



Australian Government
Department of Education,
Skills and Employment

Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package extended until 12 July 2020

The Australian Government has [announced](#) its extension of the Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package (Relief Package) and the plan to return to Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) payments.

The [Four Week Review](#) and sector-wide consultations have informed the Government's plan going forward.

Extension of the Relief Package and Transition Payments

The Relief Package will be extended until **12 July 2020**, in line with the start of the 2020/21 CCS financial year.

From **13 July 2020**, CCS and ACCS will re-commence.

From 13 July 2020, all approved early childhood education and care services will receive a Transition Payment, instead of JobKeeper, for the period 13 July 2020 to 27 September 2020. The Transition Payment is 25 per cent of fee revenue or the existing hourly rate cap, whichever is lower, during the relevant reference period that has been used during the Relief Package.

Child Care Community Fund (CCCF) Special Circumstances grants will also be available to support services experiencing viability issues. This support will be targeted at services in areas of limited supply, and ensure families in regional, rural, remote areas and areas of disadvantage continue to have access to care.

The [Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package Conditions](#) will be updated to reflect these new arrangements.

Relaxing the activity test

The CCS activity test requirements will be eased for 12 weeks from 13 July 2020 to 4 October 2020 for families impacted by COVID-19, who can no longer access the same number of hours as before. During this period, impacted families will be able to access up to 100 hours per fortnight of subsidised care.

This will assist families to return to the level of work, study or training they were doing before the COVID-19 crisis, or to do more than before.

From 13 July 2020, families will need to update their activity levels to access the 100 hours. This can be done in their [Centrelink online account](#) through [myGov](#) or the [Express Plus Centrelink mobile app](#).

CCS Helpdesk open today

In light of this announcement, the CCS Helpdesk will be open today until 7:00 pm (AEST), to help you with any questions you may have on **1300 667 276**, however we encourage you to check the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) before calling, as call wait times may be longer than anticipated. You can also send your question through via our [online enquiry form](#). It is important to fill out all the relevant information so that your query can be actioned as quickly as possible.

More information

More information is available in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Additional information will be published on our [website](#) as it becomes available.