



Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package Payments commence today

Payments to services under the Australian Government's new [Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package](#) will be processed from today. Services are reminded that, in return for receiving payments, you are required to:

- stay open unless closed on public health advice or for other health and safety reasons
- ensure families are not charged a fee, including an out of pocket or gap fee
- prioritise care to essential workers, vulnerable and disadvantaged children and previously enrolled children
- continue to record attendance of children
- comply with all other provider obligations including National Quality Framework and other relevant conditions of approval under Family Assistance Law.

Services will be able to view payment details in their third party software or the [Provider Entry Point \(PEP\)](#) from tomorrow. Services will also receive Child Care Subsidy and Additional Child Care Subsidy payments this week for sessions of care provided and entered into the system up to the close of 5 April 2020.

Providers with more than one service -ensure your bank account details are up to date in the Child Care Subsidy System

It is important that providers with more than one service include **up to date bank account** details at the provider level in the Child Care Subsidy System as soon as possible to streamline payments under the [Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package](#). This will not affect the processing of payments to individual services, but ensuring provider's bank account details are correct will assist the department should any manual processing be required.

How to update your details

You can update your details via your third party software. Please contact your software provider if you need assistance updating your details.

Alternatively, you can update your details via the [PEP](#). Please refer to the [Task Card](#) on the department's website if you need further assistance on how to update your organisation details in the PEP.

Make sure you get all the support available from the Government

The [Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package](#) payment complements the JobKeeper and other Business Support Payments. Please keep checking the Department of Treasury website at treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/jobkeeper for more information on how this will work.

Updated COVID-19 information

We have updated the COVID-19 information on our [website](#).

The updated information includes:

- **Updated [information for early childhood education and care providers and services – up to and including 5 April 2020](#)**
- **Updated [information for early childhood education and care providers and services from 6 April 2020](#)**
- **Updated [Frequently Asked Questions](#)** including information for Family Day Care and In Home Care.

Please regularly check the [Department of Education, Skills and Employment](#) website to help ensure that you are using the latest information.

Australian Health Protection Principal Committee COVID-19 statement

On 3 April 2020, the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) released a statement about COVID-19 in children and early childhood education and care services.

The Committee's advice is that pre-emptive closures are not proportionate or effective as a public health intervention to prevent community transmission of COVID-19 at this time. The AHPPC considers early childhood education and care services are essential services and should continue at this time, but with risk mitigation measures in place.

View the full statement at the [Australian Government Department of Health](#).

For up to date information on COVID-19 for providers and services visit the [Department of Education, Skills and Employment](#).

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