



## What is Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Child Care fee assistance?

If you are on an income support payment you may be able to get JET Child Care fee assistance. This is a payment to help you with the cost of your Child Care Benefit approved child care by paying some of the 'gap fee' not covered by Child Care Benefit (CCB) while you are working, training or studying so you can enter or re-enter the workforce.

### Can I get JET Child Care fee assistance?

Yes, if you:

- receive an eligible income support payment\*
- have an approved Employment Pathway Plan (EPP)
- receive CCB at the maximum rate
- use CCB approved child care (for example, Long Day Care, Family Day Care and Outside School Hours Care).

*\*Eligible income support payments include:*

- Newstart Allowance
- Parenting Payment
- Widow Allowance
- Partner Allowance
- Community Development Employment Project Participant Supplement
- Youth Allowance (for jobseekers)
- Carer Payment
- Widow B Pension
- A means tested ABSTUDY payment
- Special Benefit (in certain circumstances).

### What activities does JET Child Care fee assistance support?

JET Child Care fee assistance supports many activities up to a limited amount of time. These include:

- searching for a job—up to 20 days in 20 weeks
- paid and unpaid work—for the initial 26 weeks of a job
- study or training—for up to 24 months
- participating in a labour market program—e.g. Language, Literacy and Numeracy Program (LLNP), Work for the Dole (WFD) and Green Corps
- participating in a Government funded rehabilitation program
- other activities that help parents engage in sustainable paid work.

## How much can I get?

JET Child Care fee assistance can help meet the cost of child care by paying some of the 'gap fee'. The 'gap fee' is the difference between the amount you are charged and the amount you get for CCB. You will need to make a small co-contribution for care per hour per child to your service. The Government will pay your CCB and any gap fee. If you use more hours than you are entitled to you will have to pay the full cost for these additional hours.

You may also be eligible for the Child Care Rebate (CCR) which will provide you with 50 per cent of your out-of-pocket child care costs up to the annual cap.

## How many hours a week can I get JET Child Care fee assistance for?

This depends on:

- the type of child care you need
- the number of hours you are charged for care by your child care service and
- if you (and your partner, if you have one) meet the work, training, study test.

Note: The number of hours you receive JET Child Care fee assistance for in a week cannot be more than the hours you receive CCB in the same week, i.e. 24 or 50 hours

## How do I receive my JET Child Care fee assistance?

JET Child Care fee assistance is paid just like your CCB. It is paid directly to your CCB approved child care service, so that the fees you pay are reduced.

## What if my child is absent from child care?

JET Child Care fee assistance, CCB and CCR can be paid in some situations if you are charged for child care when your child is absent.

You will get JET Child Care fee assistance, CCB and CCR for 42 absence days per child each financial year. These can be for any reason and will not require proof and include public holidays.

You can also get JET Child Care fee assistance, CCB and CCR for additional absence days above this for specific reasons only. There is no limit on these days but you may be required to provide documentation to support the absence. More information is available in Fact Sheet 9—*Absences from child care—Child Care Benefit (CCB) and Child Care Rebate (CCR)*.

You can also access your child's absence record on your online statement along with your child care attendance, CCB and CCR amounts paid statements. This is available by visiting [www.humanservices.gov.au/onlineservices](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/onlineservices).

## How can I get more information?

For further information on your eligibility for JET Child Care fee assistance please contact the Australian Government Department of Human Services:



access Online Services at [www.humanservices.gov.au/onlineservices](http://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](http://www.mychild.gov.au)

Access the Child Care Estimator at [www.humanservices.gov.au/estimators](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/estimators)

Family assistance payment rates fact sheet, available at [www.humanservices.gov.au](http://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.