

Child Care Subsidy and the Inclusion Support Programme - Fact Sheet



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From 2 July 2018, under the new Child Care Package, child care services seeking to access ISP support must certify that the child or children the service is seeking to include meets the eligibility requirements specified in the ISP Guidelines. This includes being eligible for child care fee assistance under Family Assistance Law (the Child Care Subsidy).

[Eligibility requirements for the Child Care Subsidy](#) includes meeting [residency rules](#) and [immunisation requirements](#).

What are the immunisation requirements for Child Care Subsidy eligibility?

To get [Child Care Subsidy](#) or [FTB Part A supplement](#) the child needs to:

- be up to date with immunisations listed in the Childhood Schedule on the Department of Health's [National Immunisation Program Schedule](#)
- be on a catch-up schedule according to the current Australian Immunisation Handbook, or
- have an approved [medical exemption](#) which has been recorded on the [Australian Immunisation Register \(AIR\)](#)

What are the residency requirements for Child Care Subsidy eligibility?

The child's parent or carer must be [living in Australia](#) and:

- have Australian citizenship
- hold a permanent visa
- hold a Special Category visa, or
- hold a certain temporary visa type

Requirements may also be met if:

- The child's parent or carer are a student from overseas, sponsored by the Australian Government to study in Australia, or
- are in hardship, or special circumstances apply

Can a child who attends secondary school be included in an IDF Subsidy application?

If the child attends secondary school Child Care Subsidy eligibility requirements may be met if the child is:

- 13 or younger, or
- 14 to 18 with disability

In these circumstances, the parent must provide evidence to Centrelink as to why the child cannot be unsupervised and confirm an adult is unable to care for the child during this time. Your service can check with the family if they have provided the evidence required to meet eligibility requirements in these circumstances.

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If a child's enrolment is a Relevant Arrangement (RA), or Organisational Arrangement (OA), can the child be included on an IDF Subsidy application?

These enrolment arrangements relate to how child care fees are paid. In some cases families may pay all child care fees, or they may be paid by a third party, such as the parent's employer or state government department.

In these cases, the service must determine if the child meets individual CCS eligibility requirements which are:

- Immunisation requirements;
- Residency requirements; and
- Age limits.

If these requirements are met the child can be included on an IDF Subsidy application, regardless of the enrolment arrangement and who pays the child care fees.

Please note: by including a child in an IDF Subsidy Case the service is certifying that the child meets the individual CCS eligibility requirements. It is a service's responsibility to ensure all children included in IDF Subsidy cases meet these requirements.

How are children without a Complying Written Arrangement (CWA) added to IS Cases?

If a child has an enrolment arrangement other than a Complying Written Arrangement (CWA), the service is still able to link this child to an IDF application. The service must have the child's enrolment listed in their CCS software, or through the Provider Entry Point (PEP). This will enable the child's enrolment to be updated when the service selects Add enrolled children on the Children Tile on the Children Tile on the Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP), and the Children and Enrolments tile on the IS Case. The child's enrolment will show as informal on the IS Portal.

Please note: by including a child in an IDF Subsidy Case the service is certifying that the child meets the individual CCS eligibility requirements. It is a service's responsibility to ensure all children included in IDF Subsidy cases meet these requirements.

How can a change in the child's enrolment arrangement be included in an approved IDF Subsidy Case?

If the child's enrolment arrangement changes and they are included in an approved IDF Subsidy Case, and this does not change automatically in the IS Portal, the service should contact the IDFM to request the child's enrolment be updated. Include the following details in this request:

- SIP ID
- Case ID
- Child's name
- Enrolment no. which needs to be linked to the case.

It is important that the child's new enrolment arrangement has already been updated in the service's CCS software, or through the Provider Entry Point (PEP), before contacting the IDFM.

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Does meeting eligibility requirements for CCS mean all eligibility requirements for IDF Subsidy are met?

No, in addition to meeting CCS eligibility requirements, each IDF stream has different eligibility criteria in relation to the children included on an application for a care environment. It is also important to note that child eligibility requirements are only one of the criteria which must be met for a service to be eligible for IDF. For further information about all eligibility requirements please use the following web links:

- [IDF Subsidy for an Additional Educator](#)
- [Immediate/Time Limited Support](#)
- [FDC Top Up](#)