

## **Can I claim the Childcare Rebate on GAP fees?**

Yes and no. You can claim the Family Assistance Office child care benefit (CCB) payment (about 50 cents per hour of care); but you cannot claim the Tax Office's childcare rebate (CCR) (usually around 50%).

## **Tell me more about the childcare benefit (CCB) and childcare rebate (CCR).**

"Approved" childcare providers can only offer you the CCR if they operate 40 hours a week. As the GAP runs less than 40 hours a week, we can only offer you the lesser benefit (CCB), and we are a "Registered" childcare provider.

## **GAP – now a registered childcare provider**

GAP has now become a 'registered' child care provider with the Family Assistance Office (FAO) ([www.familyassist.gov.au](http://www.familyassist.gov.au)).

This means that parents may be eligible to obtain the minimum 'Child Care Benefit' (CCB) payment, which is independent of their salary level. Families would obtain a reduction of \$0.497/hour of care.

([http://www.familyassist.gov.au/Internet/FAO/fao1.nsf/content/payments-ccb-how\\_much-what\\_registered\\_care.htm](http://www.familyassist.gov.au/Internet/FAO/fao1.nsf/content/payments-ccb-how_much-what_registered_care.htm))

## **Who is eligible to claim 'Child Care Benefit'?**

### **You may be eligible for 'Child Care Benefit' (CCB) if:**

- you use approved or registered child care, and
- you or your partner (if you have one) are living permanently in Australia , and
- you are either an Australian citizen, a New Zealand citizen, the holder of a permanent visa, the holder of certain temporary visas, an Australian Government sponsored student or in other special circumstances, and
- your child is immunised or exempt from the immunisation requirements, and
- you are liable for child care fees for your child.

Guardians, including foster parents and grandparents, responsible for the day-to-day care of children/grandchildren may be eligible for Family Assistance and should contact the Family Assistance Office for more information.

For more info see:

<http://www.familyassist.gov.au/Internet/FAO/fao1.nsf/content/payments-ccb-eligible>

## What do eligible parents need to do?

If eligible, they can use the receipts they get from GAP and claim the minimum CCB either:

- together with any regular FAO payments they receive,
- or as a lump sum at the end of the financial year by filling in the form:

'Claim for a Lump Sum Payment of Child Care Benefit for Registered Care' at <http://www.familyassist.gov.au/internet/fao/fao1.nsf/content/claimforms-ccb.htm>

In this form, you will see that you will need to satisfy the work test.

### You satisfy the work test if:

- you OR your partner get Carer Allowance for a child (Carer Allowance is a Centrelink payment that provides assistance to parents and guardians who care for a child with a disability)

#### OR

- you AND your partner (if you have one) meet the eligibility requirements listed below at some time during the week in which the care was provided.

**Working** Working includes: paid full time, part time or casual work; self employment; paid leave; unpaid sick leave; paid or unpaid maternity leave; and setting up a business

**Voluntary work** Voluntary work for 15 hours or more per week; any voluntary or unpaid

work to improve your work skills

#### **Looking for work**

**Studying/training** Studying and training includes undertaking a course to increase your job

prospects; attending a school, university or college; and being on a semester break

**Other circumstances** Have a disability, caring for an adult, child who has a disability, are

overseas or in prison

## Can't I just pay a reduced fee?

Parents will not be able to receive CCB through a reduced fee (this is only possible for CCB-*approved* childcare providers). (The GAP is *registered* for the CCB, not *approved* for the CCB.)