

30 hours childcare - Information for providers

How do parents apply?

- Parents will set up a childcare service account on the childcare choices website to apply for 30 hours <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>
- Parents who do not have access to the internet can call the childcare service customer interaction centre on 0300 123 4097 and apply over the phone.

What happens next?

Note 1
Parents may receive codes before their child turns 3 but can claim the funding the term following the child's 3rd birthday.

Note 2
Parents will receive a prompt to do this via a text message and/or email a month before the expiry date.

- Parents receive their eligibility code (11 digit number) which they must present to their chosen childcare provider (see note 1).
- The childcare provider will validate the code.
- Codes are valid for 3 months from date of application.
- A place can then be offered to the parent.
- Children will continue in their place - subject to the three monthly reconfirmation by parents (see note 2).

Not eligible?

- If a parent receives a not eligible decision for 30 hours the universal 15 hour entitlement will still apply.

What happens if the parents miss the reconfirmation deadline?

- If parents miss the reconfirmation deadline, they will be informed by the Childcare Service that their eligibility has lapsed and will then fall into the grace period (see dates on grace period table below).

The parent has reconfirmed but is no longer eligible

Note 3
The grace period enables parents to retain their childcare place for a short period if they are no longer eligible for the 30 hours.

- If a parent receives a not eligible decision on reconfirmation, the grace period will apply (see note 3).
- Once the grace period has expired, parents can access the universal 15 hour entitlement.

Grace Period Table

Date parent received ineligible decision on reconfirmation	Grace period end date
Between 1st January and 10th February	31 st March
Between 11 th February and 31 st March	31 st August
Between 1 st April and 26 th May	31 st August
Between 27 th May and 31 st August	31 st December
Between 1 st September and 21 st October	31 st December
Between 22 nd October and 31 st December	31 st March

- The Local Authority will carry out audit checks against all known eligibility codes at six fixed points in a year and providers will be informed of those codes that are no longer eligible.