



**Network Meeting 2020**  
Presenter: Chiang Lim, Chief Slave

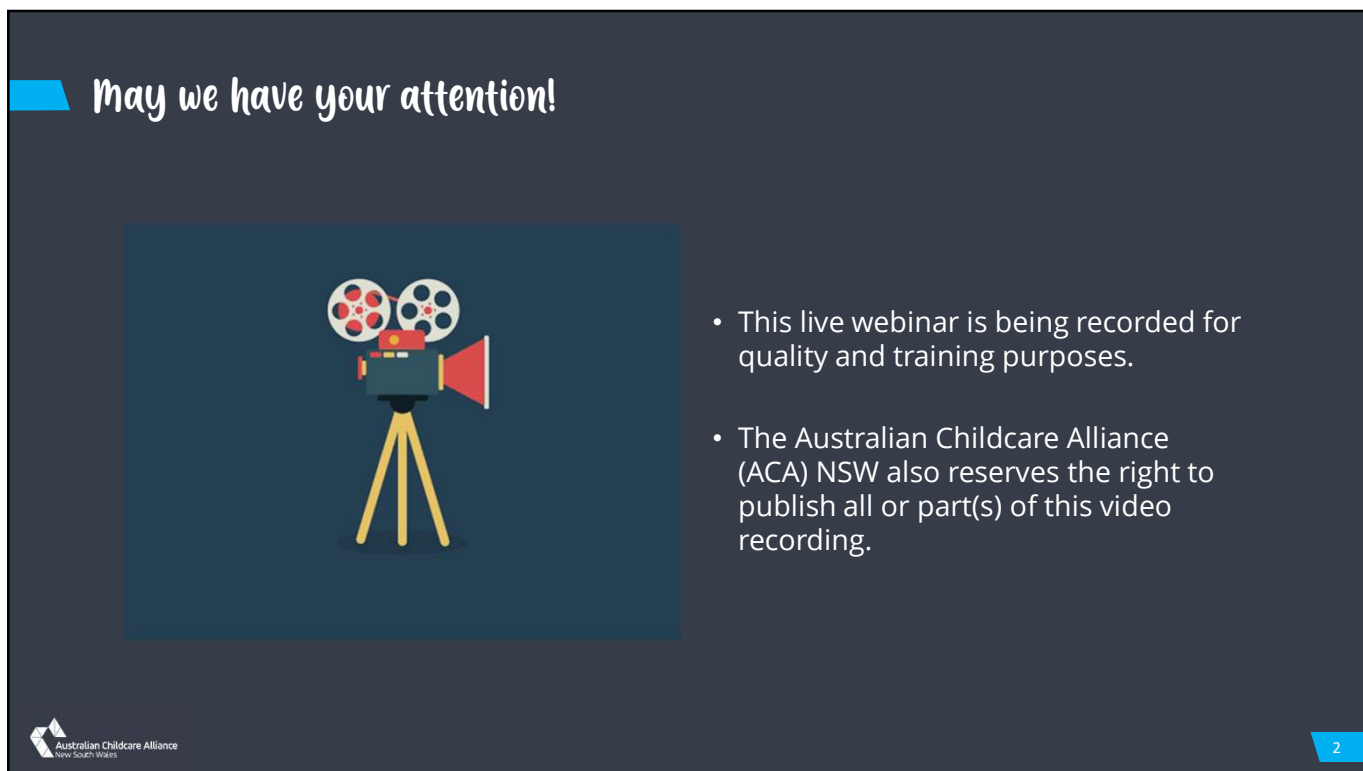
**Monday, 24 August 2020**  
Via Live Webinar

We will start at **6.30 pm AEST**




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New South Wales

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**May we have your attention!**



- This live webinar is being recorded for quality and training purposes.
- The Australian Childcare Alliance (ACA) NSW also reserves the right to publish all or part(s) of this video recording.

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## How you will access these presentation slides?



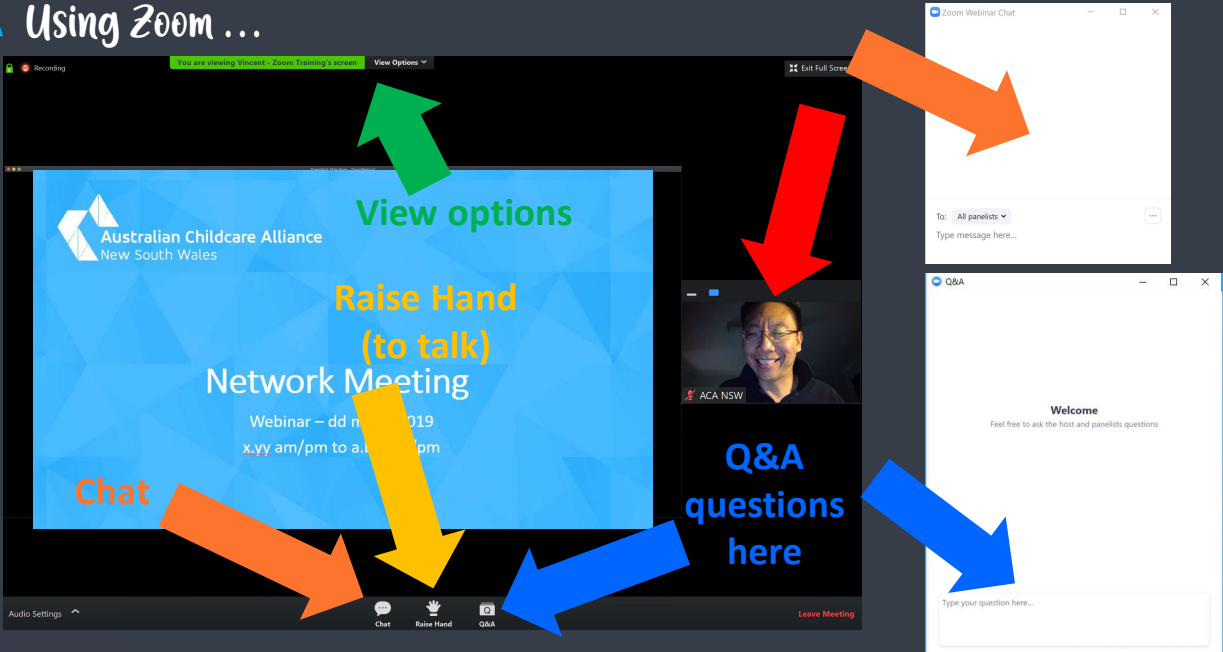
- A copy of these slides will be e-mailed to you within the first 10 minutes of the presentation.
- You can download the slides via the link provided for the next 2 weeks.
- ACA NSW members can view the video recording of this presentation via <https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/events/network-meetings-2020>.

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## Using Zoom ...



