



## Check your calendar - it's important to plan ahead when ending enrolments

If the last day of a child's enrolment falls on a public holiday and your service is closed, the family **is not entitled to Child Care Subsidy (CCS)** – even if you report this day as an absence. This is because under Family Assistance Law, absence days are only recognised for days occurring after services have begun providing care for a child (i.e. after the child physically started attending care), and **before a service permanently ceases providing care for** a child (i.e. before the last day the child physically attends care).

This rule applies to enrolments that cease on reaching the end date entered in the Child Care Subsidy System, as well as those that cease automatically after 8 weeks of non-attendance.

If you report absences on public holidays after the last day a child physically attends the service, any CCS/Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) paid for these absences will be recovered.

If your service is closed on a public holiday that falls on the first day of a child's enrolment (meaning the child is not able to physically attend), this day is also **not** eligible for CCS/ACCS.

If you choose to begin a child's enrolment on a public holiday or include public holidays at the end of the child's enrolment, the family should be informed about any fees they will have to pay, and that they will not be entitled to CCS/ACCS for those days.

## Additional Child Care Subsidy Webcast and FAQs

The ACCS 27 March [webcast video](#) is now available on our website and we have updated the [FAQs](#) based on the questions asked during the webcast.

Further details on ACCS (child wellbeing) can also be found in the [Guide to Additional Child Care Subsidy \(child wellbeing\)](#).

## How do I Apply for Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing) for Children in Foster Care?

Children in long-term foster care or emergency care are taken to be 'at risk', with respect to the evidence requirements, for the purposes of ACCS (child wellbeing).

This does not mean that foster carers are automatically eligible for ACCS (child wellbeing). They must still apply for, and be approved for CCS in order to be eligible for ACCS (child wellbeing). The foster carer will need to contact Centrelink to obtain a CRN and have the child linked to them. They will then need to apply for CCS and complete a Complying Written Arrangement with you. To avoid any delays the foster carer should be encouraged to undertake these steps as soon as **they become the primary carer of the child/ren**.

Children in foster care arrangements do **not** 'automatically' get access to ACCS (child wellbeing) - you must follow the same procedure as for ot

her 'at risk' children in order for the additional subsidy to be paid (see page 23 of the [Guide to Additional Child Care Subsidy \(child wellbeing\)](#)). However you will not need to make a referral to a support agency and the evidence requirements with respect to subsequent determinations will be simplified (see page 27 of the [Guide to Additional Child Care Subsidy \(child wellbeing\)](#)).

Sometimes a foster carer may be responsible for the care of two or more children from the same family. In this case, they must take the above steps for each child in their care. Similarly, you must ensure that you apply for ACCS (child wellbeing) for each child individually through the Provider Entry Point.

If you are welcoming a foster child into your service, please speak with the child protection agency and the foster carer to fully explain the CCS and ACCS application process.

## Updated Resources Page

We have updated our [information resources page for providers](#) webpage!

You can find on one page links to numerous online resources including the [Child Care Provider Handbook](#), [Guide to Additional Child Care Subsidy \(child wellbeing\)](#), factsheets and a collection of our [previous email newsletters](#)!

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