

FACT SHEET FOR ECEC SERVICES: JOBS FOR FAMILIES PACKAGE

What is the Jobs for Families package?

April 2017

In **July 2018** the Australian Government will introduce a new child care subsidy regime, known as the Jobs for Families (JfF) package.

The new system will roll the Child Care Benefit (CCB) and Child Care Rebate (CCR) into one payment, called the Child Care Subsidy (CCS).



The JfF package will offer increased financial support to many Australian working families using Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services – that is, long day care, family day care and kindergarten programs.

What are the key changes for ECEC service providers?

At this stage we know that the JfF package will:

- Replace the Child Care Benefit (CCB) and Child Care Rebate (CCR) with one payment, known as the Child Care Subsidy (CCS)
- remove requirements for **hours of operation** per day or days per week. Services will only be required to operate for a minimum of 48 weeks per year, or 7 weeks per year if the service only provides outside school hours care, with the number of hours of care provided per day a matter for the ECEC service provider to determine.
- change the current **approval process** for ECEC services and introduce requirements that more clearly focus on the approval of providers to administer subsidies in respect of the services they operate. This aligns more closely with the approach taken in the *Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010*, and National Quality Framework requirements.
- introduce a series of **new obligations on services** for a strengthened compliance framework with the Family Assistance Law
- introduce a new IT system will support the major changes to the child care system and will positively impact child care services, families and all levels of government with streamlined processes, reduced administrative and regulatory burden and increased information sharing.

Transition from old to new system

In the months leading up to the rollout of the new child care subsidy regime in July 2018, ACA will remain engaged with the relevant government departments to keep members and their families informed of how it will affect their services and what is required of their businesses under the new system.

For more information about the Jobs for Families package, visit the Federal Government's Department of Education website at <https://www.education.gov.au/new-child-care-package-families-2-july-2018>