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. A central slide displays the Australian Childcare Alliance logo and the text 'View options', 'Raise Hand (to talk)', 'Network Meeting', and 'Chat'. To the right, a 'Q&A questions here' window is visible. An orange arrow points from the 'Zoom Webinar Chat' window to the 'Chat' icon in the bottom toolbar. A red arrow points from the 'Zoom Webinar Chat' window to the 'Q&A' icon in the bottom toolbar. A blue arrow points from the 'Q&A questions here' window to the 'Q&A' icon in the bottom toolbar. A green arrow points from the 'View options' text to the 'View Options' dropdown menu in the top right corner. A yellow arrow points from the 'Raise Hand (to talk)' text to the 'Raise Hand' icon in the bottom toolbar. A red 'Leave Meeting' button is located in the bottom right corner of the meeting window.


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## Etiquettes

- Don't be shy. Please feel free to pose any questions – at any time.
  - We will try and answer as many of them as possible.
  - There are no wrong questions.
- Be respectful of others.




A photograph of five elderly women sitting in a row, all wearing red strapless dresses. They are laughing heartily and looking towards the camera. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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## About ACA NSW ...

- About 600 members
  - privately-owned long daycare operators
  - privately-owned out-of-school-hours-care operators
  - not-for-profit long daycare operators
  - not-for-profit out-of-school-hours-care operators
- Representing 55.62% of private LDCs and OSHCs
  - Over 1,600 services
  - Over 25,000 employees
  - Supporting over 125,000 children and their families




A white silhouette map of Australia on a dark background. The state of New South Wales is highlighted in a bright blue color. The map shows the outlines of all Australian states and territories.

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## About ACA NSW ...

- Run 29 Network Meetings per year (now 33 for 2020, with more if required)
- <https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/events/network-meetings-2020>
- Free\* for ACA NSW members (\*\$10 for non-attendance), \$40 pp for non-members
  - **Live Webinars:** 9 Mar, 3 Apr, 6 Apr, 8 Apr, 9 Apr, 14 Apr, 16 Apr, 27 Apr, 4 May, 11 May, 18 May, 15 Jun, 22 Jun, 24 Jul, 10 Aug, 11 Sep, 19 Oct
  - **Greater Sydney:** 3 Feb (Parramatta), 10 Feb (Blacktown), 2 Mar (Lower North Shore), 3 Aug (Blacktown), 17 Aug (Sutherland), 14 Sep (Parramatta), 12 Oct (Lower North Shore), 2 Nov (Sutherland)
  - **Central Coast:** 16 Mar, 27 Jul
  - **Illawarra:** 24 Aug
  - **Newcastle:** 20 Jul, 16 Nov
  - **Coffs Harbour:** 17 Feb, 1 Jun, 21 Sep



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## About ACA NSW ...


- National Law & National Regulations advice
- Industrial Relations advice
- Family dispute (CCS & ACCS) & Centrelink advice & assistance
- Immunisation advice
- Fair Work Ombudsman assistance
- Local Council and development applications advice
- Jury duty assistance
- Educational programming assistance
- Telecommunications advice
- Electricity savings
- ... and more! Just try us.

# 8.32 / 10

Members' Satisfaction Score  
(as of 1 August 2020)

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/membership/testimonials>

257 responses (incl comments & testimonials) to date since Oct 2017



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## Guild Insurance & Guild Early Learning

- #1 business insurance – Guild Insurance ([www.guildinsurance.com.au](http://www.guildinsurance.com.au) | 1800 810 213)
  - Largest provider for early childhood education sector
  - Dedicated account manager
  - Most reliable and comprehensive cover
- #1 workers compensation insurance – Guild Early Learning (iCare is now #2) ([www.guildinsurance.com.au/workers-comp/nsw](http://www.guildinsurance.com.au/workers-comp/nsw) | 1800 810 213)
  - Most competitive premiums
  - Dedicated account manager
  - Free Work Health and Safety on-line tools to ensure compliance and gain further discount
  - Expert Advisory Board to ensure fastest return-to-work for staff possible



## Better Certificate III & Diploma courses

- Over 130 graduates via Early Education and Care College ([www.eecc.com.au](http://www.eecc.com.au)) (powered by Kool Kids Training College ([www.kkctc.com.au](http://www.kkctc.com.au) | 1300 048 133))
- Designed by Approved Providers for Approved Providers
  - CHC30113: Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care (RRP: \$142 per unit, \$2,556 for the whole course)
  - CHC50113: Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care (RRP: \$176 per unit, \$4,928 for the whole course)
- Free for eligible students via NSW Smart & Skilled training
- On-line monitoring of student activity, including reporting to APs
- Visit every 3 weeks by individualised trainer
- No ticks-and-flicks



## Quickies (ie training)

- Time poor?
- \$80-\$100 inc GST for ACA NSW members
- \$140-\$170 inc GST for non-members
- ~~Face to face~~ due to COVID | Live Webinars | On-demand
- [www.nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/events/quickies-2020](http://www.nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/events/quickies-2020)



1. Help with NSW's service provider approval process
2. Maximising & managing staff performance ... LEGALLY
3. Secrets of the "new" A&R
4. Creating the best possible QIP/Self-Assessment Tool submission for the "new" NQF
5. Multiplying success after your first Service - the foundational elements to replicate success
6. Improving Services from Fair to Fantastic!
7. Getting the CCS Application Process to work for services and families
8. How to ensure you are ready for a spotcheck/compliance visit
9. How to create best of class policies and documentation
10. How to design successful Early Childhood Education and Care Centres
11. How to recruit like a professional recruiter (webinar-on-demand only)
12. Workplace Mental Health Training (webinar-on-demand only)



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## Quickies (ie training) – Webinars-on-Demand

|  |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| <p>How to ensure you are ready for a spotcheck/compliance visit</p>                              | <p>Creating the best possible QIP/Self-Assessment Tool for the "new" NQF</p> | <p>How to ensure approved providers have the best policies &amp; documentation</p> | <p>Improving Services from Fair to Fantastic</p>    | <p>Multiplying Success After Your First (Childcare) Service</p> |
| <p>Getting the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) Application Process to work for services and parents</p> | <p>How to design successful early childhood education and care services</p>  | <p>Help with the NSW Service Provider Approval Process</p>                         | <p>Secrets of the "new" Assessment &amp; Rating</p> | <p>Maximising &amp; Managing Staff Performance ... LEGALLY</p>  |

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/resources/webinars-on-demand>

And there's still more!

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## Childcare Development Watch






<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/services/childcare-development-watch>

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## Sector Watch



**For ACA NSW members only  
(via username & password):**

- Number of new Approved Provider applications submitted & approved annually
- Number of breaches of Reg97 (Emergency & Evacuations)
- Number of waivers of Reg272 (ECTs)
- Number of overseas qualified ECTs
- Number of waivers of Reg108 (outdoor spaces)
- ... and more!

