

## Flying Start 2026 General Check-In Webinar- Friday 15 August

### Q & A summary

**Q: How is the amount of Preschool Plus fee relief determined, and where can families find this information?**

A: For eligible families, the Preschool Plus fee relief depends on several factors, including a family's Child Care Subsidy CCS percentage, which is based on family income, and the age and number of children in early childhood education and care.

Additionally, the fees charged by services, including the number of hours charged per session and number of days enrolled, may change the out-of-pocket cost. For this reason, the amount of fee relief – and therefore out-of-pocket costs – will vary.

Partner services can use the Preschool Plus fee relief calculator to provide families with an estimated daily out-of-pocket cost, along with fortnightly and quarterly:

- Total fees for the Preschool Plus program
- CCS contribution for the Preschool Plus program days
- South Australian Government Preschool Plus fee relief contribution; and
- Out-of-pocket costs (where applicable) for Preschool Plus program days.

Fee relief will be paid to Preschool Plus services directly and credited to family accounts regularly (e.g. weekly or fortnightly) to reduce out-of-pocket costs. The credited amount will be clearly visible on family invoices or statements.

**Q: Will more services be matched with children in the Preschool Plus program later this year?**

A: Yes, the next round of Preschool Plus matching is currently underway with a second Assessment Panel to be held 15 September 2025. Services will receive an update on the outcome of this process within the following week.

**Q: Will EC Connect integrate with existing Child Care Management Software (CCMS) systems to avoid duplication of data entry?**

A: EC Connect is planned to include a feature that enables services to upload data from their current system in accordance with a standardised, consistent format.

Direct integration options with selected CCMS providers are currently being explored.

**Q. When will services have access to the mandatory Aboriginal Cultural Safety and Trauma Informed Practice training as well as the optional Trauma Informed Practice coaching program?**



A: Access to the mandatory trauma-informed practice core training will be available online from March 2026. The optional trauma-informed practice coaching program for Preschool Plus services will also be available from March 2026, with the OECD contacting eligible services at that time. Further information relating to Aboriginal Cultural safety training will be available from September 2025.

**Q. Will there be future rounds of Flying Start infrastructure grants for services that couldn't apply in the first round due to financial constraints?**

A: Yes, information about the next round of infrastructure grants will be shared at the next Flying Start partner webinar on Friday, 29 August.

**Is there any information available about upcoming grant timelines through the Australian Government's Building Early Education Fund (BEEF)?**

A: Timelines for future BEEF grant applications haven't been announced yet, but updates are expected in the coming months.

For general information about the grants, services can refer to the Department of Education's BEEF [fact sheet](#).

