



Out of School Care

SUBSIDY FACT SHEET

WHAT IS THE OSCAR SUBSIDY?

The Out of School Care and Recreation (OSCAR) Subsidy is a payment from Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) which helps families with the costs of before and after school care for up to 20 hours a week, and school holiday programmes for up to 50 hours a week.

Eligibility Criteria: Who can get it?

You may be able to get an OSCAR Subsidy if:

- you're the main caregiver of the child.
- you're a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.
- your family is on a low or middle income.

You also need to meet one of these situations:

- working, studying or on an approved training course.
- involved in an activity that Work and Income has asked you to do.
- a shift worker who works nights
- seriously ill or disabled
- caring for a child in hospital or for a child you get the Child Disability Allowance for.

How much subsidy could I receive?

You can view the MSD online guide to estimate your subsidy at

<https://check.msd.govt.nz> or Call WINZ on **0800 559 009**

How much you get depends on the size of your family, your income and how many hours a week your child goes to the childcare provider.

All subsidies are paid directly to the programme, and you will need to pay any difference between subsidy and weekly fee.

IMPORTANT: If you make a booking and are not approved by WINZ, you are responsible for paying for the bookings in your account.

Application Process: We suggest you apply at least **3 to 4 weeks** before you need your subsidy to start.

FIRST TIME OSCAR SUBSIDY APPLICATION

1. Complete an enrolment form for the current or upcoming term/holiday period
2. Gather the documents you will need to provide with your application to Work and Income:
 - If you were born in New Zealand, one type of official identification that has your full legal name and your date of birth (e.g. your birth certificate, passport, driver licence).
 - If you were born overseas, proof that you have a right to live in New Zealand (e.g. a citizenship certificate, a NZ passport, proof of permanent residence, residence class visa)
 - All people applying need to bring two more documents that help prove who you are (e.g. a marriage certificate, bank statement, phone or power account).
 - Full birth certificates for each dependant child in your care.
 - Your full set of business accounts if you have your own business
 - Proof of your wages or salary if applicable



3. Complete Childcare Assistance Application Form *(Page 1-24)*
 - Fill out the application form
 - Once complete, our staff can then fill out the supervisors section of the form *(page 24-28)*
 - Once our team has completed the supervisors section of the form you can then email the application form and any other documents to Centralised_childcare_reviews@msd.govt.nz or we can email on your behalf. If you email the application form, please confirm when done.
 - You will need to pay the full programme fees to attend the programme until your subsidy is confirmed. Please speak to our team if you are unable to do this.

Once WINZ approves the Childcare Assistance application form, you will receive the OSCAR subsidy for your booking for the current Term or Holiday Programme. You will need to pay any difference between the subsidy and the weekly fee.

For future bookings e.g. next Holiday Programme or Term, you will need to complete the OSCAR Subsidy Declaration Form *(2 pages)*.

EXISTING OSCAR SUBSIDY APPLICATION

1. Complete an enrolment form for your child for the current/upcoming Term/Holiday Programme.
2. Complete OSCAR Subsidy Declaration Form *(page 1-2 only)*.
3. Once complete email the form to your centre, or bring it in so we can complete the supervisors section of the form *(pages 3-4)*.
4. Once our team has completed the supervisors section of the form, we will submit to WINZ and email you with confirmation of submission.

Whether you are a new or existing applicant, you need to reapply for the OSCAR subsidy every term and holiday period by submitting the Subsidy form each time. Bookings and subsidies do not automatically carry over.

Please note; the decision to approve or decline an application for the OSCAR subsidy is made by WINZ. Our team members cannot advise whether your application will be approved or not.

