

CCS entitlement display issue

Providers and services viewing entitlements, including absences used and annual cap, in the Child Care Subsidy System will not see updated information for the period from 1 to 11 July 2021.

For this period, the system is still showing the absence count and annual cap from last financial year. However, entitlements viewed for the period of 12 July onwards will see reset entitlement usage information.

Regardless, payment calculations are not affected.

Services Australia is aware of the issue and it is scheduled to be resolved soon.

If you require further information, please contact your software provider.

Session reports deadline approaching

Providers must submit all session reports to Services Australia for the 2020–21 Child Care Subsidy (CCS) year by 8 August.

Session reports must be accurate and finalised because they are essential for balancing (or reconciling) family CCS entitlements for the financial year just gone.

The Child Care Subsidy System will be closed for the 2020–21 CCS year from 8 August.

You will then be unable to submit, vary or withdraw session reports for any period of care between 13 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

New CCS rates from 12 July

CCS rates changed on Monday 12 July.

CCS rates are adjusted each year based on the Consumer Price Index. That means the CCS family income thresholds and hourly rate caps have changed.

The new rates took effect from 12 July because this was the first CCS fortnight of the new financial year.

<u>Learn about the CCS rate changes on our website.</u>

Wage support to hire trainees

Early childhood education and care services that take on trainees may be eligible for an Australian Government subsidy.

Eligible services can get a subsidy of 50% of a trainee's gross wages. The subsidy will pay up to \$7,000 per quarter for wages paid in the 12-month period from the date of commencement.

You may be eligible if you engage a new trainee between 5 October 2020 and 31 March 2022 who is:

- undertaking a Certificate II or higher qualification, including Certificate III or Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care and Certificate IV in School Aged Education and Care, and
- has a training contract formally approved by the state training authority.

Exclusions and existing worker eligibility applies.

Learn about Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements.

Financial help for very remote teachers

Do you run a Centre Based Day Care Service in very remote Australia?

The Australian Government supports teachers, including early childhood teachers, in very remote areas with Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) debts.

We provide two types of assistance. We can:

- waive indexation on accumulated HELP debt, and reduce accumulated HELP debt.

Early childhood teachers at very remote Centre Based Day Care (CBDC) services may be eligible for this initiative.

<u>Check if your CBDC service is in a very remote area</u> and let your teachers know.

<u>Applications for indexation waivers</u> are open.

<u>Learn more about financial assistance for very remote teachers</u>.

System maintenance

Services Australia will undertake scheduled maintenance of its IT systems this weekend.

The Child Care Subsidy System will be unavailable from 10pm AEST Saturday 17 July to 10am AEST Sunday 18 July. Providers and services will be unable to enter session reports during this period.

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