



# What is approved child care for the purposes of Child Care Benefit?

## Fact sheet 3

The child care system is changing from July 2018. As part of the changes, Child Care Benefit (CCB) will cease on midnight 1 July 2018. For more information about the new child care fee assistance programs please go to <https://www.education.gov.au/new-child-care-package-families-2-july-2018>

Parents want the very best for their children. When placing your child in care you need to be confident you have chosen a safe, nurturing environment of high quality. Child Care Benefit (CCB) approved child care is a good option.

## What is CCB approved child care?

It is child care approved for the purposes of CCB by the Australian Government because it meets certain standards and requirements. This includes having a license to operate, qualified and trained staff, being open certain hours, and meeting health, safety and other quality standards. CCB approved child care services can receive CCB from the Government on your behalf, which means you have lower out-of-pocket child care fees.

There are several types of CCB approved child care and some families use more than one:

### Long Day Care

- provided in day care centres mainly for children up to school age
- may also call themselves kindergartens, preschools, child care centres, or early learning centres
- offer fun learning and development in bright, colourful surroundings with lots of toys and play equipment
- can be all-day or part-time provided by private operators, employers, local councils, community organisations, or non-profit organisations.

## Family Day Care

- provided in an approved Family Day Care educator's home, for your children
- hours of care are flexible and can be matched to your needs
- can be all-day, part-time, casual, before and/or after school, and during school holidays.

## Outside School Hours Care

Includes Before School Care, After School Care and Vacation Care and:

- is provided in places like schools and community halls, mainly for primary school aged children
- offers supervised activities for different ages, such as games, crafts, sport, reading, and music
- is available before and/or after school and during school holidays as well as on pupil-free days during the school term.

## Occasional Care

- centre-based child care that supports families by providing flexible care for children
- can be on a regular (sessional) basis, or irregularly
- allows the flexibility to leave children for short periods of time in an early childhood learning environment to socialise and interact with other children
- must comply with applicable state and territory regulations when providing care to children.

## In Home Care

- provided by an approved carer in your home, for your children
- offers supervised activities for different ages, including arts and crafts, outdoor activities, and games
- can use if you cannot access an existing child care service or a service that meets your needs - for example, if you live in a rural or regional area, work shifts or non-standard hours, have a child with a disability or who is ill, or if you or your partner are caring for three or more children (including the child) who have not yet commenced school.

## What support can I get if I use CCB approved care?

You may be eligible for CCB and the Child Care Rebate (CCR) if you use CCB approved child care, provided you meet the eligibility criteria.

**Note:** To receive CCR you must claim CCB. There is no income test for the CCR. If you are eligible for CCB, but your CCB entitlement is zero due to income, you may still be eligible for the CCR.

## How can I get more information?

To access your details or check your eligibility for child care payments, please contact the Department of Human Services by:

- visiting [Department of Human Services families website](#)<sup>1</sup>
- logging on to your **Centrelink online account** through [myGov](#)<sup>2</sup> and selecting 'Child Care' and then 'View Child Care Details and Payments'. If you do not have a [myGov account](#), you can create one by visiting [myGov](#) and then linking it to your Centrelink online account
- using the **Express Plus Centrelink mobile app** and selecting 'Child Care'. Express Plus Centrelink is available for Apple devices with iOS7+ on the App Store and Android devices with version 4.0 and above on Google Play
- visiting a service centre
- calling **136 150**, or
  - Teletypewriter (TTY) service on **1800 810 586** if you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment. You need a TTY phone to use this service
  - **131 202** if you need information in a language other than English.

## Useful resources

Other useful resources include:

- for news and information on child care visit the [MyChild website](#)<sup>3</sup>
- to estimate and compare payments access the [Child Care Estimator](#)<sup>4</sup>
- [A Guide to Australian Government payments](#).<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> [www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/themes/families](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/themes/families)

<sup>2</sup> <https://my.gov.au/>

<sup>3</sup> [www.mychild.gov.au](http://www.mychild.gov.au)

<sup>4</sup> [www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/online-estimators](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/online-estimators)

<sup>5</sup> [www.humanservices.gov.au/corporate/publications-and-resources/a-guide-to-australian-government-payments](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/corporate/publications-and-resources/a-guide-to-australian-government-payments)