



Australian Government  
Department of Education

# News

Weekly wrap for the early childhood education and care sector



10 August 2022

## NQF Snapshot: 88% of services meeting or exceeding standards

ACECQA has released its latest [National Quality Framework \(NQF\) Snapshot](#), which finds 88% of services are meeting or exceeding the [National Quality Standard \(NQS\)](#). The results reflect the highest proportion of services rated Meeting NQS or above since quality ratings began in 2012.

More than two-thirds of services rated Working towards NQS improved their overall quality rating, demonstrating the sector's continuous improvement under the NQF.

ACECQA releases the NQF Snapshot quarterly. It tracks the sector's progress and improvement in rating against the NQS. The latest snapshot also includes data about temporary service closures related to COVID-19.

Find the NQF Snapshot, including an interactive online version, on [ACECQA's website](#).

## Understand provider obligations

If you receive Child Care Subsidy (CCS), you must comply with your obligations under Family Assistance Law.

Our [provider obligations page](#) has information and resources to help you do the right thing. Find:

- a series of [short videos on key compliance topics](#)
- information about [persons with management or control](#), including a [table of obligation](#)
- information on [fit and proper requirements](#) and [mandatory background checks](#)
- information about the compliance action we take if you fail to meet your obligations.

Each page has a button at the bottom so you can tell us whether you found this information helpful. Let us know!

## Early childhood strike action on 7 September

We're aware of the announcement from the United Workers' Union that early childhood educators may strike over pay and conditions on 7 September.

A reminder that you cannot claim CCS when your service is closed, except on a [public holiday by law](#) or during a [period of emergency](#).

Guidance about industrial action for employers and employees is available on the [Fair Work Commission website](#).

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## Inclusion Support Program: Innovative Solutions cap lifted

We've lifted the cap on [Innovative Solutions Support](#) projects.

Innovative Solutions Support funds flexible and responsive solutions to inclusion barriers. It is part of the Inclusion Support Program (ISP), which helps services care for children with additional needs.

We temporarily placed a \$10,000 cap on Innovative Solutions projects between 14 September 2021 and 30 June 2022. The cap has now been lifted.

Eligible services can apply for Innovative Solutions projects without a specified limit. You can apply for funding at any time.

Applications over \$10,000 are referred to the department by the Inclusion Development Function Manager (IDFM) for approval.

For advice about applying for Innovative Solutions Support, [contact your local Inclusion Agent or the IDFM](#).

[Find more information about ISP on our website](#).

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## Useful information

### Handy resource

Learn about [CCS overpayments, debts and how to avoid them](#) on our website.

### Good to know

Did you know we have a Facebook group for providers and services to connect with us and each other?

Join the [Australian Child Care Providers and Services Facebook group](#) and:

- ask the community a question
- share resources directly with your networks
- get tips, announcements and reminders in your Facebook feed.

Plus, learn what other services are doing to mark significant days and events.  
We were thrilled to hear what one service got up to for National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day [on our recent post](#).

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## Was this newsletter helpful?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

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### PAST ISSUES

Read all past issues [on our website](#).

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CCS Helpdesk 9am to 5pm AEST Monday to Friday 1300 667 276 or [email us](#) anytime.

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