

Help with childcare costs for NHS Bursary students 2022/23



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1. Disclaimer

NHS Bursary students should not rely on the arrangements described in this booklet when planning for subsequent academic years as these may be subject to review in the future and as a result may be liable to change.

Further information about the NHS Bursary will be posted on the Student Services website as and when it is made available. Students are advised to check the website on a regular basis.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) Student Services will not accept responsibility for any loss incurred (financial or otherwise) by students as a result of relying on current rules and allowances to alter their circumstances.

2. Introduction

Who is this guide for?

This guide provides information about help with childcare costs for NHS Bursary funded students.

NHS Bursary funding remains available to the following students in 2022/23:

- Medical and dental students who are eligible to receive NHS Bursary funding in the later stages of their course. Further information for medical and dental students is available from [our website](#).
- Continuing non-medical healthcare students who have been receiving an NHS Bursary throughout their training and who will be continuing on their course during 2022/23 .

This information booklet is for general guidance only and it cannot cover all individual circumstances. If you have any queries that are not included here, please [contact us](#).

What is the Childcare Allowance (CCA)?

CCA is intended as an additional means of help towards your childcare costs whilst you are attending your course, but it will not cover all of your costs.

Childcare allowance pays up to 85% of your childcare costs to a net maximum amount of:



£128.78 per week for one child

£191.45 per week for two or more children

Assessment

CCA is subject to means testing together with the Dependants Allowance and Parent Learning Allowance.

How much you will receive will depend on the income you declare on your NHS Bursary application for the last financial year. See section 5.

3. Eligible childcare provision

To be eligible for CCA, you must use a childcare provider who meets the criteria in one of the categories below. In addition, your child or children must be **under 15** on the first day of the academic year (or, if they are registered with special educational needs¹, they must be **under 17** on this day).

The following is classed as eligible childcare provision for the CCA:

1. A childcare provider who is registered on one of the below:

- Ofsted Early Years Register (EYR), for children under 5
- the Ofsted compulsory part of the General Childcare Register (GCR) for children aged 5 to 7
- the Ofsted Voluntary part of the GCR for children aged 8 and over

2. Childcare provided by out of school clubs, a local authority or by a third party provider:

- run on school premises
- and registered by Ofsted or an equivalent body

3. Childcare provided in the child's own home:

- by a care worker or nurse from an agency registered with the Care Quality Commission who is expected to comply with:
 - *The Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014*
 - *the Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009*

4. Care provided by an approved foster carer

- the care must be for a child who is not being fostered by that foster carer
- the foster carer must be registered with Ofsted either on the EYR or GCR

5. A person registered on the voluntary part of the Ofsted Childcare Register who is:

- providing childcare in the child's own home or on other domestic premises

6. Childcare provided in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland and registered by either:

- Care Inspectorate Wales or under the Approval of Home Childcare Providers (Wales) Scheme 2021 if the childcare is provided in the child's own home
- Care Inspectorate Scotland
- The local Health and Social Care Trust (Northern Ireland) or approved by the Tax Credits (Approval of Home Child Care Providers) Scheme (Northern Ireland) Scheme 2006/64.

¹ A child or young person has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.

Registered
childcare can
include:



childminders,
nurseries or
playgroups



holiday play
schemes and
out of school
clubs



Local
Authority
daycare

Some childcare providers are not required to be registered on the Early Years Register or the compulsory part of the General Childcare Register (GCR). This includes:

- activity based care such as sports clubs
- nannies and au pairs who provide care in the child's own home

However, in order to claim CCA for these types of provider, they would need to be registered on the **voluntary** part of the Ofsted GCR. Further information about voluntary registration can be found at www.ofsted.gov.uk.

Registered childcare providers are normally inspected and registered by Ofsted (or equivalent) and, where applicable, are given a registration number. Your provider will be able to confirm if they are registered or are required to be so.

Your childcare provider must give details of their Ofsted or equivalent registration (where applicable) at the time of your application.

The CCA is NOT payable in the following circumstances:

- where the student, their spouse, partner or civil partner is in receipt of the childcare element of Working Tax or Universal Credit
- where the student, their spouse, partner or civil partner is in receipt of Tax Free Childcare payments
- where the student, their spouse, partner or civil partner is in receipt of financial support for childcare from other sources. For example, a childcare grant from Student Finance England or a similar award from an equivalent body in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland.

