



CCCF Special Circumstances Frequently Asked Questions

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How to Apply

What is the deadline for special circumstances applications?

There is no deadline. Applications for funding under the Community Child Care Fund (CCCF) Special Circumstances grant opportunity may be submitted at any time.

How much funding should I apply for?

It is up to you to decide how much funding you apply for. The funding needs to be directly related to the activity for which funding is being sought. If you are requesting more than \$10,000, you need to provide a costed proposal.

Why are there two application forms?

If you are applying for grant funding of over \$10,000 you need to provide additional information to support your request for funding.

Can I apply directly for my service or does the provider/operator need to apply?

Yes, you can apply for your approved child care services as long as you have been authorised to submit on behalf of the approved provider.

Do I need to be an approved child care service to apply?

Yes, you must be Child Care Subsidy (CCS) approved when you apply.

What Organisation ID's will I need to complete my application?

- Child Care Subsidy Approval ID (CCS ID): This is the ID used to log into the Provider Entry Point (child care system). It is always 9 digits followed by an uppercase letter.
- Approved Provider Organisation ID: This ID is related to your provider organisation.

How do I apply for the CCCF Special Circumstances grants?

Further information on the CCCF Special Circumstances grant opportunity, including eligibility criteria and instructions on how to apply, can be found at www.dese.gov.au/cccf-special-circs. If you have any questions about the CCCF please contact the CCCF Program team via CCCFSpecialCircumstances@dese.gov.au.

Eligibility

Who can apply?

At the date of application lodgement, you must be:

- a CCS approved provider of an approved child care service AND
- operating in a disadvantaged or vulnerable community AND
 - at risk of closure due to viability issues resulting from an unforeseen event or circumstance such as a natural disaster or extreme weather event, OR

- at risk of permanent closure due to another event or circumstance, where that closure would result in a lack of suitable child care (market failure) for the community, OR
- seeking to commence a new service in a community where another service has closed, resulting in a lack of suitable child care (market failure), and the new service will require funding to establish a viable operation.

Who is not eligible to apply?

You are not eligible to apply if you:

- do not meet the eligibility criteria and/or
- are already fully funded for the same activity by the CCCF program or any other Government source or program.

What is an approved provider?

An approved provider provides child care in one or more of its services; receives and passes on CCS payments to eligible families to reduce the cost of child care.

An approved provider has a number of responsibilities. This includes obligations to:

- comply with the FAL;
- comply with the National Law and National Regulations and all related state or territory laws involving the operation of a child care service, unless that service is exempt;
- ensure the child care provider and relevant personnel (that is, persons with management or control of the provider and persons responsible for the day-to-day operations of the service) are fit and proper persons to have a role in the receiving and passing on of CCS payments; and
- ensure that background checks, including criminal history and working with children checks, are carried out for relevant staff and educators.

What is a child care service defined as?

Child care services are defined as either Centre Based Day Care, Family Day Care, Outside School Hours Care or In Home Care, or another service type approved by the [Minister's Rules](#).

Mobile services will be considered to be delivering Centre Based for the purposes of administering the CCS.

What is not considered to be an eligible child care service?

- Crèche-type arrangements where parents remain on site and retain responsibility for their children.
- Informal care provided by family members.
- Services primarily delivering an instruction based activity such as sports programs.
- Social and community programs such as early intervention services.

- Services providing short-term irregular care.
- Early education programs such as preschool or kindergarten.

Disadvantaged or Vulnerable communities and Priority Areas

What is a disadvantaged or vulnerable community?

There are many examples of what determines if a community is vulnerable or disadvantaged.

The department has a list of [CCCF priority areas](#) that are considered disadvantaged or vulnerable – if your service is operating in one of these areas; you are eligible to apply for this funding. The indicators used to determine the CCCF priority areas e.g. Australian Early Development Census or Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas are recognised indicators of disadvantage and/or vulnerability

However, there may be other unique circumstances such as drought affected communities or communities recovering from other significant events, or your service maybe the only suitable service supporting a vulnerable or disadvantaged sector of their community.

Where are the priority areas?

Please see the [Department of Education, Skills and Employment's](#) website for maps of the priority areas.

How do I verify if my child care service operates in a priority area?

It is easy to check if you are in a priority area:

- Go to the [Department of Education, Skills and Employment– CCCF Priority areas](#) website
- Follow the instructions to find out your service's SA2
- Check if your service's SA2 appears on the [list of priority areas](#).

It is important to note that the CCCF priority areas do not necessarily match up with suburb or town boundaries.

Different Circumstances

What is an unforeseen event or circumstance?

Something unexpected that a service did not cause and cannot influence. This includes local emergencies, natural disasters, and extreme weather events such as a bushfire or flood. 21. Is drought an eligible event? Yes, drought is considered an eligible event for the purposes of special circumstances funding.

The child care service I operate has been damaged by bush fire and will need to close temporarily for repairs/refurbishment. Is there any funding available to assist us to re-open?

The Community Child Care Fund (CCCF) Special Circumstances Grant Opportunity is designed to support continuity of child care, where service viability is affected by an unforeseen factor outside the control of

the service such as bushfires. Currently, up to \$4 million per year is available in the 2019-20 financial year for allocation under the CCCF Special Circumstances Grant Opportunity.

To be eligible to apply for this funding the applicant must be a Child Care Subsidy approved child care service. If you operate a standalone pre-school or other state/territory government approved child care service please contact your Regulatory Authority – contact details can be found at www.acecqa.gov.au.

What is market failure?

A situation in which families requiring child care are unable to find suitable places in reasonable proximity to their community.

What is a natural disaster?

A natural disaster is a major adverse event resulting from natural processes of the Earth. Natural disasters in Australia can include heatwaves, bushfires, severe storms and tropical cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides.

Activities that can be funded

What activities can be funded under the CCCF Special Circumstances grants?

There are a number of activities that CCCF grant funding can be utilised for including, but not limited to:

- staff retention costs during periods of closure where the staff are deployed on activities to reopen
- costs related to the provision of care at an alternate venue
- minor capital repairs that are not covered under insurance
- project management costs for a staff member that is administering the insurance claim process

Activities that are covered under a relevant insurance policy cannot be funded under the CCCF.