



What assistance does the Australian Government give me for the costs of child care?

Fact sheet 1

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring that Australian families are able to access affordable, flexible and high quality child care. To help you with the cost of your child care, the Government provides the following assistance.

Child Care Benefit

Child Care Benefit (CCB) is an income-tested payment which reduces the cost of your total child care fees. It is available to you if you are a parent, foster parent or grandparent with a child in your care who is attending child care approved for the purposes of CCB by, or registered with, the Government. There are certain eligibility requirements you must meet to get CCB.

Child Care Rebate

Once you are eligible for CCB, you may receive additional assistance through the Child Care Rebate (CCR). To be eligible you must use CCB approved child care, and be working, studying or training at some time during the week or have an exemption. The CCR covers 50 per cent of your out-of-pocket costs up to the annual limit, regardless of your income. Currently the CCR annual limit is \$7,500 per child per year.

You have the option to receive your Child Care Rebate paid fortnightly, either directly to your bank account, or through your child care service provider as a fee reduction. You also have the option of having your Child Care Rebate paid quarterly or annually as a lump sum directly to your bank account.

Note: To receive CCR as an annual lump sum you must also choose to receive CCB as a lump sum.

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Jobs, Education and Training Child Care Fee Assistance

Jobs, Education and Training Child Care Fee Assistance (JETCCFA) provides extra help if you are a parent on an income support payment and looking for work, studying or starting a job. Access to JETCCFA is time-limited depending on the study, training or employment activity that an eligible parent undertakes.

Grandparent Child Care Benefit

Grandparent Child Care Benefit (GCCB) helps grandparents who are primary carers for their grandchildren and who receive an income support payment. GCCB pays the full cost of child care fees for each child in Child Care Benefit approved care for up to 50 hours a week.

Grandparents must meet the CCB eligibility requirements to claim GCCB.

Special Child Care Benefit

Special Child Care Benefit (SCCB) can help where there is a:

- child at risk of serious abuse or neglect, or
- family with an exceptional case of short term financial hardship which has substantially reduced their capacity to pay child care fees.

Adult Migrant English Program

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) provides free English language training to eligible, newly arrived migrants and humanitarian entrants to Australia (through the Department of Education and Training).

You can get free child care for under school age children while you study under the programme.

Note: Parents with school aged children who require out-of-school hours care while participating in the AMEP can access JETCCFA.

For further information please contact Skilling Australia on 13 38 73 or email skilling@education.gov.au.