

What is ParentsNext?

ParentsNext is a supportive, voluntary program for parents and carers of young children. Your ParentsNext provider can help you to take the next step toward your study and work goals.

Your provider can help you think about what you want to do when your children start school. Together you can plan what steps you need to take to get there.

You might need support with other things before you can take part in study or work. Your provider can help connect you to local services.

If you are ready to study, your provider can help you find and enrol in a course. They may also be able to help with cost of study and materials.

You don't have to work while you take part in ParentsNext. If you are ready, your provider can help you:

- get job ready
- look for work experience
- look for a job.

There are no tasks you have to do in ParentsNext to keep getting your Parenting Payment.

Connecting you to services

Before you can move toward your study or work goals, you might need help with some things.

Your provider can help you with:

- accessing child care assistance
- joining local community groups for connection and support
- linking you with services to support the health of you and your family
- helping you access local services to support you with any other issues you may be facing.

Your Participation Plan

When you take part in ParentsNext, your provider will help you to create a Participation Plan.

Your plan contains your study and work goals. This can include getting the right support in place to get you ready for study or work.

It contains the activities you can take part in to reach your goals. Your provider can help you connect with those activities.

Your plan is unique to you and you can change it if you need to.

Other programs and how they can help you

Your provider can refer you to programs that can help eligible parents and carers move toward their study and work goals:

- **Transition to Work** – helps 15-24 year olds into work, training and education
- **Self-Employment Assistance** – provides help and support to turn a business idea into reality
- **Skills for Education and Employment (SEE)** – get stronger reading, writing, maths and computer skills
- **Australian Migrant English Program (AMEP)** – helps migrants build English language skills and settle into Australia

There are other programs that may be available in your area. Talk to your provider for more information.

Help with costs

If you need help to pay for the cost of education, study tools and materials, or other things like learning to drive and personal support services, your ParentsNext provider may be able to help.

You may also be able to get help with the cost of equipment and clothes for work, as well as checks and licences you may need for a job.

Talk to your provider about the Participation Fund and how it can be used to help you.

Your provider may also be able to help with moving costs if you need to move for a job.

For more information go to:
dewr.gov.au/parentsnext