

As the situation around COVID-19 (Coronavirus) continues to evolve we know many families are facing incredibly tough times.

Uncertainty and stress are taking a toll on everyone, however we want to assure you that additional support is available. Please reach out if you are needing help. This is an unprecedented time, and it is impacting everyone in different ways. We can find a way to navigate this together.

Additional Child Care Subsidy (Temporary Financial Hardship)

If you are experiencing financial hardship and you need help paying your childcare fees, you may be eligible for **Additional Child Care Subsidy (Temporary Financial Hardship)**.

If you have lost your job, you are caring for a seriously ill family member or have recently lost a family member, you may be eligible.

The **Additional Child Care Subsidy (Temporary Financial Hardship)** offers up to 13 weeks of subsidy towards your childcare fees, for up to 100 hours of care per fortnight. In most cases, this subsidy will cover 100% of your gap payment, meaning you will have up to 13 weeks fee free at Cameron Park Early Learning Centre.

We strongly urge you to apply for this assistance if your income has been reduced or impacted by COVID-19, or any other significant event in your life.

How to Apply

You can apply online through your MyGov account.

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- [Log on to MyGov](#)
 - [Access Centrelink from MyGov](#)
 - [Select My Family from the menu](#)
 - [Select Child Care](#)
 - [Select Temporary Financial Hardship](#)
 - [Answer all questions \(you will need to upload proof to financial hardship, ie letter from employee regarding reduced hours/stand down due to Covid-19 or receipt of medical expenses\)](#)
 - [Review and submit your application](#)

Please note the subsidy may take 4 weeks to arrive to our service, however, should be backdated to the day of your application. If you are approved for the subsidy, please send confirmation of this approval to us and we can suspend your direct debit immediately

Absences from Childcare

Every year, every child can take up to 42 allowable absence from childcare. You can use these for any reason, including public holidays, when your child is sick, holidays, or self-isolation without providing any evidence or your childcare subsidy (CCS) being affected.

From the 19th April 2020, the government has extended these allowable absences to 62 allowable absences for this financial year. On 1st July 2020 another 42 allowable absences will become available to all children. This should be enough for most families, however, if you are concerned about your absences please see Sharon or Chloe to check your child's amount of absences taken.

As the saying goes "We are all in this together" ... please do not hesitate to speak to us with any concerns.