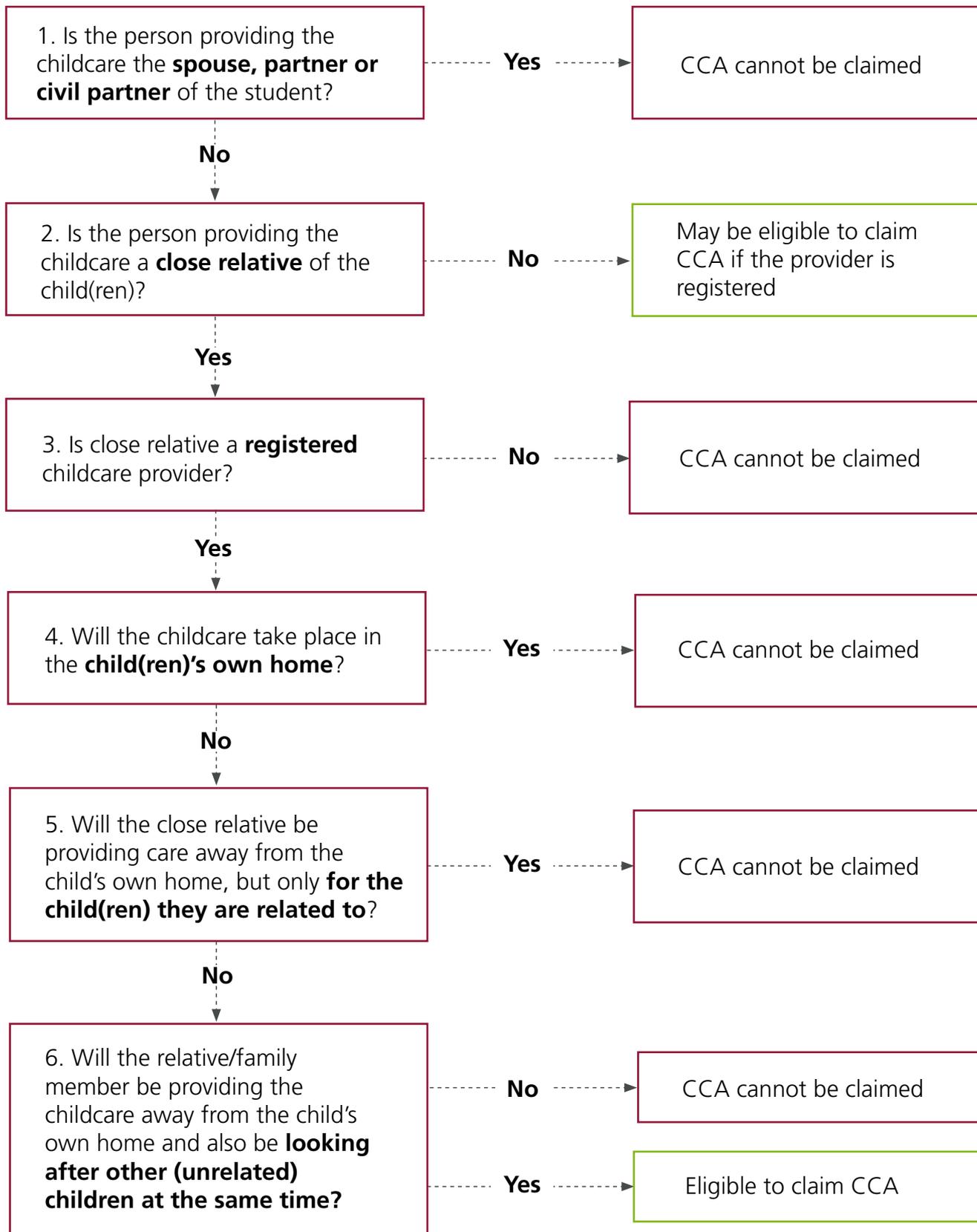
It is also NOT available for...

- normal school education provided by a Local Authority, religious or private schools
- free early education provided by your local authority
- childcare where the registered provider is the student's spouse, civil partner or partner
- childcare provided by a close relative of the child in the child's own home
- childcare provided by a close relative of the child away from the child's own home and solely for the student's children, or the student's children and the close relative's children.

Childcare provided by relatives

CCA is only payable for registered or other officially recognised forms of childcare provision. Where a relative is looking after the student's child or children, CCA may not be payable in some circumstances.

Childcare provided by a family member



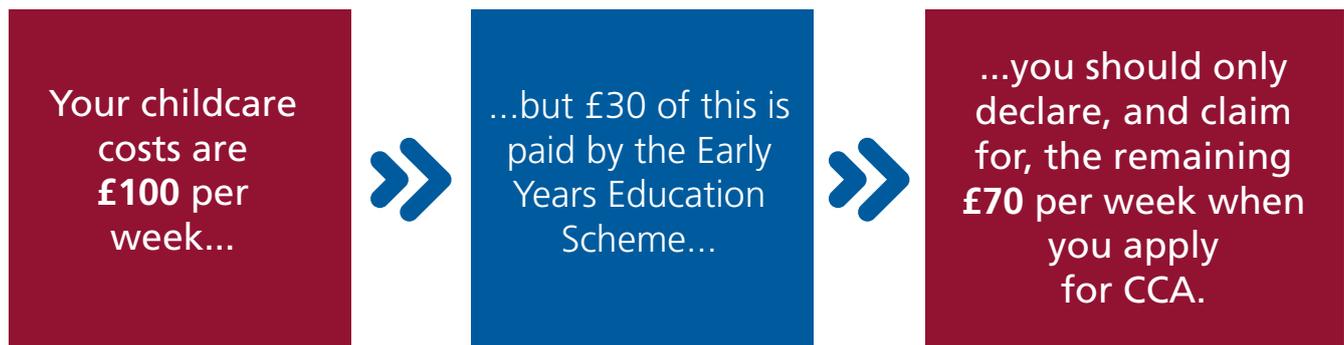
4. Free early education

All three and four year olds in England are entitled to a maximum of 570 hours of free early education or childcare a year. This is often taken as 15 hours each week for 38 weeks of the year.

