

# First Nations children can get more hours of subsidised care

If you want to use child care, the Australian Government helps cover the costs. It's called Child Care Subsidy, or CCS.

The government pays child care services, who pass the subsidy on to you as cheaper fees.

The amount of CCS you get depends on a few things:

- your family's income
- the type of child care you use
- your child's age
- the number of children in your care
- the hours of activity you and your partner do.

Your hours of activity are the hours of work, training, study or volunteering you do.

**Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children get at least 36 hours of CCS per fortnight. This is regardless of the amount of activity you do.**

- **This may make your child care fees cheaper.**
- **Young ones can prepare and be ready for big school.**
- **You have more access to child care if you need it.**

Call Services Australia on the [Centrelink families line](#) to tell them a child in your care is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person. It is voluntary to tell Services Australia this.

You do not need to do anything if you already get more than 36 hours of subsidy. Your family's CCS rate will continue to be based on your income.

## Centrelink Indigenous call centre

Use this line if you're an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian and need help with our payments and services.



**1800 136 380**

Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm

## Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer Adviser line

Use this line if you're a formal or informal carer providing ongoing care for children.



Read more about [Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer Advisers](#).

**1800 245 965**

Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm