



Information for FDC Services

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

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

1. Almost all educators, as sole traders, are eligible for the **JobKeeper** payment. They need to go onto the [ATO website](#) now and register for JobKeeper updates. The first payment will come to them in the first week of May and it will provide them with \$1,500 per fortnight (before tax) for the next 6 months even if they didn't earn this much previously. You can find more about this [here](#).
2. Almost all services are now eligible for the JobKeeper payment for their own staff. A service only needs to show a 15% loss of revenue to be eligible if they are registered with ACNC. Check if you are registered [here](#).
3. Service Providers are also eligible for the **Care Relief Package Payments (CCS 50% rate)**. Your service does not need to apply for this payment you will receive it automatically. Your educators cannot charge fees if you want to receive this payment. Your service will receive this weekly. This payment will equal 50% of your "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.

The first payment will come into your bank account this week.

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

4. The government announced at the weekend that they will make higher than 50% payments where this is required by services. There will be a form to apply for this later today on the Department of Education's website. NSWFDCA will distribute the link when it is available. This also covers situations such as when you had educators not working during these two weeks.
5. 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.
6. You can (but do not have to) refund fees families have paid for the last two weeks.



7. Your service can also get additional assistance through the Boosting Cash Flow for Business. You don't need to apply for this. This is not additional money in your account, but it means the money you would normally have to send the tax department from your PAYG payments will not have to be paid so you have this money to help cover your wage bill. [Find more information here.](#)
8. If you have not already put in your application for CCCF funding this has now closed. People that have already put in their applications may still be eligible.
9. Your educator levies. This may be hard to hear but you may need to reduce your educator levies. You need to do your budgets from now until the end of July. How much money do you need to cover the basics?
10. The entire package works by the combination of the JobKeeper and the 50% Care Relief Package payments. If you do have not too many educators calculate what they would each have received in total income for a normal fortnight. Then calculate what they will get with JobKeeper + the 50% minus any fees you still need to charge. Factor in that some families would have and still will withdraw their children so that the educators income may well have gone down if this package had not been introduced. Note that if numbers have not decreased you 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. Why should your educators keep working? If they choose not to, they will only get JobSeeker allowance (this is the old Newstart or the dole) of \$1100 per fortnight. This is income tested (unlike JobKeeper) so if their partner earns more than \$1500 gross per week, they would not be entitled to this payment. Under JobKeeper they can earn additional money (the 50% payments) which they are not able to under JobSeeker.
12. If you have children enrolled that are not eligible for CCS (because of immunisation or visa reasons) these children cannot continue to receive care from an educator. (If you have children in this position please email NSWFDCA and we will advocate around this issue with the Department).
13. It looks like (please note this is not confirmed) your service can decide if there is a more equitable way of distributing the Care Relief Payment Package you receive amongst educators than by the ways they would have received under CCS.
14. 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.*