



How much Child Care Benefit (CCB) can I get?

Child Care Benefit (CCB) is a Government subsidy for families to reduce their child care fees. CCB is available to families using either approved or registered child care. Most families using approved child care receive this subsidy as a fee reduction at the time they pay their fees. Some receive it as a lump sum at the end of the year.

Your income level and care type determine how much CCB you can receive. If your income is too high, you will not receive any CCB for approved care, but you may still be eligible to receive the Child Care Tax Rebate.

Families using approved care can access greater rates of CCB than families using registered care. Approved child care must meet additional requirements set by the Australian Government. This includes having a licence to operate, having qualified and trained staff, being open certain hours, and meeting health, safety and other quality standards as set out under the Australian Government Quality Assurance Accreditation system.

How much CCB do I get?

The amount you get depends on your circumstances:

- the type of care you use (approved or registered)
- your income
- the amount of care you use
- the reason you are using care and
- the number of children you have in care.

How much CCB do I get for approved child care?

The information below contains the rates and income thresholds for the 2008–09 financial year.

- If your income is \$36 573 or less you may be able to get the maximum amount of CCB. This table shows the maximum amount of CCB you can get for a family with one, two or three children in care.

Number of children in approved care	Maximum amount of CCB for 50 hours of care per child	Maximum amount of CCB per hour per child
	2008–2009	2008–2009
One	\$173.50	\$3.47
Two	\$362.63	\$3.62
Three	\$565.95	\$3.77
Each additional child	\$188.65	\$3.77

Note: If you receive an income support payment you may also get the maximum rate of CCB.

- From July 2008, if your income is above the income limits shown in the table below, you will not receive any CCB. However, if your CCB entitlement is zero due to income you may still be eligible for the Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR).

CCB is not available over the following limits	
Number of children in approved care	Income limits for 2008–2009
One	\$126 793
Two	\$131 457
Three	\$148 452
Each additional child add	\$28 028

- The table below outlines the amount of CCB you can receive for registered care for the 2008–09 financial year.

Registered Care Rate—Non-school child	2008–2009
Per hour each child	\$0.581
Maximum CCB for 50 hours of care per week for each child	\$29.05

How do I receive my CCB for approved care?

There are two ways families can choose to get their CCB, depending on their preferences:

1. You can have it paid directly to your child care service (this means the fees you pay out of your own pocket are reduced).
2. You can choose to pay full fees throughout the financial year and get your CCB as a lump sum after the end of that year from the Family Assistance Office

Note: You must claim CCB as option 1 if you want to receive your CCTR as a quarterly payment even if your CCB entitlement is zero due to income. If you choose to receive your CCB as option 2, any CCTR will also be paid as a lump sum at the end of the year after you have claimed your CCB.

How do I receive my CCB for registered care?

To get your CCB for registered care, 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. You must claim your CCB within 12 months from when the care was provided.

Your carer cannot receive CCB on your behalf.

Important note for approved and registered care:

The rates in this fact sheet apply to non-school children in approved or registered care.
Rates for school children are 85% of non-school rates.

How can I get more information?

For further information on your eligibility for CCB please contact the Family Assistance Office:



access online services at www.familyassist.gov.au



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



email through www.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 www.familyassist.gov.au

Family Assistance Office Guide to Payments fact sheet, available at www.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.



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