

QKFS Funding Rates ISQ CGB Member Kindergartens

The subsidy rates included in this Factsheet apply for Semester 2, 2021 & Semester 1, 2022, for eligible age children (those turning 4 by 30th June in the year they participate). Subsidy rates are indexed annually in July.

Subsidy	Semester Rate (ex GST) per child
QKFS Standard Subsidy	\$1543.00
Remote Area (ARIA) Subsidy	\$771.50
Low Socio-economic (SEIFA) Subsidy	
Services in SEIFA areas 1-2	\$694.35
Services in SEIFA areas 3-4	\$462.90
Plus Kindy Support Subsidy	
Services in SEIFA areas 1-2	\$1012.65
Services in SEIFA areas 3-4	\$1244.10
Services in SEIFA areas 5-10	\$1707.00

It is expected that **all** services activate policies, either separately or as part of an overarching QKFS Subsidy policy, to support the collection of required information and receipt and application of funds for QKFS subsidies for which they are eligible.

It is expected that all services clearly explain to families at enrolment how subsidies are reflected in the fee structure, how they are paid and applied to an individual family's fees.

Standard Subsidy

The Standard Subsidy is paid per eligible child, by semester.

Kindergarten services receiving the real funding guarantee (legacy funded services) will not apply the standard subsidy to their funding, unless they are eligible for more under the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme.

The Standard subsidy is specifically provided to support the approved kindergarten learning program. It is expected that all services be able to demonstrate that the subsidy is directly enhancing the learning program for children at a service delivery level.

For further information on what the Standard Subsidy can be used for, refer to p11 [QKFS: QKFS Funding Requirements](#).

QKFS Plus Kindy Support

Plus Kindy Support is a subsidy that **directly off-sets** a child's kindergarten fees. Services, no matter where they are located, can claim QKFS Plus Kindy Support if a family either:

- Holds a current Health Care Card (HCC), Veterans Affairs Card or Australian Government Pension Concession card with automatic Health Care Card entitlements; or
- Identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (or have a child who does); or
- Has three or more children, of the same age, enrolled in the same year.

The Plus Kindy Support Subsidy can only be claimed once per child, per semester i.e. if a family has a Health Care Card and also identify as Indigenous the subsidy can only be claimed once for that semester.

Families are to be reimbursed the full Plus Kindy Support subsidy to which they are eligible although for **no more than** the cost of their kindergarten program fees. If applicable, the service can retain the remainder and apply it to the cost of delivering the kindergarten program.

The Plus Kindy Support subsidy rate is adjusted to take account of the Low Socio-Economic Subsidy entitlement for which some services are eligible (see Further explanation of Low SES and Plus Kindy Support subsidy rates).

HEALTH CARE CARD OR PENSION CARD HOLDERS

Current holders of the following, must present the relevant documentation to the service:

- Australian Government Health Care Card (HCC)
- Australian Government Pensioner Concession card (automatic HCC entitlements)
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold or White Card

- formal communication such as a letter, from the relevant agency, stating the intent to issue a Health Care Card

Kindergarten services are required to take a copy of the valid Card and provide ISQ with the start and expiry dates for that card. The subsidy is calculated by Term.

If a card is valid anytime within a Term, the subsidy can be claimed for that Term. If a card is due to expire sometime throughout the year, it is the responsibility of the parent/carer and kindergarten service to ensure that an updated card has been provided in order to continue to claim the subsidy.

IDENTIFIES AS ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

Kindergarten services must record identification as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander on a child's enrolment form, ensure the form is signed and kept by the service as a record.

MULTIPLE BIRTH FAMILIES

Kindergarten services are required to take a copy of proof of date of birth for these children.

Low Socio-economic Subsidy

The Low Socio-Economic Subsidy (Low SES or SEIFA) is a subsidy to reduce out-of-pocket expenses for families with eligible children, at kindergarten services in **SEIFA areas 1-4**.

The Low Socio-Economic Subsidy is a per child loading:

- of 45% of the Standard Subsidy rate for services in SEIFA 1 and 2 areas
- of 30% of the Standard Subsidy rate for services in SEIFA 3 and 4 areas

Suggestions for ways in which this funding could benefit children in the service would include:

- a reduction in advertised fees by the amount of this subsidy for all eligible enrolments or apply individually to fees to enable access;
- removal or reduction of any additional fees for specific programs to ensure they are accessible to all eligible children;
- purchase of additional resources and provision of additional support e.g. additional teacher aide time for targeted programs.

Remote Area (ARIA) Subsidy

The Remote Area (ARIA) Subsidy (Accessibility/Remoteness Index) is a subsidy to provide additional support for services in remote and very remote locations, **ARIA 4 and 5**, to attract and retain qualified teachers.

The ARIA Subsidy per semester, is a per child loading of 50% of the Standard Subsidy rate.

Funding Calculation and Distribution

QKFS funding is contingent on an approved kindergarten program provider's (KPP) ongoing compliance with eligibility criteria, the [Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme: Funding requirements](#), and CGB service agreement requirements.

Further explanation of Low SES and Plus Kindy Support Subsidy Rates

KINDERGARTEN – SEIFA 1 TO 2 AREAS

- Kindergarten services operating in SEIFA 1 and 2 areas are eligible for the **Low SES subsidy** (45%) equating to **\$694.35** per child, per semester.
- **Plus Kindy Support** recipients in services in **SEIFA 1 and 2** areas are eligible for a subsidy of **\$1012.65** per child, per semester. The total benefit for a Plus Kindy Support recipient is up to \$1707.00 (\$694.35.00 + \$1012.65) per semester.

KINDERGARTEN – SEIFA 3 TO 4 AREAS

- Kindergarten services operating in SEIFA 3 and 4 areas are eligible for the **Low SES subsidy** (30%) equating to **\$462.90** per child, per semester.
- **Plus Kindy Support** recipients in services in **SEIFA 3 and 4** areas are eligible for a subsidy of **\$1244.10** per child, per semester. The total benefit for a Plus Kindy Support recipient is up to \$1707.00 (\$462.90 + \$1244.10) per semester.

KINDERGARTEN – SEIFA 5 TO 10 AREAS

- Kindergarten services operating in SEIFA 5 to 10 areas are not eligible for the Low SES subsidy.
- **Plus Kindy Support** recipients in services in **SEIFA 5 to 10** areas are eligible for a subsidy of **\$1707.00** per child, per semester.