

skids OSCAR Subsidy Fact Sheet

This fact sheet contains key information about:

- The OSCAR Subsidy
- The application process for the OSCAR Subsidy
- How the skids team can assist you throughout the application process.

What is the OSCAR Subsidy?

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

Eligibility criteria: Who can get it?

As a parent or caregiver, you can check if you meet the following criteria to apply for the OSCAR Subsidy:

- You must be the primary caregiver of the child on a permanent basis.
- You need to be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.
- Your family's annual household income should fall within a range, depending on how many children you have. Visit skids.co.nz/OSCAR-threshold to view the income threshold table.



Additionally, you must meet ONE of the following situations:

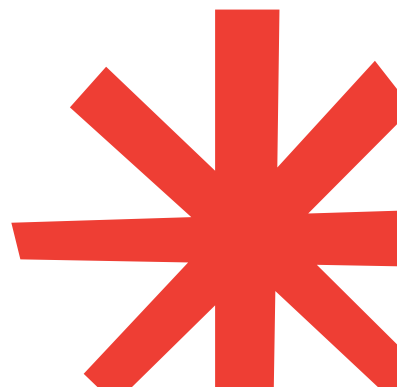
- Employment: You are working.
- Education: You are studying or in an approved training course.
- Work and Income Directive: You are participating in an activity by Work and Income.
- Shift Work: You work night shifts.
- Health: You are seriously ill or disabled.
- Childcare: You are caring for a child who is hospitalised or receiving the Child Disability Allowance.

For full eligibility criteria, visit skids.co.nz/OSCAR-eligibility for the official WINZ page.

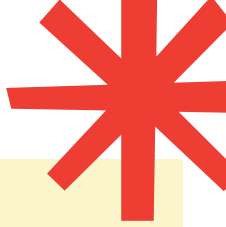
How much subsidy could I receive?

- You can view the MSD online guide to estimate your subsidy. Visit skids.co.nz/MSD-check to use the online tool.
- Call WINZ on 0800 559 009

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:



First Time OSCAR Subsidy Applicant (Two forms to submit)

1. Create a sKids booking for your child for the current or upcoming Term/Holiday period

- For the payment option, select "Regular bank payments every two weeks."

2. Gather the following documents to before starting your application

- Personal ID.
- 2 documents for proof of address.
- If you were born overseas - citizenship certificate, a passport with residence class, or permanent residence.
- Birth certificate for the children you are applying for.
- Proof of other income (if any)
- If applying for medical reasons - proof from your doctor with the number of childcare hours you require.
- Your full set of business accounts if you have your own business.

3. Complete Childcare Assistance application form (pg. 1-24 only)

- Fill out the application form skids.co.nz/application
- Once complete, email it to us at Hello@skids.co.nz so we can complete the supervisors section of the form (pg. 24-28).
- Once our team has completed the supervisors section of the form, we will submit to WINZ and email you with confirmation of submission.

Once WINZ approves the Childcare Assistance application form, you will receive the OSCAR Subsidy for your booking for the current Term or Holiday Programme.

For future bookings e.g. next Holiday Programme or Term: You will need to complete the OSCAR Subsidy Declaration form (see Step 4)

4. Complete OSCAR Subsidy Declaration form (pg. 1-2 only)

- Fill out the declaration form skids.co.nz/declaration
- Once complete, email it to us at Hello@skids.co.nz so we can complete the supervisors section of the form (pg.3-4).
- Once our team has complete the supervisors section of the form, we will submit to WINZ and email you with confirmation of submission.

Existing OSCAR Subsidy Applicant (One form to submit)

1. Create a sKids booking for your child for the current or upcoming Term/Holiday period

- For the payment option, select "Regular bank payments every two weeks."

2. Complete OSCAR Subsidy Declaration form (pg. 1-2 only)

- Fill out the declaration form skids.co.nz/declaration
- Once complete, email it to us at Hello@skids.co.nz so we can complete the supervisors section of the form (pg.3-4).
- 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 Declaration 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 can't advise whether your application will be approved or not.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens after I submit my form?

WINZ will review applications and communicate directly with you if further information is required. You will receive an email and letter from WINZ confirming they have received the application and the outcome of your application.

What if I don't get approval?

Call WINZ on 0800 559 009. sKids cannot provide information on how/why applications are approved or declined.

Important: If your application is not approved, you are responsible for paying for the bookings in your account.

Where can I get updates about my subsidy application?

To receive the latest updates on your OSCAR Subsidy application, call Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) on 0800 559 009.

Do I need to reapply?

Yes, you need to reapply for the OSCAR Subsidy for every Term and Holiday Programme care you need. Bookings and subsidies do not automatically carry over.

How does the payment work?

The hourly rate paid to the provider is determined by your family's income threshold and the number of children in your family. It is paid directly to us as the provider.

Does the OSCAR Subsidy payment show on my booking statement?

You will receive a monthly 'Outstanding Balance Statement' from sKids that summarises any unpaid invoices and the total amount owing. Any payments you make or by WINZ will be deducted from the total outstanding balance amount.

Why didn't I receive an OSCAR Subsidy for the school holidays?

Ensure you have submitted the 'OSCAR Subsidy Declaration form' for the Holiday Programme. You need to reapply for the OSCAR Subsidy for each Term and Holiday Programme care you book your child in.

Can I get backdated payments?

Contact WINZ to see if you are eligible to receive backdated payments if WINZ has advised you are approved to receive an OSCAR Subsidy. "We (WINZ) can grant you the financial assistance you're entitled to from the date you first contact us, or the date your childcare started, whichever is later if you complete your application within 20 working days of that date."

Where can I find resources?

Visit skids.co.nz/oscar to find the application forms, or visit the Work and Income New Zealand website skids.co.nz/WINZ-OSCAR for more information.

When should I apply?

We recommend you apply at least 4 weeks before you need the subsidy to start. Subsidies are only applied to dates that your children have been booked for, so it is recommended that you book in for as many dates as required or for the whole term.

What do I do if I can't scan the form myself?

Give your form to one of our team members and they will email it to hello@skids.co.nz on the day they receive the form, on your behalf.

sKids OSCAR Subsidy Responsibility

Completing the OSCAR Subsidy application process is ultimately the primary caregiver's responsibility. Our sKids Customer Service team completes the supervisor's page within the application and confirms your booking. They are authorised to sign the 'OSCAR Subsidy Declaration' forms, and the 'Childcare Assistance' application form on behalf of sKids.

Our Customer Service team will:

- Complete the Childcare Provider's section – Childcare Assistance (pg. 25-28), or the OSCAR Subsidy Declaration (pg. 3) within 3 business days and return the form to you or send the completed form to WINZ if no further action is needed from you.
- Respond to your application email within 3 business days.

Need help applying? We're here to help you.

If you need help applying for the OSCAR Subsidy, don't hesitate to contact us.

Email: Hello@skids.co.nz

Phone: 0800 274 172

Questions about the OSCAR Subsidy?

Contact [Work and Income New Zealand](https://www.workandincome.govt.nz) for any specific questions regarding the OSCAR Subsidy, your application, or other general questions, on 0800 559 009.

