



What is the Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work)?

The Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work) is a payment from the Australian Government to help families with the cost of child care while they are transitioning to work from income support payments by engaging in work, study or training activities.

Who can get Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work)?

The Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work) may be available to individuals who:

- are eligible for the Child Care Subsidy
- receive an income support payment*
- have a family income under \$66,958
- have an approved Job Plan, where one is required
- are engaged in a recognised work, study or training activity

*Eligible income support payments are Parenting Payment, Newstart Allowance, Disability Support Pension, Youth Allowance, Carer Payment, Special Benefit (in certain circumstances), Austudy, a means tested ABSTUDY payment, and Farm Household Allowance

Time limits apply to the Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work) based on the activity undertaken:

- searching for a job — up to 26 weeks
- paid and unpaid work and setting up a business — up to 26 weeks
- participating in a vocational training program (such as a labour market program) – up to 52 weeks full time, or 104 weeks part time
- participating in another program which has a reasonable likelihood of improving employment prospects (such as government funded rehabilitation) – up to 52 weeks
- studying a secondary course (such as a year 12 certificate) – up to 104 weeks full time, or 208 weeks part time
- studying a preparatory course to prepare for tertiary study – up to 104 weeks full time, or 208 weeks part time

- studying a Certificate II to a Graduate Diploma level qualification (level 2 to level 8 of the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)):
 - Certificate II to an Advanced Diploma or Associate Degree (level 2 to 6 of the AQF) – up to 104 weeks full time, or 208 weeks part time for each level of the AQF
 - Bachelor Degree (level 7 of the AQF) – up to 156 weeks full time, or 312 weeks part time
 - Bachelor Honours Degree, Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma (level 8 of the AQF) – up to 104 weeks full time, or 208 weeks part time.

If the individual already has a qualification, further study at the same or a lower level is restricted to courses that lead to occupations in high demand as listed on the Skills Shortage List Australia at jobs.gov.au/skill-shortages.

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

The number of hours of subsidised care a family will be entitled to will depend on their activity test. For more information on the activity test, see the factsheet on Activity Test.

To be eligible for Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work) the individual applying will need to meet at least step one of the activity test, which is a minimum of eight hours of activity a fortnight. If the individual has a partner, the activity test result is determined by the person doing the least amount of activity (regardless of who is eligible for Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work)).

How will Additional Child Care Subsidy be paid?

The Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work) is paid directly to the child care provider to reduce the cost of child care fees.

Eligible families will receive a subsidy equal to 95 per cent of the actual fee charged by the child care service, up to 95 per cent of the Child Care Subsidy hourly rate cap, whichever is lower.

How do families apply?

Families can apply for the subsidy by accessing their Centrelink online account through myGov or by visiting a Centrelink office and applying in person.

Centrelink will know if the individual applying for Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work) has a Job Plan. If it is the individual's first time applying for the subsidy, they will need to provide evidence of their activity.

What if a family's circumstances change?

Families need to let Centrelink know as soon as possible if their circumstances change. This includes if the individual receiving Additional Child Care Subsidy (transition to work) stops participating in their activity or details of their activity change.

Where can I get further information on the child care package?

- Visit the Department of Education and Training Child Care Package website at education.gov.au/eccc
- Visit the Department of Human Services Child Care Subsidy website humanservices.gov.au/childcaresubsidy