



Understanding the Child Care Subsidy balancing process webcast – register now

The Department of Education and the Department of Human Services will hold a webcast for providers and services to explain the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) balancing process on Monday 15 July from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm (AEST) and Tuesday 16 July from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm (AEST).

CCS balancing (also referred to as 'reconciliation' or 'income review' process) is a process that occurs after the end of each financial year whereby the Department of Human Services compares families' income estimates with their actual adjusted taxable income to ensure families have received their correct CCS entitlement.

To register for the webcast please click [here](#).

Closing, selling, or transferring ownership of your service? Let us know at least 42 days before!

It is important you inform the Department of Education **at least 42 days** before you stop operating a child care service.

Notifications regarding the intention to close, sell or transfer ownership of a child care service, can be made by completing this [form](#).

For more information on financial integrity please visit our website [here](#).

Foster carers can access Additional Child Care Subsidy (child wellbeing)

Did you know that following the introduction of the child care package, foster carers may be eligible to receive Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) (child wellbeing)? To receive ACCS (child wellbeing) payments, the foster carer must first be eligible for CCS and must have their Customer Reference Number (CRN) linked to the child in their care.

How do I apply for ACCS (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 other 'at risk' children in order for the additional subsidy to be paid (see page 23 of the Guide to ACCS (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 ACCS \(child wellbeing\)](#)).

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.

Child Care Subsidy System maintenance 29 to 30 June

The Department of Human Services will be undertaking scheduled maintenance of their IT systems this weekend. As a result, the Child Care Subsidy will be unavailable from 10 pm (AEST) Saturday, 29 June 2019 until 10 am (AEST) Sunday, 30 June 2019.

For providers and services, this means no session reports will be processed during this period.

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