

## How to claim the Child Care Rebate

- You will need to apply for the Child Care Benefit first. There is no separate claim form for the Child Care Rebate.
- You will automatically be assessed and paid if you are eligible when you apply for the Child Care Benefit (even if you are assessed at a zero rate for the Child Care Benefit due to your family's income).

*The Child Care Rebate is an additional payment to the Child Care Benefit which helps families to cover the out-of-pocket costs of child care.*

You can apply for the Child Care Benefit in person or online through Centrelink. To apply online visit: [humanservices.gov.au/childcarebenefit](https://humanservices.gov.au/childcarebenefit).

Child Care Rebate payments will be made once Centrelink has received child care attendance details from your child care service/s.

## How much could you get?

To find out how much Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate you could receive, use the child care estimator on [www.humanservices.gov.au/estimators](https://www.humanservices.gov.au/estimators) or call 13 24 68.



## Examples of how Child Care Rebate works

### Nick and Kate

- Nick and Kate both work full time and meet all of the eligibility requirements for Child Care Benefit however their family income is too high to receive any Child Care Benefit.
- Their first child, Ben, is in Outside School Hours Care, which costs \$102.50 per week, \$4,920 over the year.
- Their second child, Sam, is in Long Day Care, which costs, \$310 per week, \$14,880 over the year.

	Ben	Sam
Total child care fees	\$4,920	\$14,880
Child Care Benefit entitlement	\$0	\$0
Out-of-pocket expenses	\$4,920	\$14,880
Child Care Rebate (= 50% of out of pocket expenses)	\$2,460	\$7,440
This means that child care fees are reduced by \$9,900 and Nick and Kate pay only \$9,900 over the year.		

\* This example is based on 48 weeks of care.

### James and Sally

- James works full time and his partner Sally is studying. Their family income means they receive some Child Care Benefit.
- Their first child, David, goes to Outside School Hours Care, which costs \$85 per week, \$2,550 for the year.
- Their second child, Bella, is in Family Day Care, which costs \$200 per week, \$6,000 for the year.

	David	Bella
Total child care fees	\$2,550	\$6,000
Less Child Care Benefit entitlement	\$450	\$1,500
Out-of-pocket expenses	\$2,100	\$4,500
Child Care Rebate (= 50% of out of pocket expenses)	\$1,050	\$2,250
This means that child care fees are reduced by \$5,250 and James and Sally pay only \$3,300 over the year.		

\* This example is based on 30 weeks of care.

## For more information

Visit [australia.gov.au/mychild](https://australia.gov.au/mychild) or call 13 24 68.



Australian Government

# Helping you with the cost of child care



**Child Care Rebate**  
Helping families with the cost of child care

## Child Care Assistance

The Australian Government provides families with financial assistance to help cover the cost of approved child care through the Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate.

The Child Care Benefit is based on family income, the **Child Care Rebate** is **not income tested**.

### Approved child care

Approved child care are those services that have been approved by the Australian Government to receive child care payments on behalf of families.

Approved child care services can be:

- Long Day Care
- Family Day Care
- Outside School Hours Care (before and after school and vacation)
- Occasional Care, and
- In Home Care (families with special circumstances).

Ask your child care service if they are approved to receive government child care payments.

### Registered child care

Registered child care is provided by grandparents, relatives, friends or nannies who are registered with the Department of Human Services.



## Child Care Benefit

The Child Care Benefit is **income tested** and is usually paid directly to approved child care services to reduce the fees that eligible families pay.

### Who is eligible for the Child Care Benefit?

- Your child must be attending **approved** child care or **registered** child care
- You or your partner must meet the residency and child's immunisation requirements
- You must be the person responsible for paying the child care fees
- You can apply for the Child Care Benefit in person or online through Centrelink. For online applications visit: [humanservices.gov.au/childcarebenefit](https://humanservices.gov.au/childcarebenefit)

## Child Care Rebate

The Child Care Rebate is an additional payment to the Child Care Benefit which helps families cover the out-of-pocket costs of child care. It is not income tested and covers up to 50 per cent of out-of-pocket child care costs, up to \$7,500 **per child**, per year. Out-of-pocket child care costs are calculated after deducting any Child Care Benefit payments that are received.

### Who is eligible for the Child Care Rebate?

- You and your partner (if applicable) must have had work, training, study related commitments (or have an exemption) at some time during a week.
- You must be using approved child care.
- You or your partner must be an Australian citizen, a permanent resident living in Australia or be exempted from the Australian Government's residency requirements.
- Children under seven years of age must meet the Australian Government's immunisation requirements or have an exemption.
- You must be the one responsible for your child care costs. If your employer contributes to your child care through salary sacrificing or packaging, you should discuss with them who is responsible for the cost.

*Even if your family's income is too high for you to receive the Child Care Benefit you may be eligible for the Child Care Rebate.*

