



# Information for FDC Educators

The Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Payment Package that was announced last Thursday has several impacts for FDC educators.

These are the facts that we think it is most important for educators to know.

1. Almost all educators, as sole traders, are eligible for the **JobKeeper** payment. You need to go onto the [ATO website](#) now and register for JobKeeper updates. You need to put in your ABN and your business name. You can check your business name on the ABN Lookup site [here](#) (You enter your ABN and use the name that comes up as the entity name. It is important that your entity name is the name you put into the ATO site when first getting your ABN - not any trading name you are using like Wendy's FDC unless that is also your entity name.
2. The first payment will come to you in the first week of May and it will provide you with \$1,500 per fortnight (before tax) for the next 6 months even if you didn't earn this much previously. You can find more about this [here](#).
3. The service that educators are registered with are also eligible for the **Care Relief Payment Package** (the 50% CSS payment). Your service does not need to apply for this payment they will receive it automatically. Your service will receive this weekly. This payment will equal 50% of their "fee revenue" for the last two weeks of February.

**This does not mean 50% of the CCS you received during this period!** The calculation of this is slightly more complex but essentially it is the 50% rate of CCS for all attendances.

You can read more about this [here](#) and [here](#).

Your service will be in contact with you when they have thoroughly worked out the implications of this payment.

4. The government announced at the weekend that they will make higher than 50% payments where this is required. This also covers situations such as where an educator was not working during the last two weeks of February or had fewer children than normally.
5. You will get your normal payment from your service when it is due, for the last pay period.
6. You can no longer charge families fees for the care you provide.



7. You can (but do not have to) refund fees families have paid for the last two weeks.
8. You are not required to offer care for more children or additional care for the ones already enrolled with your service unless this works for you.
9. Our service is calculating what your educator levy will need to be going forward and will let you know once we have calculated this.
10. The entire package works by the combination of the JobKeeper and the 50% Care Relief Payment Package. Although not many families may have withdrawn from your service yet, it is likely more will in the coming weeks. Your FDC income may well have gone down if this package had not been introduced. Note that if numbers have not decreased, we can apply for a higher rate of payment than the 50%.
11. Nobody, services, or educators, will make a wonderful income during this time. But the basics should be covered. Everyone in Australia will be earning less than previously.
12. Why should you keep working? Have other people been asked to take a pay cut and still do their job? Yes, they have.
13. If you choose not to work, you will only get JobSeeker allowance (this is the old Newstart or the dole) of \$1,100 per fortnight. This is income tested (unlike JobKeeper) so if your partner earns more than \$1,500 gross per week you would not be entitled to receive this payment. Under JobKeeper you can earn additional money (through the 50% payments) which you would not be able to under JobSeeker.
14. If you are caring for children that are not eligible for CCS (because of immunisation or visa reasons) these children cannot continue to receive care. We will be looking at children that fit this category and advocating on their behalf.
15. As a sole trader you can also access \$10,000 of your superannuation early if needed. Please get financial advice before you do this.
16. There is a lot of incorrect and alarmist information going around social media. Please attempt to ascertain the correct information before you act on anything you hear or read!

*\*\*\*Disclaimer: The content of this information is provided for information purposes only. No claim is made as to the accuracy or authenticity of the content although obviously we have tried to ensure it. Information is provided on the basis that services and educators undertake responsibility for assessing the relevance and accuracy of its content. This information was prepared on the 6th April.*