

Peel Inclusion Resource Services (PIRS) - Did You Know?

This document provides child care program staff, working in licensed centre-based programs, with an overview of PIRS services and supports

Child care program staff are encouraged to talk to their Resource Consultant (RC) or PIRS Supervisor if they have questions about the role of the RC and the supports they provide.

PIRS Service - Role of the Resource Consultant (RC)

- RCs provide consultative support to licensed child care programs to support access, inclusion, participation and belonging for all children.
- The role of the RC when working with **Preschool Programs** is to:
 - Provide consultation to support a child on caseload (with PIRS consent)
 - Develop Individual Program Plans, gather information from other professionals, provide strategies to support participation and support a child's transition to other classrooms or to school.
 - Coach and model the implementation of strategies.
 - Actively participate in the New Placement Process and Continued Placement Process.
 - Support the capacity building of Educators through professional learning opportunities (information sharing sessions or regionally approved workshops).
- **Preschool** and **Before and After School Programs (BASP)** have access to short term, goal focused consultation (8 weeks in length and 1-3 consultation visits):
- **General Classroom Consultation (GCC)** to support Educators in building their skills related to special needs, inclusion and inclusive practices
- **Child Specific Brief Consultation (CSBC)** that supports the early identification of developmental, social, emotional or behaviour needs that may impact a child's participation in a program. CSBC requires parental consent. It is the role of the RC to discuss the consent form with the family.
 - **Preschool programs** can access GCC and CSBC supports by discussing the request and reviewing the Resource Consultation Request form with their RC (form provided by the RC)

For more information visit [peelregion.ca](https://www.peelregion.ca)

- **BASP** can access GCC and CSBC supports by submitting the Resource Consultation Request as outlined on [Peel Region's website](#).

Resource Consultant Program Visits

- RCs complete 5 consultation visits to child care programs each week and visits are typically a minimum of 2 hours in length.
- RCs do not have to visit every program they support each week. They will work with Educators or Supervisors to determine how often they visit the program and the date and time of visits. When planning visits, RCs will consider things like the needs of the classroom/program, skills of Educators, and the number of children being supported.
- Programs that do not currently have children being supported by an RC can expect monthly connections that alternate between in-person and virtual. The visits are typically 30 minutes in length.

Enhanced Program Support

- Enhanced Program Support (EPS) funding offers short-term support in licensed centre-based child care programs when needs are present.
 - All eligible providers receive an annual notional allocation that can be used at any point of the calendar year to hire new program support staff and/or extend the hours of existing staff.
 - Program support staff are expected to work together with the program educators and the RC to help all children fully participate in child care, and cannot be included in the minimum Child Care and Early Years Act ratio requirements.
 - Providers may also be eligible for additional Top-Up funding in circumstances where their RC has validated that there are complex needs in the classroom(s) that need longer periods of support.
- To learn more about EPS funding, please refer to the [EPS Guidelines](#).

Specialized Consultation Team

- RCs have access to a Specialized Consultation Team (SCT). The team is made up of Clinicians from community agencies who provide short-term, goal-focused consultation to RCs. There are four disciplines available:
 - Behaviour Therapy, Mental Health, Occupational Therapy, and Speech-Language Pathology

PIRS Supervisor Connections

- To build relationships with child care program Supervisors and staff, PIRS Supervisors will visit child care programs a minimum of twice a year. Additionally, they will connect with child care program supervisors by phone, email or by booking a virtual meeting twice a year. The connections provide an opportunity for supervisors to talk

For more information visit [peelregion.ca](https://www.peelregion.ca)



about services and supports, gather feedback from child care program staff, and observe RCs as they interact with staff and children.

Targeted Input

- As outlined in the PIRS [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#), the Targeted Input component of the Quality Assurance and Compliance Framework allows the Region to gather input from child care programs to understand PIRS service experience.
- Child care programs will be asked to provide input through surveys or focus groups.

Feedback

- There are three ways for child care programs to provide the Region with feedback.
 - Parents/caregivers can submit questions or concerns about access to a child care program through the [Region's website](#).
 - Child care programs and SNR Agencies should escalate concerns related to service delivery or authentic participation in PIRS by following the Escalation Process outlined in the [PIRS MoU](#).
 - Child care programs, families, SNR Agencies and community partners can share experiences, concerns or suggestions about PIRS service through the [Region's website](#).

How Can Parents Access PIRS Support?

To increase awareness of PIRS supports, child care programs are encouraged to talk with parents and share PIRS resources (e.g., PIRS video available through the [Region's website](#)). RCs are available to support child care program staff as they discuss PIRS with families.

Parents/legal guardians can make a PIRS referral by completing the [PIRS Referral Form](#) found on Peel Region's website and should hear from an RC within 20 days of submitting the referral.

For More Information

If you have questions or would like more information about PIRS, email PIRS@peelregion.ca.

For more information visit [peelregion.ca](https://www.peelregion.ca)