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/services/sector-watch>

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## Sector Watch



| Number of deaths that occurred in NSW's Early Childhood Education and Care services |             |                   |           |           |
|---|-------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Year  | # of Deaths | # of Deaths (0-2) | # of LDCs | # of FDCs |
| 2012  | 0           | 0                 | 0         | 0         |
| 2013  | 0           | 0                 | 0         | 0         |
| 2014  | 0           | 0                 | 0         | 0         |
| 2015  | 0           | 0                 | 0         | 0         |
| 2016  | 0           | 0                 | 0         | 0         |
| 2017  | 0           | 0                 | 0         | 0         |
| 2018  | 1           | 1                 | 1         | 0         |

| Waivers of Regulation 272 - Early childhood teachers—children preschool age or under |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Year   | Waivers Granted |
| 2013   | 206             |
| 2014   | 103             |
| 2015   | 273             |
| 2016   | 359             |
| 2017   | 285             |
| 2018   | 437             |
| 2019   | 476             |

| Breaches of Regulation 97 - Emergency and Evacuation Procedures |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Year  | # of Breaches | # of Services |
| 2016  | 227           | 194           |
| 2017  | 564           | 467           |
| 2018  | 997           | 804           |
| 2019  | 1,463         | 824           |

| Number of Authorised Officers (FTEs) conducting Assessment & Rating |       |
|---|-------|
| FY  | FTEs  |
| 2016/2017   | 101.2 |
| 2017/2018   | 117.4 |

| Funding for 3-year-olds in Community Preschools |                |                  |               |  |
|---|----------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| Period  | Distributed    | # of 3-year-olds | # of Services |  |
| 1 Jan 2019 - 30 Jun 2019                        | \$2,584,373.50 | 4,596            | 492           |  |
| 1 Jul 2019 - 31 Dec 2019                        | \$6,830,005.00 | 5,950            | 609           |  |

| Number of Approved Provider applications submitted |              |                   |       |           |
|--|--------------|-------------------|-------|-----------|
| FY   | Applications | Invalid/Withdrawn | Valid | Approved  |
| 2016/2017  | 627          | 149               | 478   | 259 (54%) |
| 2017/2018  | 769          | 216               | 553   | 361 (65%) |

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/services/sector-watch>

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## Grants Watch



<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/services/grants-watch>

- New ACA NSW member benefit
- For ANY early childhood education and care service provider
- Updated every week
- 8 grants are open. 7 closed.
- Smallest grant: Up to \$10,000
- Largest grant: Up to \$200,000
- There are also grants available that have no pre-set no-limits.

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## What's currently on ACA NSW's plate

- Fair Work Commission – Unions' applications to increase staff labour costs
  - Universal Access (C'th) / Start Strong (NSW) funding for 3 & 4 year olds
  - Dysfunctional Assessment & Ratings
  - Child Care Subsidy
  - ABCB's proposed Fire Regulations
  - 0-5 year old ECT degrees
  - National School Starting Age
  - Tax deductibility of childcare fees
  - Review of the National Quality Framework
  - Childcare Oversupply
  - NSW Payroll Tax
  - Local Councils and SEPP
  - Recruiting degree qualified ECTs
  - NSW's Enhanced Approval Process
  - Outstanding reforms for OSHC
  - Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards
  - Simulated Outdoor Spaces
  - Centralised Debtors Database
- ... and more. **Feel free to ask.**

## Proposed Agenda

- 1 Update: Back to CCS+Transition Payments, but what if there's a second wave/cluster
- 2 Update: The NSW's star rating vs alternate ratings statement beginning 1 July 2020
- 3 Update: Future of Universal Access Funding/NSW's Start Strong Funding
- 4 Update: New Building Code rules for childcare in high-rise buildings
- 5 Potential improvements to NSW's Assessment & Ratings process (LDCs & OSHCs)
- 6 Proposed changes to the NQAITS to record & track breaches/non-compliances
- 7 ACA NSW's Sector Watch
- 8 Quick Updates: New Guide to Child Safe Standards, Annual Wage Increases, Grants Watch (\$10k, \$200k, uncapped), Review of the NQF.

## COVID-19 journey so far

An important message to all our members about our operations during this time to protect ACA NSW's members, customers and staff.

Priority of access during COVID-19

JobKeeper Payments Q&As

Do you need the Federal Government's ECEC Relief Package explained?

Response to union's COVID-19 initiative for members' use

Abolition of NSW Payroll Taxes will save \$150m in childcare costs annually

**BREAKING NEWS**  
ATO ruling on ECEC eligibility

Legal update: Commercial leases & new leasing related NSW regulations

Lease Agreement

COVID-19 clarification

Latest government information

Supporting services through the Coronavirus Pandemic

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS

- Federal Government announcement on 8 June 2020
- For ACA NSW members:
  - Explainer video, slides, details, template letter to parents via <https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/886-federal-government-has-announced-early-learning-sector-transition-back-to-ccs>

