

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM



Kindergarten Fee Subsidy enables eligible families to attend a kindergarten program for free or low cost. Please complete the form below if you meet one of the criteria below.

Child's Name: Kindergarten:

Please tick the appropriate checkbox:

- Child is identified by a parent, carer, or legal guardian as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- The child is identified on their birth certificate as being a multiple birth child (triplets or more).
- Early Start Kindergarten, child known to Child Protection, referral by family services or support teams (Child FIRST).

Child holds, or has a parent or guardian who holds one of the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth Health Care Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Humanitarian visa (subclass 786) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth Pensioner Concession Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Protection visa (subclass 866) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold or White Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Rescue visa (subclass 203) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refugee visa (subclass 200) | <input type="checkbox"/> Woman at risk visa (subclass 204) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In-country Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 201) | <input type="checkbox"/> Asylum seeker bridging visas A-E |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202) | <input type="checkbox"/> Immicard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safe Haven Enterprise visa (subclass 790) | <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Protection visa (subclass 785) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humanitarian Stay visa (subclass 449) | |

Name on Card:

Customer Reference Number (CRN)/File No:

Card Start: Card Expiry:



Please read the back of this form for important information about your card.

Centrelink Confirmation eServices - Customer consent form

I..... authorise:
Early Childhood Management Services (ECMS) to use Services Australia - Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform a Centrelink/DVA enquiry of my Centrelink or Department of Veterans' Affairs Customer details and concession card status in order to enable ECMS to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. The Australian Government Department of Human Services (the department) to provide the results of that enquiry to ECMS.

I understand that: the department will use the information I have provided to ECMS to confirm my eligibility for Free or Low Cost 3-Year-Old Kindergarten or 4-Year-Old Kindergarten and will disclose to ECMS personal information including my name, address, payment, and concession card type and status.

This consent, once signed, remains valid while I am a customer of ECMS unless I withdraw it by contacting ECMS or the department.

I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from the department and provide it to ECMS so that my eligibility for Free or Low Cost 3-Year-Old Kindergarten or 4-Year-Old Kindergarten can be determined. I understand that it is my responsibility to update ECMS should my eligibility change or expire.

If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Free or Low Cost 3-Year-Old Kindergarten or 4-Year-Old Kindergarten provided by ECMS.

Signature:

Date:

A brochure is available from Centrelink that provides more details about the Centrelink Confirmation eService or on the Department of Human Services website www.humanservices.gov.au.

Please complete all above fields. If any fields remain blank ECMS will not be able to process this form.

To receive the kindergarten fee subsidy please return the completed form attention to:

ECMS Fees Officer
PO Box 182, NORTHCOTE, VIC 3070
Phone: **03 8481 1110** Email: **fees@ecms.org.au**

Free three-year-old kindergarten and four-year-old



Your child may be eligible for free kindergarten as part of the Victorian Government's commitment to provide all children with access to high-quality kindergarten program in the years before starting school. The kindergarten fee subsidy provides eligible 3-year-old and 4-year-old children with access to a free kindergarten program under the following circumstances:

- The child is identified on their birth certificate as being a multiple birth child (triplets or more).
- Child is identified by a parent, carer, or legal guardian as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- Child holds, or has a parent or guardian who holds one of the following:
 - Commonwealth Health Care Card
 - Commonwealth Pensioner Concession Card
 - Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card or White Card
 - Refugee visa (subclass 200)
 - In-country Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 201)
 - Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202)
 - Temporary Humanitarian visa (subclass 786)
 - Protection visa (subclass 866)
 - Emergency Rescue visa (subclass 203)
 - Woman at Risk visa (subclass 204)
 - Assylum seeker bridging visas A-E
 - Humanitarian Stay visa (subclass 449)
 - Temporary Protection visa (subclass 785)
 - Safe Haven Enterprise visa (subclass 790)
 - ImmiCard



What should I do?

- Complete and sign the Kindergarten fee subsidy form
- Submit the form to the ECMS Fees Officer or hand it in to your child's kindergarten teacher
- Inform the ECMS Fees Department of your card's new expiry date or if there are any changes to your circumstances that may make your card no longer valid. This may affect your eligibility and fees may be payable.

3-year-old children - Early Start Kindergarten

The Government provides Early Start Kindergarten funding to improve access and participation for vulnerable and Aboriginal children. There are two types of Early Start Kindergarten Grants for up to 15 hours per week (includes access in the 4-year-old program) in the two years before school.

- The Aboriginal Early Start Kindergarten grant for children identified as being Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- The Early Start Kindergarten grant for children known to Child Protection or referred to child and family services information, referral, and support teams (Child FIRST).

Bilingual & interpreter services

Your child's kindergarten service can access free interpreter services to help talk to you about you and your child's needs.

More information

For more information on kindergarten programs or the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy and Early Start Kindergarten visit the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's website at www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood or contact the ECMS Fees Department on 8481 1110.