

## Queensland Kindergarten Funding

# Child eligibility age

### Child eligibility age for approved kindergarten programs

A child must be at least four years of age by 30 June in the year they commence kindergarten. Service providers can only claim funding once for each enrolled, eligible-aged child.

To check whether a child is of eligible age, enter their birthday into the [kindy calculator](#).

### Enrolling 3-year-olds in kindergarten programs

A 3-year-old child is **not** eligible to receive Queensland Kindergarten Funding (QKF) subsidies and the approved provider cannot claim funding for this child. The fee charged for a 3-year-old should be calculated without the subsidies and must be higher than the fee charged for an eligible-aged child.

In sessional kindergartens, a 3-year-old child can only be offered a place in an approved kindergarten program at the end of February each year where places are available after finalising the enrolment of eligible aged children.

Earlier enrolment of non-eligible aged children must be approved in writing by your service's central governing body (CGB) and the department, before offering a place.

An exemption applies for services located in outer regional, remote and very remote locations (these services are eligible for the service location subsidy), as these services are generally not operating at full capacity.

## Full-time enrolment in a service's kindergarten program

An eligible aged child can be enrolled in a full-time kindergarten program (offered for more than 600 hours annually) but can only receive kindergarten subsidies for 600 hours annually, made up of at least 15 hours a week or 30 hours per fortnight for 40 weeks. The child will not be eligible for kindergarten subsidies for the remaining hours.

Before and after kindy care can be provided at the discretion of a sessional kindergarten service at a cost to parents, and does not attract any subsidies.

Where a sessional kindergarten delivers more than one approved kindergarten program across a standard week and a child is enrolled for both programs, the service can only claim for the child against one program.

## Enrolment in a second kindergarten program at another service

For sessional kindergartens, an eligible-aged child can be enrolled in two programs, where there are places available (to be confirmed at the end of February as per ineligible-age children). An eligible child can only access funding for one approved kindergarten program. Approved kindergarten program providers (KPPs) are responsible for ensuring children enrolled in more than one approved kindergarten program are only claimed for a single program.

Services must identify on the child enrolment record that the child is ineligible against the second program. Service providers should refer to their child care management system (CCMS) user guide or contact their CCMS provider.

Allocation of Queensland Kindergarten Funding to a service is at the parent's discretion. Services' enrolment policies must not require parents to allocate the funding to their service for the child to be enrolled in the service.

## Delayed entry to or exit from an approved kindergarten program

Where a child accesses delayed entry to, or delayed exit from, an approved kindergarten program, the approved provider will be able to claim the relevant subsidies provided they follow their service's documented process and the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Essentials.

A child repeating kindy for the second year is eligible for the relevant subsidies. The child must also be flagged as repeating in the CCMS.

### More information

- Refer to the [Queensland Kindergarten Funding Essentials](#) on the Department of Education website.
- Contact the Grants Management team on (07) 3035 2244 or by email at [QKFS.LDC@qed.qld.gov.au](mailto:QKFS.LDC@qed.qld.gov.au).
- Sessional kindergartens can contact their CGB.