The Hon Scott Morrison MP Prime Minister

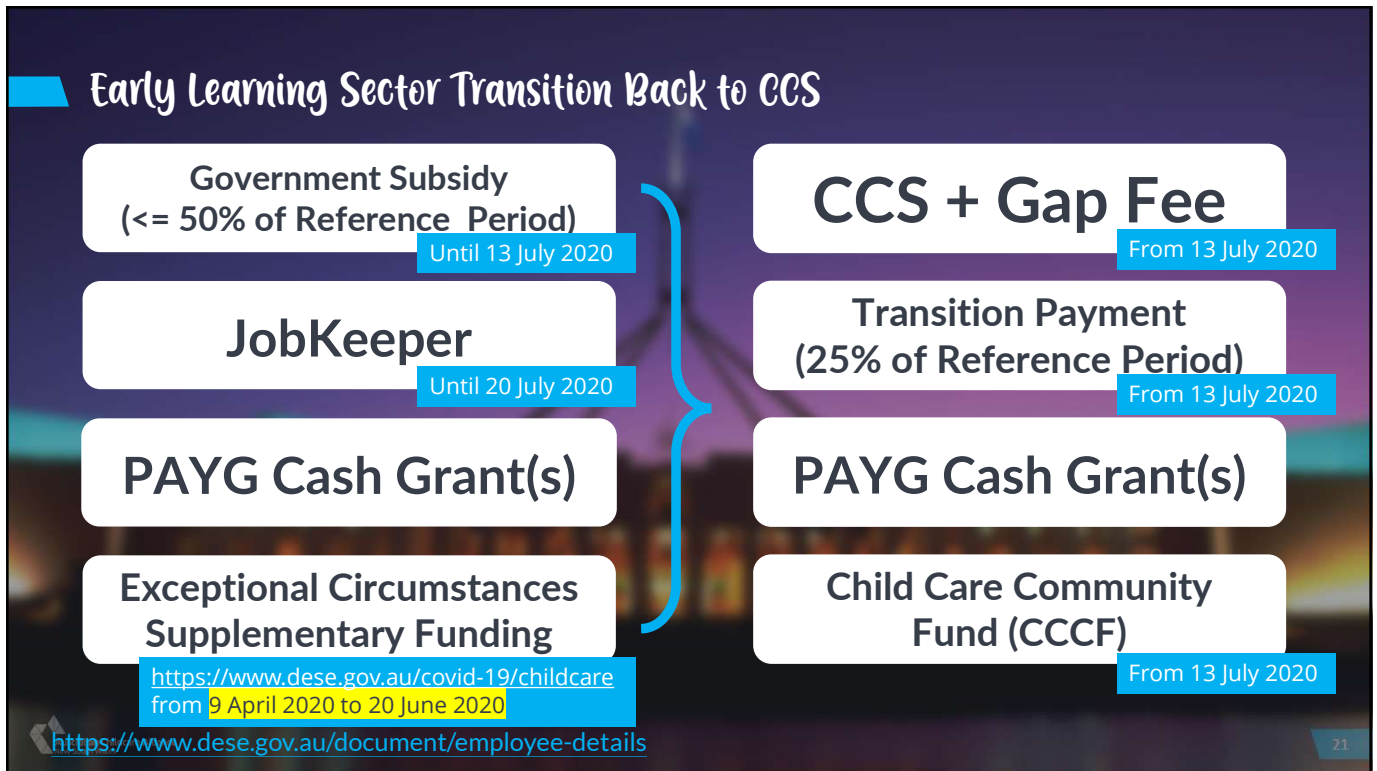
The Hon Dan Tehan MP Minister for Education

Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS

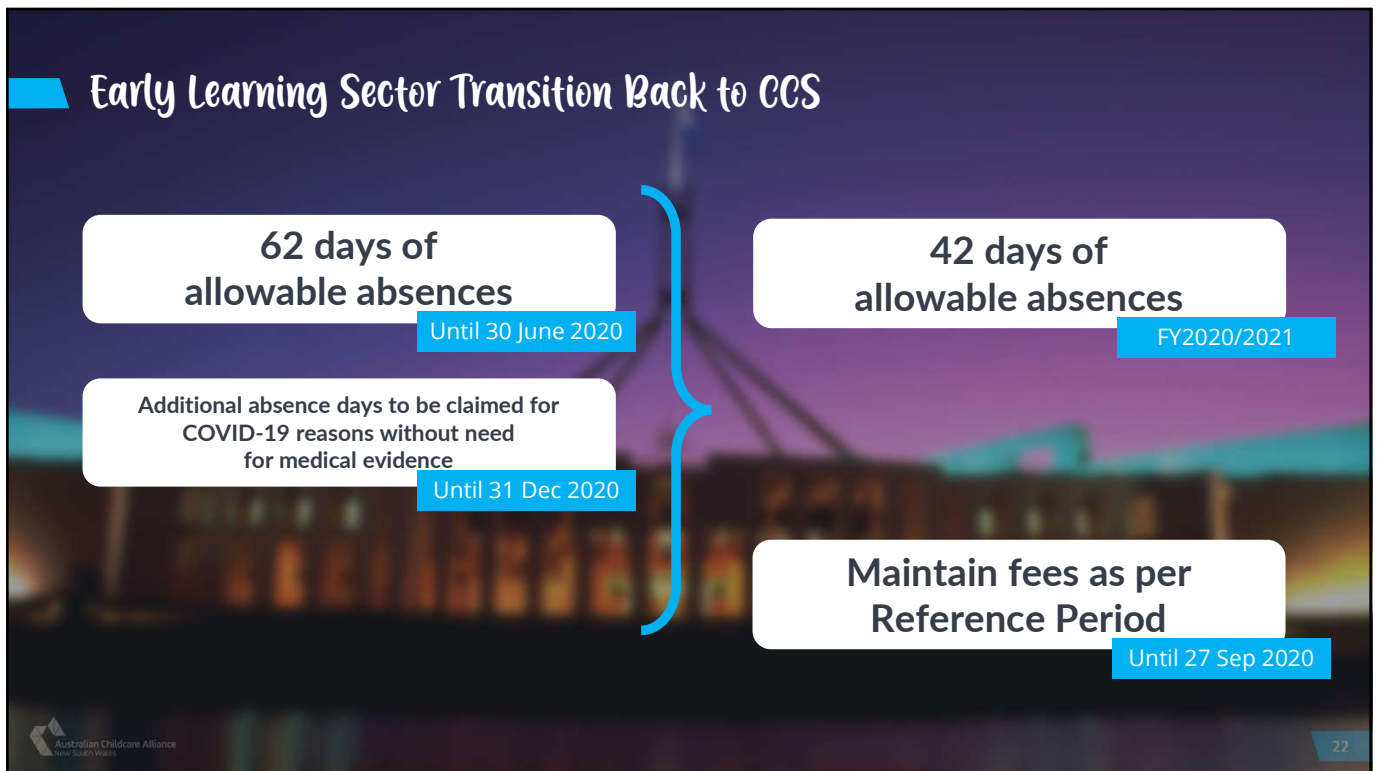
Early Learning Sector Transition back to the CCS

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS



- Transition Payments:
  - Week of 13 July 2020
- CCS Payments:
  - Depends on when the service submits their CCS claims

