

Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Programme

The Community Childcare Subvention Programme provides parents on low income with quality childcare at *reduced* rates. The childcare is provided by community-based (not-for-profit) childcare services who are participating in the CCS Programme.

The childcare service may offer the following:

- Full day care places (more than 5 hours per day)
- Part-time places (between 3 hours 31 minutes and 5 hours)
- Sessional places (between 2 hours 16 minutes and 3 hours 30 minutes)
- Half-session places (between 1 hour and 2 hours 15 minutes)

Community-based childcare services may offer a range of child care under the CCS programme for example afterschool care.

The programme operates in the school year so a person needs to register their child for the scheme in September and they then complete a Parent Declaration Form – provided by the childcare service and assessment is made on category of Band.

Places can be limited so if you are considering this option you would be advised to research childcare options well in advance of September

It is not possible to get an ECCE place and a CCS fee reduction at the same time. You can decide which scheme would be most suited to your individual circumstances.

Reduced rates of childcare on the CCS Programme come under different bands:

The figures given for the different bands according to type of place are the amount by which the cost of the place is reduced

For example: a person in Band A with a full day care place has their fee reduced by €95, so if the cost of the place is €200 a week then the place will cost the person €105 a week

The Subvention bands and rates are as follows:

Band A (with medical card)

- One Parent Family Payment
- Widows/Widowers Pension
- Pre-retirement Allowance
- Farm Assist
- State Pension
- Blind Pension
- Guardian's Payment
- Illness/Injury Benefit***
- Disability Allowance
- Carer's Benefit/ Allowance
- Back to Work Enterprise/Education Allowance
- Community Employment / Rural Social Scheme
- Domiciliary Care Allowance
- Family Income Supplement (FIS)
- Secondary School students
- Invalidity Pension
- Disablement Pension
- HSE Referrals (no medical card required)

	<i>Band A (with medical card)</i>	<i>Band AJ (with medical card)</i>	<i>Band B</i>
Full Day Care Places	€95.00	€50.00	€50.00
Part-time Places	€47.50	€47.50	€25.00
Sessional Places	€31.35	€31.35	€17.00
Half-Session Places	€15.20	€15.20	€ 8.50

Band AJ (with medical card)

- Job Seekers Benefit/ Allowance
- Supplementary Welfare Allowance
- Tús

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- Part-time Job Incentive Scheme
- Gateway

Band B

- Medical Card
- GP Visit Card
- Parents who are in receipt of Social Welfare payments listed under Band A/AJ but have no medical card
- Parents who no longer qualify for Band A/AJ this year but who were verified as being on Band A/AJ at the end of the previous school year

To find a list of childcare providers who offer the CCS then contact your local County or City Childcare Committee