



# Garda Representative Association

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28/09/2022

## National Childcare Scheme – Reduce your Childcare Fees

The **universal childcare subsidy** is now available for all children up to age 15. This subsidy was previously only available for babies and toddlers.

Every family using a registered childcare service provider is entitled to this subsidy to reduce their childcare fees. Your household earnings are irrelevant in being eligible for this subsidy.

The subsidy is worth 50c for each hour your child is in childcare up to a maximum 45 hours a week. If one or both parents are not working, studying or training, the maximum number of subsidised hours is 20 hours a week.

Working families using full-time childcare can **get up to €22.50 a week or €1,170 a year per child to help with the cost of your childcare fees.**

The subsidy can also be used to reduce the cost of afterschool and out-of-term childcare fees for school-age children using a registered provider.

You can apply online for the subsidy on the following link <https://www.ncs.gov.ie/en/how-to-apply/>

If you prefer to make a paper application, contact the NCS Parent Support Centre on 01 9068530

There is also a top-up **income assessed childcare subsidy** for families with a yearly household income below €60,000 after tax and other allowable deductions. There is subsidy calculator to review any further financial help you might be eligible for at the following link

<https://www.ncs.gov.ie/en/childcare-subsidy-calculator-input/>