

On Saturday 1 April we increased benefit, NZ Super, Student Allowance and other financial support rates. In addition, from 1 April the income thresholds for childcare assistance have increased, so more families will qualify.

Childcare assistance changes

From 1 April, income thresholds and hourly rates for Childcare and the Out of School Care and Recreation (OSCAR) Subsidy have increased.

This follows a policy change from the Government, as well as the Annual General Adjustment. This change means more families will be able to access childcare assistance – the parents of around 10,000 children will now qualify. We've posted more details about this change on the Work and Income website: [Childcare Assistance changes - Work and Income](#)

Families who qualify due to the new income thresholds can apply from the start of April. Details on how to apply are on the Work and Income website:

- [Childcare Subsidy - Work and Income](#), and
- [Out of School Care and Recreation \(OSCAR\) Subsidy - Work and Income](#)

People currently getting childcare assistance may start to receive a higher rate, and this will be automatically updated. Clients may need to talk to their provider to make sure they're paying them the right amount from their end. We're emailing all childcare assistance clients to let them know. Clients will be able to view their new rates in MyMSD.

Annual General Adjustment

We've also increased payment rates, and income and asset limits to access financial support, from Saturday 1 April, due to the Annual General Adjustment.

These changes have been made to keep up with increases in the net average wage or the cost of goods and services. More details are available on the Work and Income website: [Changes to payments from 1 April 2023 - Work and Income](#)

Clients will be able to view their new rates in MyMSD.

Other supports available in the community

We'd also like to share our Family Services Directory with you, which includes financial planning, childcare, and other community services available to people and whānau.

Visit the Directory here: [Family Services Directory](#)

If you're a community provider and want to register with the Directory, or update your details, please visit: [Information for Providers - Family Services Directory](#)

Thank you for your support

Thank you for what you do to help New Zealanders be safe, strong and independent.