



# What is Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing)

The Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing) is a payment from the Australian Government for families who need practical help with the cost of child care to support their child's wellbeing.

## How does a parent know if the Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing) is right for their child?

If a parent feels they need help to support their child's wellbeing, it is a good idea for the parent to talk to their child care provider. Speaking with the child care provider can be a good way to get advice and find out what support services in the community are available to help. The provider can help parents find out what support is best for their situation and put them in touch with support services in their community.

The provider can also tell parents if their child could benefit from Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing).

If the provider determines eligibility for Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing), parents can receive a higher subsidy for up to six weeks. If the provider thinks this subsidy is needed for more than six weeks, they can apply to Centrelink to approve Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing) for longer periods.

## How many hours of child care subsidy will an eligible family receive?

Families are exempt from the Child Care Subsidy activity test for any child that is eligible for the Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing). This means, they will be entitled to access up to 100 hours of subsidised child care per fortnight regardless of their activity.

## How will the Additional Child Care Subsidy be paid?

The Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing) is paid directly to approved child care services to reduce the cost of child care for eligible families. Eligible families will receive a subsidy equal to the actual fee charged by the child care service, up to 120 per cent of the Child Care Subsidy hourly rate cap, whichever is lower. In most cases, the full cost of care will be covered.

## **What if the family's circumstances change?**

If the provider has determined that a child is no longer eligible, they will notify Centrelink and the Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing) will cease. The family may still be eligible to receive the Child Care Subsidy.

## **Where can I get further information on the Child Care Package?**

Department of Education, Skills and Employment Child Care Package: [dese.gov.au/ecc](https://dese.gov.au/ecc)

Services Australia Child Care Subsidy: [servicesaustralia.gov.au/childcaresubsidy](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/childcaresubsidy)