept a space and then change your mind, we require 30 days written notice on the 1st of the month. If notice is not received on the 1st of the month, you will be responsible for the monthly fees. Families are welcome to re-join the wait-list.

Q. Once my child is registered into a school age program, is their space held each year?

A: Children will retain their school age space until withdrawal. In the spring of each year, families will be asked to re-confirm that their child(ren) will be returning in the fall. Families who wish to return after they have withdrawn from the program will be asked to re-join the wait-list.

Q. What if I am offered a space and decline?

A: Due to the length of each wait-list, if you are offered a space and decline, you will be removed from the list but are welcome to re-join.

Q. What if my child has additional support needs?

A. The YMCA is an inclusive environment and we welcome children with additional needs. If your child has additional support needs, we will work with you and any other service providers involved to:

- assess your child's strengths, interests and needs;
- determine how our program might meet these needs; and
- identify the supports that would be needed to successfully include your child in our program.

This planning can take some time so we will contact you in advance of a space becoming available.

Q. Can I find out where my child is on the wait-list?

A. It is difficult to forecast when your child can expect to receive an offer for a space. We do not provide families with wait-list numbers and are unable to respond to requests related to where your child is on the wait-list.