



Australian Early Development Census 2018 results

The Australian Early Development Census has released its 2018 report which collected data on over 96% of Australian children in their first school year – more than 308,000 children!

Click [here](#) to find out more about the results and how you can use them in schools, communities and local government.

Reminder: Child care services and providers can now apply for the Community Child Care Fund (CCCF) Round 2

CCCF grants are available to eligible child care services to help improve their sustainability, increase child care participation, and create more child care places.

The [CCCF Round 2](#) focuses on priority disadvantaged communities, in particular regional and remote areas. The application period is now open and will close at 11pm AEDT on 5 April 2019.

Child care services are encouraged to read the [grant opportunity guidelines](#), for more information, including eligibility requirements.

Caring for relatives in Family Day Care

The Child Care Subsidy is designed to help families meet the real costs of genuine early learning and child care. This means informal care that occurs within a family, and typically would not attract fees, is not eligible for the Child Care Subsidy. This helps keep the child care payment system fair and equitable.

Family Day Care (FDC) educators cannot claim Child Care Subsidy or Additional Child Care Subsidy when caring for any of the following children:

- their own or their partner's child
- a foster child
- an adopted child
- a kinship child or any child for which they have legal responsibility, or
- a brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, step brother or step-sister.

However, this does not mean that they cannot care for their children or younger relatives; it only means that they may not claim the Child Care Subsidy or Additional Child Care Subsidy for them. So, if you are a FDC educator caring for any of the children mentioned before, you must keep a record of the names of the child or children and the times you provide care to them and each child must have a [Relevant Arrangement](#) in place.

In addition, if you care for children that are part of your or your partner's extended family – for example nieces, nephews, cousins, grandchildren and great grandchildren, then these sessions may be eligible for Child Care Subsidy. However, you should ensure that in a Child Care Subsidy fortnight, related children make up less than 50 per cent (half) of the children who were in your care. When calculating this required percentage of related children, count children enrolled in sessions, not the actual attendance. Please note that actual attendance still needs to be recorded in session reports.