

# Child Care Subsidy balancing

## How it works

At the end of each financial year, we balance your Child Care Subsidy (CCS). We do this to make sure you got the right amount of subsidy for the year.

We look at your actual income for the 2024–25 financial year and compare it to the estimate you gave us.

We then work out if you were paid too little, the right amount or too much. We'll send you a letter to let you know the outcome. Your outcome will tell you which of the following applies to you:

- You'll get a top up of CSS because you were paid too little.
- You'll need to pay us back because you were overpaid.
- Nothing further because you were paid the right amount.

If we paid you too much CCS during the year or you have an outstanding debt with us, we may recover it from either:

- your CCS top up and arrears payments
- your tax refund.

## What you need to do

To balance your payments, we need to confirm your family income for the 2024–25 financial year.

We'll do this after you and your partner, if you have one, lodge your tax returns with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). If one or both of you don't need to do this, you'll need to tell us you or your partner don't need to lodge and confirm your actual income. You need to do this even if you had no income or you've already told the ATO.

For 2024–25, you need to confirm your family income before 30 June 2026. Your CCS can only be balanced once your family income is confirmed.

## Telling us you or your partner don't need to lodge a tax return

You can tell us you or your partner don't need to lodge a tax return and confirm actual income in either your:

- Centrelink online account through myGov
- Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.

Select **Advise non-lodgement** and follow the prompts.

If you separated during the year, we'll need your ex-partner's income to balance your payments. Call us on **136 150** to discuss confirming this income. You don't need to contact your ex-partner for this information.

## When we balance your subsidy

We start balancing CCS payments from mid–August 2025. This is to make sure we have all your attendance details for the financial year.

## Setting yourself up for next financial year

The best way to avoid an overpayment or an unexpected outcome is to check if you need to do any of the following:

- update your family income estimate if things have changed
- tell us about any changes to your activity test
- update your CCS withholdings to reduce your risk of getting a debt
- update any changes to your family's circumstances, including if you become partnered or separate.

If your circumstances change, you may need to update your details with us again throughout the financial year.

## For more information



Go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/ccsbalancing](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/ccsbalancing)

To see when your CCS has been balanced, you don't need to call us. Instead, you can:

- keep an eye on your myGov Inbox or myGov app, this is where we send your outcome letter
- view the status of CCS balancing in your Centrelink online account through myGov or Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.

