

Ever thought about becoming an In Home Child Care provider?



In Home Care providers manage a network of educators who deliver Australian Government subsidised In Home Care in families own homes. **We need more In Home Care providers in NSW.** Could this be something your business or organisation may be interested in?

What is In Home Care?

In Home care is early education and care (childcare) that is delivered in a family's own home by a qualified early childhood educator. It has been designed to provide high quality, flexible early childhood education and care option to families for whom other child care options don't work.

It provides access to Government subsidised child care in the family home and is targeted to assist parents or carers who are unable to access other mainstream child care options.

What is an In Home Care provider?

An In Home Care provider is an organisation or business that manages a network of the educators who work in families' homes caring for children.

A provider:

- Engages qualified educators (by direct employment or contracting)
- Accepts referrals of families in their area from the In Home Support Agency
- Matches families with a suitable educator
- Supports the educators in their role, ensuring they are providing quality childcare
- Collects Child Care Subsidy on behalf of families and fees from families
- Pays the educator an agreed rate per hour.

Providers usually retain a fixed amount per hour for every hour of care educators engaged or employed by their service work with a family.

An In Home Care Provider has to be approved by the Australian Government to receive Child Care Subsidy under the Family Assistance Law, and must register with the IHC Support Agency.

What organisations become In Home Care providers?

Many different types of organisations become In Home Care providers.

Common ones include:

- Education and care services
- Nanny agencies
- Neighbourhood centres
- Organisations that work with isolated children
- Welfare organisations

What are the major obligations of In Home Care providers?

Approved providers of IHC services must be equipped to provide high quality child care appropriate to the needs of families, and are required to:

- provide a tailored, individual education program based on each child's knowledge, ideas, culture, abilities and interests
- develop a program that acknowledges and strengthens the cultural identity of children to whom care is provided
- ensure children are adequately supervised at all times
- ensure reasonable precautions are taken to protect children from harm or injury and any hazard likely to cause harm or injury
- ensure that educators have a current first aid qualification
- carry out background checks for educators including criminal history and working with children checks
- comply with the Family Assistance Law
- follow the [Child Care Provider Handbook](#)
- follow the [IHC Guidelines](#) and [IHC Handbook](#)
- ensure everyone involved with the Provider and all educators are fit and proper persons to be involved in the administration of Child Care Subsidy

Which families are eligible for In Home Care?

To be eligible for In Home Care a family must be eligible for Child Care Subsidy, and able to demonstrate that other types of approved child care are not suitable or available and where:

- parents or carers are working non-standard or variable hours, outside normal child care service hours
- parents or carers are geographically isolated from other types of approved child care, particularly in rural or remote locations
- the family has challenging or complex needs, including where families are experiencing challenging situations, and other approved child care services are not able to meet the needs of the child or the family.

Challenging or complex needs mean:

- a child with additional needs or a disability whose early childhood education and care requirements cannot be catered for in another approved child care setting, or through other government funded or community-based services
- a family where a parent is undergoing treatment for a serious illness
- other complex family situations that prevent families from accessing other approved child care types.

How to enquire

To inquire about becoming an In Home Care provider fill out the online form at www.ihcsupportagency.org.au/newprovider

- Once you have filled out this form we will contact you and talk through the process of becoming an approved provider under Family Assistance Law and the process of operating an In Home Care Service.
- You may wish to read the In Home Care Handbook and the In Home Care Guidelines. These are available at www.ihcsupportagency.org.au/for-services/
- The process of applying to become an approved provider may seem daunting but the In Home Care Agency is here to support and help you.

Want to discuss becoming an In Home Care provider?



Call us on: 1800 IHcARE (1800 442273)

Email us: info@ihcsupportagency.org.au

Go to: www.ihcsupportagency.org.au