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS

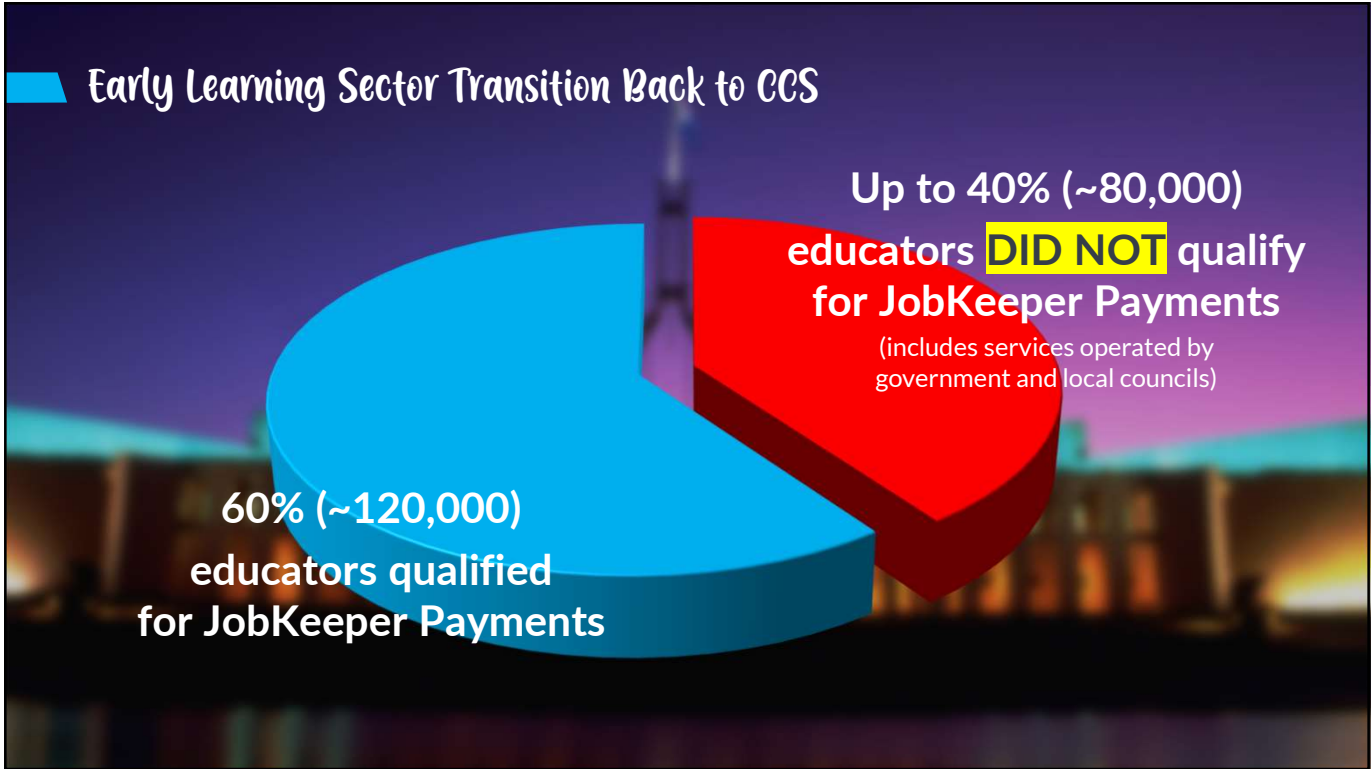


[https://proda.humanservices.gov.au/prod/login/pages/public/login.jsf?TAM\\_OP=login&ERROR\\_CODE=0x00000000&URL=%2F&OLDSESSION=](https://proda.humanservices.gov.au/prod/login/pages/public/login.jsf?TAM_OP=login&ERROR_CODE=0x00000000&URL=%2F&OLDSESSION=)

<https://docs.education.gov.au/node/51056>

- For providers:
  - Check the **Provider Entry Point (PEP)** and possibly update your service provider details in the **Child Care Subsidy System**:
    - Provider name
    - Provider email address
    - Service email address
    - Legal entity address
    - Service address
    - Bank details
  - If any of these details are not correct, Transition Payments may be delayed.

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### Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS

- Additional clarifications from the Federal Government:
  1. maintenance of staff complement
    - Maintain the average headcount number (data via Single Touch Payroll)
    - Offer an Employment Guarantee by continuing to employ those employees over the transition period who were working or being paid JobKeeper at the end of the ECEC Relief Package

<https://www.dese.gov.au/covid-19/childcare/childcare-faq>

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS



Helping families in financial difficulties

- Additional clarifications from the Federal Government:
  2. assistance for parents/families directly affected by COVID-19
    - Via **ACCS – Temporary Financial Hardship** (see new factsheet) (NOTE: 100% to 120% of hourly cap) for access to up to 100 hours per fortnight of subsidised care

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/917-helping-families-with-financial-difficulties>

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS




- From 13 July 2020 to 4 October 2020 – For Parents to access relaxed Activity Test requirements to access up to 100 hours of subsidised care:
  - Due to reduced hours
  - Loss of employment
- <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/centrelink-online-accounts>
- <https://my.gov.au/LoginServices/main/login?execution=e1s1>
- <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/express-plus-mobile-apps>
- **NOTE: ALL requirements of Family Assistance Law will apply from 13 July 2020 onwards**

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS



**allowable absences**

- From 13 July 2020, families can receive CCS for absences **up to seven (7) (calendar) days** before a child's first, and after a child's last physical attendance at a service
- <https://www.dese.gov.au/covid-19/childcare/childcare-faq#section-child-enrolments-attendance-and-absences>

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS



**Did you get this notice about the Transition Arrangements for the end of the ECEC Relief Package?**

Australian Government  
Department of Education

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/895-transition-arrangements-for-the-end-of-the-early-childhood-and-care-relief-package>

- Government broadcast since 18 June 2020:
  - Offer of **Community Child Care Fund 'grant'** (see [www.dese.gov.au/news/transition-arrangements-end-early-childhood-and-care-relief-package](http://www.dese.gov.au/news/transition-arrangements-end-early-childhood-and-care-relief-package) and [www.dese.gov.au/node/202](http://www.dese.gov.au/node/202))
  - Offer of **Transition Payment** via electronic document (look for [dse@aumail.docusign.net](mailto:dse@aumail.docusign.net)). If you have not received the offer, the Federal Department of Education advice is to contact the CCS Helpdesk ([ccshelpdesk@dese.gov.au](mailto:ccshelpdesk@dese.gov.au) or 1300 667 276).

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS

| REGION   | Occupancy July 2020 | Occupancy July 2019 | Absences 2020 | Absences 2019 |
|----------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| National | 68.74%              | 73.44%              | 12.07%        | 9.65%         |
| NSW      | 72.71%              | 76.32%              | 11.17%        | 9.99%         |
| VIC      | 48.42%              | 65.02%              | 28.91%        | 9.30%         |
| QLD      | 73.38%              | 76.38%              | 9.05%         | 9.19%         |
| SA       | 59.55%              | 61.28%              | 7.01%         | 8.52%         |
| WA       | 66.06%              | 69.01%              | 9.76%         | 9.50%         |
| TAS      | 69.83%              | 67.68%              | 6.93%         | 10.06%        |

- Occupancy levels compared between July 2020 vs July 2019:
  - National (-4.7%)
  - NSW (-3.61%)
  - VIC (-16.6%)
  - QLD (-3.0%)
  - SA (-1.73%)
  - WA (-2.95%)
  - TAS (+2.15%)
- SOURCE: A major CCMS provider using aggregated data from 1,300 providers nationally.


## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS



- Students studying teaching will pay **46% less** for their degree, ie HECS cost for teaching courses will be reduced from approximately \$9,600 to \$3,700 a year.
- <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-06-19/university-fees-tertiary-education-overhaul-course-costs/12367742>



## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS



<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/916-what-if-nsw-had-a-second-wave-s-or-cluster-s-of-covid-19>

- In Victoria (specifically Melbourne):
  - VIC declaration of local emergency
  - FedGov waiver of gap fees
  - No limit in the number of absences
  - Continuation of 25% Transition Payment
- If State/Territory Government does not declare local emergency, services can rely on allowance of up to **seven (7) additional absences** as long as gap fees are paid.
- If any service directs a parent(s) to remove their children from care, that would be considered a **business decision**, and therefore enrolment would immediately cease.

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## Early Learning Sector Transition Back to CCS



**VICTORIA**

**For Stage 3 & 4 Restrictions (additional assistance to begin 6 August 2020)**


<https://www.prm.gov.au/media/support-victorian-families-childcare-workers-and-services>

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/pandemic-leave-disaster-payment/who-can-get-it>

- **ADDITIONAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR ECEC SERVICES:**
  - Melbourne-based services: to receive an additional **5%** top-up payment in addition to the 25% Transition Payment.
  - **VIC:** Larger top-up of between **10% to 25%** will be given to services that have attendance levels reduce below 30%.
  - **VIC:** **30** extra days added to the **42** allowable days of absences.
  - **VIC Region:** Extension of the Additional Viability Support Payment for OSHC services (ie **15% plus 25%**).
- **PANDEMIC LEAVE DISASTER PAYMENT:**
  - **VIC:** \$1,500 for 14 days of self-isolation (replaces VIC's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Worker Support Payment).


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## In the event of a positive COVID-19 case in your service ...



**REMINDER:** The COVID-19 (Risk) Emergency Management Plan 2019-2020 template was already issued on 20 March 2020. See <https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/blog/780-template-emergency-management-plan-2019-2020>

- NSW Department of Health will be primary lead:
  - public health (eg contact tracing, cleaning)
  - internal and external communications
  - re-opening of service
- ACA NSW will be issuing to members:
  - a (readiness) checklist of information for NSW Health and NSW Education;
  - a list of useful contacts, including dealing with media;
  - the list of government certified deep-clean providers (incl indicative prices where available); and
  - sample communiques for parents and staff.



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## In the event of a positive COVID-19 case in your service ...



**If your service had a COVID-19 case, do you know which Deep Cleaning provider is government certified?**

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/932-do-you-know-which-deep-cleaning-provider-are-or-are-not-certified-by-the-nsw-government>

- List of NSW Government certified deep-cleaning providers.
- Updated every 2 weeks.
- Indicative pricing and other commercial information to be available from 25 August 2020 to ACA NSW members only.



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## ACA NSW can brief ACA NSW members' senior staff about COVID-19



- **FOR ACA NSW MEMBERS ONLY**
- Upon request and subject to mutual availabilities, ACA NSW can host Zoom meetings with ACA NSW members' senior staff to discuss anything and everything related to COVID-19.

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## NSW's COVID-19 Statistics



### Cases and testing by age group

Table 5. Symptomatic locally-acquired COVID-19 cases by age group and week of onset, 7 June to 4 July 2020

| Age group       | Week ending |          |          |          | Total    |
|-----------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                 | 4 July      | 27 June  | 20 June  | 13 June  |          |
| 0-4 years       | 0           | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 5-11 years      | 0           | 0        | 1        | 0        | 1        |
| 12-17 years     | 0           | 0        | 1        | 0        | 1        |
| 18-29 years     | 0           | 0        | 0        | 2        | 2        |
| 30-49 years     | 0           | 0        | 0        | 1        | 1        |
| 50-69 years     | 0           | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 70-79 years     | 0           | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 80+ years       | 0           | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>All ages</b> | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>5</b> |

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/weekly-reports.aspx>

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## NSW's COVID-19 Statistics

| Age Group       | 30-May   | 6-Jun    | 13-Jun   | 20-Jun   | 27-Jun   | 4-Jul    | TOTAL    |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 0-4 years       | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 5-11 years      | 0        | 0        | 0        | 1        | 0        | 0        | 1        |
| 12-17 years     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 1        | 0        | 0        | 1        |
| 18-29 years     | 0        | 0        | 2        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 2        |
| 30-49 years     | 0        | 0        | 1        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 1        |
| 50-69 years     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 70-79 years     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 80+ years       | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>ALL AGES</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>5</b> |

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/weekly-reports.aspx>

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## NSW's COVID-19 Statistics

**Cases and testing by Local Health District of residence**

Table 4. Symptomatic locally-acquired COVID-19 cases by LHD of residence and week of onset, 7 June to 4 July 2020

| Local Health District | Week of symptom onset |          |          |          | Total    |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                       | 4 July                | 27 June  | 20 June  | 13 June  |          |
| Central Coast         | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Far West              | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Hunter New England    | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Illawarra Shoalhaven  | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 1        | 1        |
| Mid North Coast       | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Murrumbidgee          | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Nepean Blue Mountains | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Northern NSW          | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Northern Sydney       | 0                     | 0        | 1        | 0        | 1        |
| South Eastern Sydney  | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 2        | 2        |
| South Western Sydney  | 0                     | 0        | 1        | 0        | 1        |
| Southern NSW          | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Sydney                | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Western NSW           | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Western Sydney        | 0                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Grand Total</b>    | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>5</b> |

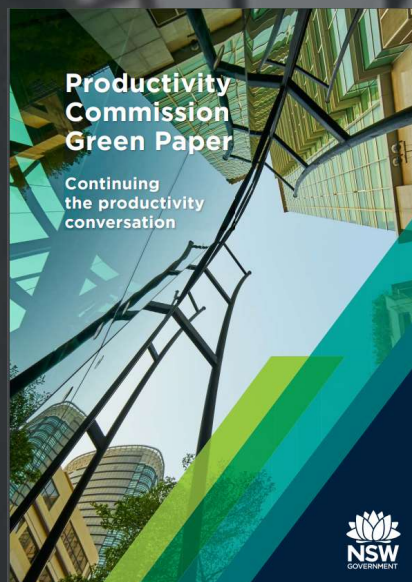
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/weekly-reports.aspx>

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## NSW Productivity Commissioner confirms NSW has more costly regulations

- NSW Productivity Commissioner confirms ACA NSW's concerns about NSW having more costly regulations.
- Specifically cited degree qualified ECTs that can increase related costs by between 167% to 333%.
- Also cited concerns about poor regulatory impact considerations.
- [http://productivity.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-08/Productivity\\_Commission\\_Green%20Paper\\_FINAL.pdf](http://productivity.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-08/Productivity_Commission_Green%20Paper_FINAL.pdf)

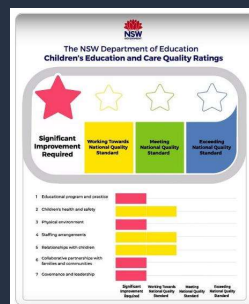


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## Opposing the NSW Department of Education's proposed star rating

- NSW Government will continue to recruit/issue services post assessment & ratings to use their star ratings from 1 July 2020 onwards.
- ACA NSW has publicly and consistently opposed it since November 2019.
- ACECQA confirmed in writing there will be no star for Excellent rating.
- ACA NSW will offer an alternative to the star rating that is legally compliant.
  - Free for members.
  - \$50 inc GST for non-members.

