



▶ Information for families using child care

Fact Sheet 7

What is the work, training, study test?

To determine how many hours of Child Care Benefit (CCB) you can get, the Australian Government has the work, training, study test—for both CCB approved and registered care. The work, training, study test also determines eligibility for the Child Care Rebate and priority for vacancies in the priority of access guidelines.

The work, training, study test looks at whether you, and your partner if you have one, need child care for a work related commitment.

What is a work related commitment?

This is one or more of these activities:

- paid work
- self employment
- setting up a business
- training or studying
- looking for work
- voluntary work to improve your work skills.

How do I meet the test for CCB approved care?

If you are using CCB approved care, you will get up to 24 hours of CCB per child per week without having to meet the work, training, study test.

However to claim between 24 and 50 hours of CCB per child per week, you have to show that you and your partner have been involved in work related commitments for:

- at least 15 hours a week or
- 30 hours a fortnight or
- have an exemption.

Note: The time you spend in work related activities can be combined with other work related activities to meet the 15 hours per week requirements. Voluntary work that does not improve work skills cannot be combined with other activities and must be undertaken for at least 15 hours a week or 30 hours a fortnight.

Can I average my work related commitments to get up to 50 hours of CCB a week?

Yes. If your work related commitments are at least 30 hours a fortnight, you can receive up to 50 hours of CCB per child for each week in the fortnight. How? Simply average your hours over the fortnight.

Example over a fortnight:

- you work 10 hours one week, and
- you work 20 hours the next week
- this totals 30 hours over the fortnight or a 15 hour average per week.

Note: averaging your hours does not apply for a period greater than a fortnight.

How do I meet the test for the Child Care Rebate?

You and your partner 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 meet the test for registered care?

For registered care you and your partner 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 meet the test for the priority of access guidelines?

For the priority of access guidelines you and your partner 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.

Does anything else satisfy the work, training, study test?

Yes. You will satisfy the work, training, study test if you are:

- on annual or long service leave
- sick or other paid leave
- on paid or unpaid parental leave—for up to 12 months parental leave for a single parent or combined parental leave for both parents
- self employment leave
- self employment sick leave
- receiving Carer Payment
- receiving Carer Allowance
- caring for a disabled person
- on carer leave or carer sick leave.

Are there any exemptions from the work, training, study test?

Yes you may be exempt if:

- you or your partner get Carer Allowance or Carer Payment for a child
- you or your partner are a grandparent with primary care for your grandchild
- you or your partner have a disability (the other partner must still meet the work, training, study test)
- you or your partner are overseas or in prison (the other partner must still meet the work, training, study test)
- you are facing exceptional circumstances.

How can I get more information?

For further information on your eligibility for CCB and CCR please contact the Australian Government Department of Human Services:



access Online Services at www.humanservices.gov.au/onlineservices



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



visit a Service Centre (located in Medicare Offices and Centrelink Service Centres)

Useful resources

For news and information on child care visit the mychild website available at www.mychild.gov.au

Access the Child Care Estimator at www.humanservices.gov.au/estimators

Family assistance payment rates fact sheet, available at www.humanservices.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.