Some two year olds are also eligible. You can find out more information about your child's eligibility for a free early education place on the government's website.

NHS Bursary students whose child or children have a free early education place cannot receive the CCA for those sessions.

For example:



5. Applying for CCA

In order to apply for CCA you must first apply for Dependants Allowance through your NHS Bursary account.

In the Dependants Allowance section you will be asked questions about your dependent child/children and then asked if you would like to apply for CCA.

If you answer 'yes', **you will need to complete a separate CCA application form after you have submitted your online application** to give us more details about your childcare costs for the academic year.

This form is available from **our website**. You should complete your sections, then ask your childcare provider to provide their details. Once completed the form should be uploaded to your account for processing.

6. Calculation

Amounts payable in 2022/23

The CCA pays up to 85% of your childcare costs, subject to a net maximum rate of £128.78 per week for one child and £191.45 for two or more children throughout the academic year.

The table on the next page gives an example of a student's typical childcare costs in a four week sample period within the academic year and shows how much they could expect to receive.

Please note:

The example overleaf shows only a fragment of the typical costs for illustration purposes. Actual CCA is normally calculated and paid over a full academic year.

It is intended only as a guide to the calculation process as it is not possible to cover every student's individual circumstances. We cannot guarantee you will receive help with your childcare costs, as these are subject to means testing.

Example 1: Student claiming CCA for one child

Figures in the 'Amount payable to student' columns are subject to means testing.

Week	Date from	Date to	Number of children requiring childcare	Net max amount payable	Weekly cost declared by student	85% of weekly cost declared	Amount payable to student
1	29 Aug 2022	4 Sept 2022	1	£128.78	£100	£85	£85
2	5 Sept 2022	11 Sept 2022	1	£128.78	£120	£102	£102
3	12 Sept 2022	18 Sept 2022	1	£128.78	£152	£129.20	£128.78
4	19 Sept 2022	25 Sept 2022	1	£128.78	£200	£170	£128.78
Total cost to student this period:					£572	CCA payable this period:	£444.56

The student will only be entitled to 85% of their actual costs (if claiming for one child) until their costs reach the maximum weekly allowance of £128.78.

Example 2: Student claiming CCA for two children

Week	Date from	Date to	Number of children requiring childcare	Net max amount payable	Weekly cost declared by student	85% of weekly cost declared	Amount payable to student
1	29 Aug 2022	4 Sept 2022	2	£191.45	£180	£153	£153
2	5 Sept 2022	11 Sept 2022	2	£191.45	£200	£170	£170
3	12 Sept 2022	18 Sept 2022	2	£191.45	£260	£221	£191.45
4	19 Sept 2022	25 Sept 2022	2	£191.45	£260	£221	£191.45
Total cost to student this period:					£900	CCA payable this period:	£705.90

The student will only be entitled to 85% of their actual costs (if claiming for two children) until these reach the maximum weekly allowance of £191.45.

Example 3: Student claiming CCA for three children

Week	Date from	Date to	Number of children requiring childcare	Net max amount payable	Weekly cost declared by student	85% of weekly cost declared	Amount payable to student
1	29 Aug 2022	4 Sept 2022	3	£191.45	£200	£170	£170
2	5 Sept 2022	11 Sept 2022	3	£191.45	£210	£178.50	£178.50
3	12 Sept 2022	18 Sept 2022	3	£191.45	£225	£191.25	£191.25
4	19 Sept 2022	25 Sept 2022	3	£191.45	£320	£272	£191.45
Total cost to student this period:					£955	CCA payable this period:	£731.20

The student will only be entitled to 85% of their actual costs (if claiming for three or more children) until their costs reach the maximum weekly allowance of £191.45.

7. Payment

If you are entitled to CCA, it will be paid in three termly installments to your bank account at the same time as your other NHS Bursary award elements.

8. Changes you must tell us about

It is important that you inform us as soon as possible if your childcare needs, costs or childcare provider/s change to ensure that you receive the correct amounts.

If, after having applied for CCA, you:

- change or stop using your childcare provider,
- wish to add an additional childcare provider,
- or wish to add another child or children to your CCA, for whom you have not previously claimed

Please inform us as soon as possible, as this could affect your entitlement.

You should do this by applying a Change of Circumstances through your NHS Bursary account.

Please be aware that if you knowingly withhold information, or provide false information, you will be committing fraud. If at any time we suspect that a claim is fraudulent a referral will be made to the NHS Counter Fraud Authority for further investigation which may result in prosecution and/or civil proceedings.

If you suspect that someone may be claiming childcare costs fraudulently, report this on the NHS Counter Fraud Authority's [**Report NHS Fraud**](#) to pass on information anonymously.