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/905-is-there-an-alternative-to-nsw-s-proposed-star-ratings-from-1-july-2020>



VS

Name of Service & Location

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Quality Area 1 | Education program and practice (NATQIS - Exceeding National Quality Standard (E))                           |
| Quality Area 2 | Children's health and safety (NATQIS - Exceeding National Quality Standard (E))                             |
| Quality Area 3 | Physical environment (NATQIS - Exceeding National Quality Standard (E))                                     |
| Quality Area 4 | Staffing arrangements (NATQIS - Exceeding National Quality Standard (E))                                    |
| Quality Area 5 | Leadership and governance (NATQIS - Exceeding National Quality Standard (E))                                |
| Quality Area 6 | Collaborative partnerships with families and communities (NATQIS - Exceeding National Quality Standard (E)) |
| Quality Area 7 | Governance and leadership (NATQIS - Exceeding National Quality Standard (E))                                |

The overall rating for a service is determined by the combination of the Quality Area ratings achieved. The overall rating is based on the lowest Quality Area rating. To achieve an overall rating of Exceeding National Quality Standard (E), all Quality Areas must be rated as Exceeding National Quality Standard (E). Services that do not meet the criteria for Exceeding National Quality Standard (E) will be rated as Meeting National Quality Standard (M), Working Towards National Quality Standard (WT), or Significant Improvement Required (SIR).


This service is rated overall as: **Exceeding National Quality Standard (E)**

NSW Dept of Education's proposed star rating

ACA NSW's alternative to the star rating (ie no stars)

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## Breaches/Non-compliances – Accountability, transparency & fairness




<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/926-fixing-breaches-and-non-compliances>

- Number of breaches/non-compliances:
  - 7,773 for 2018/2019 (in NSW)
  - 7,865 for 2017/2018 (in NSW)
- Varying levels accountability, transparency & fairness
- NSW services' experiences of alleged versus confirmed breaches/non-compliances were significantly different than all other Australian jurisdictions.

**BACKGROUND:**

- On 22 November 2019, the NSW Department of Education agreed to sponsor a software upgrade of NQAITS (subject to ACECQA) to provide access to Approved Providers of all of their own breaches/non-compliances.



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## Proposed changes to the NQAITS to record breaches/non-compliances







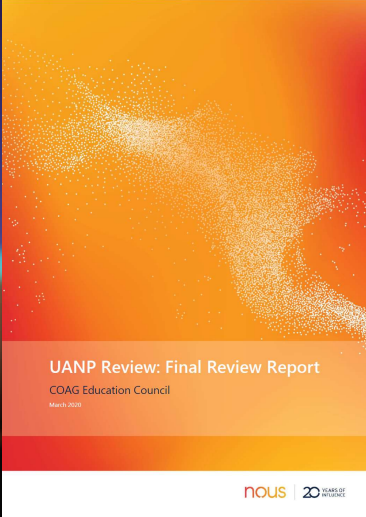
- To be available only between the Regulatory Authority and the Approved Provider:
  1. List of all breaches & non-compliances since 2012 that **do not** attract financial penalties
  2. List of all breaches & non-compliances since 2012 that **do** attract financial penalties
  3. List of breaches to be listed as table(s) (ie active, withdrawn, **with+without** financial penalty, etc)
  4. Escalation paths to the NSW Civil Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) and/or courts
  5. Every breach/non-compliance to carry records of issuing officer, evidence, responses, resolution(s).
  6. Guarantee that unsubstantiated and withdrawn breaches/non-compliances cannot be used against the Approved Provider(s).
  7. Records to be kept and made available to Approved Providers as long as their service(s) remains active.



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## Future of Universal Access Funding (and NSW's Start Strong Funding)



- NOUS Report released in late June 2020.
- ACA NSW's observations:
  - Inconsistencies of funding arrangements across all jurisdictions.
  - Inconsistencies of outcomes.
- NOUS Report's recommendations:
  - 5-year funding subject to agreement to consistent arrangements and agreed and uniform outcomes.
- Education Council to make further announcements later in 2020.

<http://www.educationcouncil.edu.au/site/DefaultSite/filesystem/documents/Reports%20and%20publications/UANP%20Review%20Report.pdf>

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## Amendment to Fire Regulations in 2020

- Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) has released an amendment to the National Construction Code (aka Building Code):
  - No changes to existing and new ECEC services that operate on the ground and first storey.
  - All services otherwise must have direct access to the street or open space.
  - Performance solutions required for services above ground.

**BACKGROUND:**

- ABCB's proposed fire regulations in 2019 risked imposing **ALL** new/existing ECEC services to have sprinklers, dedicated fire corridors, etc.



<https://www.abcb.gov.au/News/2020/03/19/ncc-2019-amendment-1-preview-released>



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## Clarification from the NSW Department of Education



- NSW Department of Education's new Quality Support Team (QST):
  - available to ANY service regardless of whether the service does/does not have an assessment & rating coming up
  - Call 1800 619 113 and ask specifically for the QST
- **ACA NSW STRONGLY RECOMMENDS:** Record the QST officer's name and/or copy of e-mail containing the advice given

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## NSW Department of Education's Self Assessment Tool & A&R process



<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/887-review-nsw-s-self-assessment-tool-a-r-process>



- NSW Department of Education has agreed to:
  - work with ACA NSW to improve/fix their "Self-Assessment Tool" and underlying A&R processes
- Review process - 11 June 2020 to potentially September 2020
- Recruitment open for new ACA NSW Sub-Committee for A&R for OSHC (<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/913-recruiting-volunteers-to-help-improve-nsw-s-assessment-rating-process-for-oshcs>)

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## UPDATE: Annual Wage Increases & CCS Rates

# FWC: 1.8% increase

|                           | Children below school age | School age children |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Centre Based Day Care     | \$12.20                   | \$10.67             |
| Outside School Hours Care | \$12.20                   | \$10.67             |
| Family Day Care           |                           | \$11.30             |
| In Home Care (per family) |                           | \$33.17             |

| Combined Annual Income (2020/2021) | Annual Subsidy Cap Per Child (2019/2020) | Combined Annual Income (2019/2020) | Annual Subsidy Cap Per Child (2018/2019) |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| \$189,390 or less                  | No Cap                                   | \$188,162 or less                  | No Cap                                   |
| \$189,391 to \$353,679             | \$10,560                                 | 188163 to \$352,453                | \$10,373                                 |

