



Absences

When Child Care Subsidy is payable for a child's absence from care

Child Care Subsidy can be paid for up to 42 absence days per child, per financial year, and can be taken for any reason, without the need for families to provide documentation.

Once a child's 42 initial absence days have been exhausted, Child Care Subsidy can only be paid for additional absence days where they are taken for a reason defined in the Family Assistance Law. Evidence is required to be kept by providers for additional absences.

When Child Care Subsidy is NOT payable for a child's absence from care

Child Care Subsidy will not be paid for an absence **before an enrolled child physically attends a session of care**, including where:

- a child is booked in to start at a service on a particular date, and does not attend on that day, or
- a provider charges a family to reserve a place for a child who has not yet physically attended care.

A child care service is taken to have permanently ceased providing care for a child on the day the child last physically attends a session of care. Child Care Subsidy will not be paid **for absences submitted after a child's last day of child care**. This includes where:

- a family has confirmed their child's last day at a service, but that child does not physically attend their last booked sessions of care, or
- a provider continues to charge fees for sessions of care after a child has left the service, because the family did not give the agreed period of notice that they no longer require child care.

Reporting a child's absence from care

Child care providers are required to submit session reports, which include any absences, no later than 14 days after the end of the week in which care was provided (or the session of care was booked). This requirement helps ensure that an individual's entitlement to Child Care Subsidy is correctly applied in a timely way. Timely submission of session reports is especially important where an individual's eligibility for Child Care Subsidy ends, such as:

- where an enrolment automatically ceases after eight weeks of non-attendance, or
- the individual claiming subsidy for the child is overseas for more than six continuous weeks, or
- where a child has already been subsidised for 42 absence days and there is no eligibility for Child Care Subsidy to be paid for additional absences.

Where a provider is aware that a child who has been absent for some time returns to care before the eight week period lapses (e.g. in the 7th or 8th week), providers can and should submit an attendance session for that child before the end of that week in order to avoid the enrolment automatically ceasing.

For more information about absences, please refer to the [absences from child care fact sheet](#).

Further information can also be found on the [FAQ page](#).

Remember to register for the Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) Webcast Information Session

The Australian Government Department of Education and Training is presenting a provider/service webcast session on the Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) with a particular focus on ACCS (child wellbeing).

To register your interest to participate in the ACCS Webcast Information Session on:

Wednesday 27 March 2019
from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Australian Eastern Daylight Time*

[click here](#).

*Time zones note:

- 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Australian Central Daylight Time
- 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time
- 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Australian Central Standard Time
- 10:30 am – 12 pm Australian Western Standard Time

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