



Australian Government  
Department of Education

# News

Weekly wrap for the early childhood education and care sector



In this week's edition, we share new resources to help families understand the changes to Child Care Subsidy, cover new transportation requirements for Centre Based Day Care, and remind you to update your details.

## From the department

### Help families understand CCS changes

**Print and display new resources at your service to help families understand the changes to Child Care Subsidy (CCS).**

From July 2023 most families using child care will get more CCS. Here's what you need to know:

- The maximum amount of CCS is increasing from 85% to 90%.
- Families earning \$80,000 or less will get 90% subsidy.
- Families earning over \$80,000 and under \$530,000 will get a subsidy that tapers down from 90%, depending on their income. The subsidy will go down 1% for each \$5,000 earned.
- Families with more than one child aged 5 or under in care can still get a higher rate for their second and younger children.

You can help your families understand what the changes mean for them. Do this by:

- printing and displaying this [poster](#) and [factsheet](#) at your service
- sharing [this post](#) from Services Australia's Family Update Facebook page.

### Becoming an approved provider

**We are currently receiving a high volume of CCS provider approval applications. Please be aware of the assessment wait times and ensure your application is complete before submitting.**

We have [step-by-step guidance on our website](#) about the approval process. Applicants must read this information carefully before applying.

We can only assess complete applications. Our page on [getting ready to apply](#) outlines what application must include.

We strongly encourage all applicants to complete and submit the [supplied governance statement](#). This will ensure you provide the information we need and will help us process your application.

Once you submit an application, it is queued for processing. The current expected wait time is approximately four weeks.

Once we reach your application, we do a completeness check and then begin a rigorous assessment. Assessment times vary depending on the circumstances of the application.

It's up to you whether to operate before you know the outcome of your application. We outline the business and financial risks if you choose to operate before you're approved [on our website](#).

## Join the community

The [Australian Child Care Providers and Services Facebook group](#) is now home to a network of over 5,500 early childhood education and care representatives.

If you haven't already, [join the group](#) and share it with your colleagues to learn, explore, and connect with us and others in your sector.

Please also encourage staff at your service to [join our mailing list](#).

## From the sector

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### New transportation requirements from March 2023

**From 1 March 2023, new regulatory requirements will apply to centre-based services that provide regular transportation.**

Under the new requirements, approved providers must:

- Ensure a staff member or nominated supervisor accounts for and makes a record of children as they get in or out of a vehicle at a service.
- Ensure records are made confirming a completed check of the inside of a vehicle at the service, after all children have left to ensure no children remain.
- Notify the regulatory authority when they start providing or arranging regular transport, and again when they finish, which can be done via the [National Quality Agenda IT System](#).

Read more about the new requirements on [ACECQA's website](#).

### Become a leader in wellbeing

**Do you want to build your knowledge, skills, and confidence leading wellbeing at your service?**

Promoting mental health from the top can motivate and empower others to get on board. Be sure to read the Be You Leaders Handbook and join the network of wellbeing leaders.

[Find out more and register.](#)

## Facts from FAL

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### Report when a PMC leaves or stops having day-to-day control

**Each week we're highlighting a task that providers must perform under Family Assistance Law.**

You must report when a person with management or control (PMC):

- leaves their role
- changes their role and their new role no longer includes day-to-day responsibility for any of the provider's approved child care services.

This task can only be performed by a PMC.

You must report within 7 days of the person ceasing to have management or control of the provider. Report through the [Provider Entry Point](#) (PEP) or your third-party software.

If you fail to meet your obligations on time you may receive an [infringement](#).

Find a [list of obligations, tasks and timeframes](#) on our website.

### Make sure your details are up to date

**It's a great time to update your contact details, including email addresses, in the [Child Care Subsidy System](#) (CCSS) so you don't miss important information.**

You can do this through:

- the [PEP](#), or
- your third-party software.

You should also identify all [PMCs](#) in the CCSS and keep their information up to date too.

## For families

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### Have you confirmed your 21–22 income?

**Services Australia is currently balancing Child Care Subsidy (CCS) for the 2021–22 financial year. You must confirm your 2021–22 income before your CCS can be balanced.**

You can confirm your income by:

- lodging your tax return, or
- [telling Services Australia that you don't need to lodge a tax return](#) and confirming your income.

You will receive an outcome once your CCS has been balanced.

For more information about CCS balancing, visit the [Services Australia website](#).

## Was this newsletter helpful?

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Yes

No

## More information

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**Past issues:** Read all past issues of this newsletter [on our website](#).

**Subscribe:** Not receiving emails directly from us? [Join our mailing list](#).

**Join:** [Join our Facebook group](#) for providers and services.

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

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