

**Effective:** January 26, 2023

**Revised:** November 20, 2023; March 1 2024

1. To respond to the high demand for infant spaces, and to facilitate access for families in a timely manner there will be an exemption to Section 6.1 of the Policy for the following applicants to apply for designated infant spaces outside the call for proposal:
  - a. **New applicants for early learning and childcare homes** are eligible for the exemption. To be eligible for this exemption, a new applicant for an ELCC home is required to offer, and fill, a minimum of (1) infant space and must meet all licensing and designation requirements.

New infant spaces must be accessible to children under fifteen (15) months in order to qualify for this exemption.
2. Operators must submit a request in writing to the Minister if they want to move all, or a portion of, their designated spaces from one of their licensed facilities to another of their licensed facilities. Operators will receive written approval from the Minister to move all, or a portion of, their designated spaces from one licensed facility to another if they meet licensing and designation requirements.
3. The Minister may grant an exemption from any section of the policy if the Minister is of the opinion that there is an exceptional and extraordinary circumstance that warrants an exemption and that the exemption is in the public interest.