



▶ Information for families using child care

Fact Sheet 5

What is registered child care?

Child Care Benefit (CCB) is a subsidy paid by the Australian Government to reduce child care fees for families using either approved or registered child care. Working families using registered care are entitled to CCB.

What is registered child care?

It is child care provided by grandparents or other relatives, friends or nannies who are registered as carers with the Australian Government's Family Assistance Office. You* need to be working or looking for work, training, or studying to get registered care.

There are some exemptions.

**and your partner if you have one.*

Can anyone else provide registered child care?

Yes. It may also be provided by individuals in:

- preschools
- kindergartens
- some outside school hours care services
- some occasional care centres.

Carers or teachers in these services must be registered with the Family Assistance Office. All registered carers must comply with any relevant state or territory child care laws.

Registered carers are not considered approved child care services by the Australian Government because they do not, or choose, not to meet the minimum operating hours or participate in the Australian Government's quality assurance systems.

Can I get Child Care Benefit (CCB) if I use registered care?

Yes, if you are eligible.

To receive CCB, however, your carer must be registered with the Family Assistance Office.

Can I get the Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR) if I use registered care?

No, you must use approved child care to meet the CCTR eligibility requirements.

How much do I get for registered care?

With registered care, you can get the registered care rate for a maximum of 50 hours of care per child per week and you and your partner must meet the work, training, study test. Your family's income does not affect the amount you can get.

	2008–2009
Hourly rate for a non-school child	\$0.581
Maximum rate of CCB for 50 hours of care per week for each child	\$29.05

Note: the registered care rate for a school child is 85 per cent of the rate for a non-school child.

How do I meet the work test for registered care?

For registered care you only have to participate in work related commitments at some time during a week or have an exemption. No minimum number of hours is required.

How do I get CCB for registered care?

To get your CCB, take your child care receipts (given to you by your registered carer) to the Family Assistance Office.

The Government will pay your CCB into your bank account after you submit a claim.

Your carer cannot receive CCB on your behalf.

You must claim your CCB within 12 months from when the care was provided.

How do I become a registered carer for CCB purposes?

To become a registered carer you need to:

- apply to the Family Assistance Office
- meet the minimum age requirement, or have a qualification that otherwise determines eligibility for approval as a registered carer.

This includes evidence of a recognised qualification as follows:

- nanny
- child care or
- home-based help
- have a Tax File Number
- meeting and maintaining any relevant State or Territory licensing requirements, and restrictions on becoming a registered carer and
- any other requirements required by the Minister of the department.

How can I get more information?

For further information on registered child care please contact the Family Assistance Office:



access online services at familyassist.gov.au



call 13 61 50 between 8am and 8pm (local time) Monday to Friday



email through familyassist.gov.au



visit a Family Assistance Office (located in Medicare Offices, Centrelink Customer Service Centres and Australian Taxation Offices).

Useful resources

Family Assistance, The What, Why and How booklet, available at familyassist.gov.au

Family Assistance Office Guide to Payments fact sheet, available at familyassist.gov.au

If you need to, you can also call:



Teletypewriter (TTY) 1800 810 586 (if you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment).

You need a TTY phone to use this service.



call 13 12 02 if you need information in a language other than English.