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/538-new-ccs-hourly-rate-cap-from-13-july-2020-is>

| 2020/2021 CCS Family Income Thresholds | Subsidy Percent (of actual fee charged or relevant hourly rate cap, whichever is lower) | 2019/2020 CCS Family Income Thresholds | Subsidy Rate of Actual Fee Charged or Maximum Hourly Rate Cap (whichever is lower) |
|--|---|--|--|
| Up to \$69,390                         | 85%   | Up to \$68,163                         | 85%  |
| \$69,391 to \$174,389                  | Decreasing to 50%   | \$68,164 to \$173,162                  | Decreasing to 50%  |
| \$174,390 to \$253,679                 | 50%   | \$173,163 to \$252,452                 | 50%  |
| \$253,680 to \$343,679                 | Decreasing to 20%   | \$252,453 to \$342,452                 | Decreasing to 20%  |
| \$343,680 to \$353,679                 | 20%   | \$342,453 to \$352,452                 | 20%  |
| \$353,680 and above                    | 0%  | \$352,453 and above                    | 0%   |

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## UPDATE: Child Safe Standards - New Guide to & New Training Dates



<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/924-dates-for-ldcs-oshcs-for-new-child-safe-standards-workshops>

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/914-nsw-child-safe-standards-new-guide-workshops-now-available>



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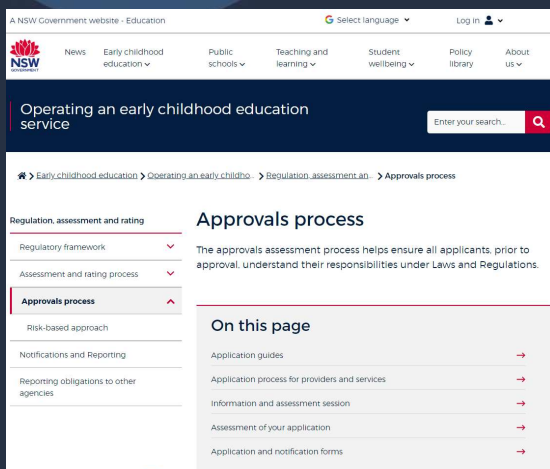
## UPDATE: Review of the National Quality Framework



- Due to COVID-19, Education Council had decided to put the Review of the National Quality Framework on hold.
- It is anticipated that there will be a review of this decision in the second half of 2020.

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## UPDATE: NSW Department of Education's Approval Process



- The NSW Department of Education has “clarified” who will be tested and who will not under their (Enhanced) Approvals Process for Approved Providers (existing and new).

### BACKGROUND:

- Introduced on 1 July 2016
- Until recently, all owners, company directors, members of the P&C committees, had to be “tested”

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## UPDATE: NSW Government funding for preschools (not for LDCs)



<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/936-nsw-government-funding-for-community-and-mobile-preschools-to-be-extended-to-term-4>

- Funding to community and mobile preschools to be extended to Term 4 (ie for 3 consecutive terms).
- Community and mobile preschools are not eligible for Commonwealth's Child Care Subsidies' up to 85% of the hourly rate caps, plus the additional 25% Transition Payments.
- That said, community and mobile preschools (other than those run by governments) should remain eligible for JobKeeper.
- ACA NSW's concern about competitive neutrality.

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## UPDATE: Yet to be released National Regulatory Amendment



<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/937-yet-to-be-released-new-national-regulations-commencing-1-october-2020-for-the-safe-transportation-of-children>

- Proposed new requirements:
  - policy and procedures;
  - risk assessment; and
  - written authorisation.
- ACECQA published:
  - information sheet
  - risk assessment templates
- New regulations (102B, 102C, 168(2)(ga) are unknown.
- Amended regulations (100, 101(2)(d), 102(4)) are unknown.
- ACA NSW has asked for:
  - Planned amendment text
  - Regulatory Impact Statements

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## UPDATE: Early Connections Live!

**Monday, 7 September 2020**  
Live from 3.00 pm AEST  
after via Apple Podcasts Google Podcasts

**Sharon Gueta**  
Executive Director  
NSW Department of Education

**Kathleen Forrester**  
Executive Director  
NSW Department of Education

**Paul Mondo**  
National President  
Australian Childcare Alliance

hosted by  
**ACA**  
New South Wales

- New engagement platform.
- 45 minutes only.
- Ask your questions, preferably in advance.
- You can watch and engage live.
- You can also watch & listen after.

<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/935-early-connections-live-on-7-september-2020>

## UPDATE: Childcare Oversupply

- Federal Minister for Education, the Hon Dan Tehan MP, confirms receipt of ACA NSW's proposal.
- Proposal was to enable release of aggregated quarterly statistics of attendances to help inform prospective new entrants.
- Minister Tehan's Office wrote to ACA NSW saying they will consider this post COVID-19.



## UPDATE: Proposal to abolish NSW Payroll Tax



- NSW Treasurer Perrottet proposes to abolish NSW Payroll Tax.
- \$150m will be saved annually by 1,945 ECEC services.
- Proposal **was** anticipated to be announced as part of May 2020 budget at NSW Parliament.



### BACKGROUND:

- ACA NSW has been advocated for increasing the threshold to at least \$2m.
- NSW Government decided to increase the threshold from \$500,000 to \$1m by 30 June 2021.

## UPDATE: What more can be done by the NSW Government?



NSW Government asks ACA NSW members' ideas for additional support & regulatory changes

- NSW Deputy Premier, NSW Treasurer and NSW Minister for Customer Service are seeking ACA NSW members' ideas on what more can be done by the NSW Government during COVID-19, primarily on:

- Health & safety mitigation
- Regulatory reform

- Members are welcome to provide feedback via <https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/843-invitation-by-nsw-government-to-help-improve-nsw-s-ecec-sector>



**UPDATE: Early Childhood Educators' Day next week!**

- Delivery of Early Childhood Educators' Day items on track despite restrictions  
<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/928-delivery-of-your-early-childhood-educators-day-items>




- Would your families like to submit videos?  
<https://nsw.childcarealliance.org.au/news/930-would-you-your-child-like-to-feature-in-our-2020-thank-you-video>



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**Before we wrap up ...**

**Did we miss anything?**




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**Thank You! And we would appreciate your feedback.**

If you have any questions, please contact us via  
1300 556 330 or [nsw@childcarealliance.org.au](mailto:nsw@childcarealliance.org.au)

**Don't forget to add your contact details if you need any follow-up.**  
We haven't perfected mental telepathy ... yet.



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